Institute on Experiential Learning and Engaged Dialogue

July 14-17, 2026

AAC&U Team



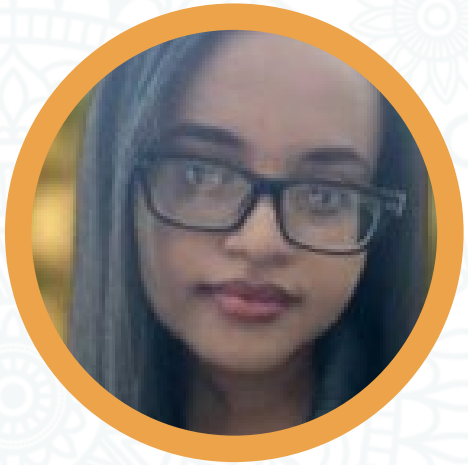
Dawn Michele Whitehead

Vice President



Jane Turk

Associate Director



Lydia Teferra

Program Coordinator

Faculty Assignments

Faculty Member	Institutions
Eric Castillo	Shepherd University, Sonoma State University, and The Pennsylvania State University, World Campus
J. Elizabeth Clark	Dalton State College, Montgomery College, and University of Massachusetts Global
Peter Felten	Augustana College, Central Connecticut State University, and Rutgers University Newark
Cara Krezek	Eastern Washington University, Gateway Technical College, and Shawnee State University
Nick Longo	California State University Long Beach, Washington State University, and University of South Carolina
Sara Mehltretter	Indiana University, Bloomington, Mount Holyoke College, and Princeton University
Kiesha Warren-Gordon	Texas Tech University, University of Colorado Denver, and University of Oklahoma
Dawn Michele Whitehead	SUNY Brockport and Quinnipiac University

Faculty Mentors



Eric Castillo

Associate Vice Chancellor for Arts, Culture, and Community Impact and the San Antonio Peace Center
Alamo Community Colleges District

- Global Strategic Communications
- Sociology
- Southwest History
- Visual Culture



J. Elizabeth Clark

Professor of English, LaGuardia Community College

- ePortfolios
- Assessment
- High Impact Practices
- Faculty Development
- Digital Learning

Faculty Mentors



Peter Felten

Executive Director of the Center for Engaged Learning, Professor of History, and Assistant Provost for Teaching and Learning at Elon University

- Faculty development
- High-impact practices
- Institutional change
- Assessment
- Belonging



Cara Krezek

Chief Purpose Officer & Founder, The Apiary Inc.

- Strategic Leadership
- Community Building
- Work-Integrated Learning Strategy
- Values Alignment

Faculty Mentors



Nicholas Longo

Director, Rutgers Democracy Lab, Eagleton Institute of Politics

- Deliberative dialogue
- Community-based learning
- Global education
- Civic engagement



Sara Mehltretter

Professor of Rhetoric, Wabash College

- Community engagement
- Curricular development
- Deliberative pedagogy
- Democracy facilitation
- Rhetoric

Faculty Mentors

Kiesha Warren-Gordon



Professor of Criminal Justice and Criminology, Director of African American Studies Program, Ball State University

- Civic engagement
- Community engagement
- Service-learning

Dawn Michele Whitehead



Vice President for the Office of Global Citizenship for Campus, Community and Careers, AAC&U

- Community-based global learning
- Curriculum revision and internationalization
- Experiential learning
- Global learning
- Integrative Learning

Additional Speakers

- Kris Acheson-Clair, Purdue University
- Jessica Chittum, AAC&U
- Mays Imad, Connecticut College, AAC&U Senior Fellow
- Arnd Wächter, Crossing Borders Global

Faculty Assignments

Faculty Member	Institutions
Eric Castillo	Shepherd University, Sonoma State University, and The Pennsylvania State University, World Campus
J. Elizabeth Clark	Dalton State College, Montgomery College, and University of Massachusetts Global
Peter Felten	Augustana College, Central Connecticut State University, and Rutgers University Newark
Cara Krezek	Eastern Washington University, Gateway Technical College, and Shawnee State University
Nick Longo	California State University Long Beach, Washington State University, and University of South Carolina
Sara Mehltretter	Indiana University, Bloomington, Mount Holyoke College, and Princeton University
Kiesha Warren-Gordon	Texas Tech University, University of Colorado Denver, and University of Oklahoma
Dawn Michele Whitehead	SUNY Brockport and Quinnipiac University

AAC&U INSTITUTE

Institute Schedule

	Pacific	Mountain	Central	Eastern
Tuesday July 14th	10:00am3:00pm-	11:00am-4:00pm	12 noon-5:00pm	1:00-6:00pm
Wednesday July 15th	6:00am-3:30pm* (8:45am-1:15pm)	7:00am-4:30pm* (9:45am-2:15pm)	8:00am-5:30pm * (10:45am-3:15pm)	9:00am-6:30pm* (11:45am-4:15pm)
Thursday July 16th	6:00am-3:30pm* (8:45am-1:30pm)	7:00am-4:30pm* (9:45am-2:30pm)	8:00am-3:30pm* (10:45am-3:30pm)	9:00am-6:30pm* (11:45am-4:30pm)
Friday July 17th	9:00am-11:30pm	10am-12:30pm	11am-1:30pm	12 noon-2:30pm

*Optional Sessions—Extra Consulting Time and 101 Sessions

Institute Structure

- Faculty Mentoring
- Sessions
- Consultations with Institute Faculty
- Team Time

Faculty Mentor Connections

Tuesday, July 14: After the Opening Session

- Overview of the Institute
- Discuss team goals and needs
- Recommendations for other faculty consultations

Thursday, July 16: Mid-Institute Check-in

- Final questions
- Discuss the Action Plan Presentation

Engaging with Institute Faculty Mentors and Consultation Opportunities

- **Initial Consulting Time with Faculty Mentor**
  - Dedicated time with your assigned faculty mentor (no scheduling needed)
- **Team Time**
  - Dedicated time to work with your institute team using your preferred platform or location
  - Option to invite any faculty member for consultation
- **Faculty Consultation Time**
  - Dedicated time to invite any faculty to consult with your team using their personal zoom link or your preferred platform
  - Email the faculty member to request a 30-minute consultation with your team and your preferred platform
- **Team and Consulting Time**
  - Dedicated time for teamwork and faculty consultation on your preferred platform
  - Email the faculty member(s) to request a 30-minute consultation with your team and your preferred platform
- **Mid-Institute Check-in with Faculty Mentor and Team Time**
  - Dedicated time with your assigned faculty mentor (no scheduling needed)

Sessions Types

- **Optional 101 Sessions**: Optional, introductory-level presentations offered by Institute faculty.
  - HIPs 101
  - Experiential Learning 101

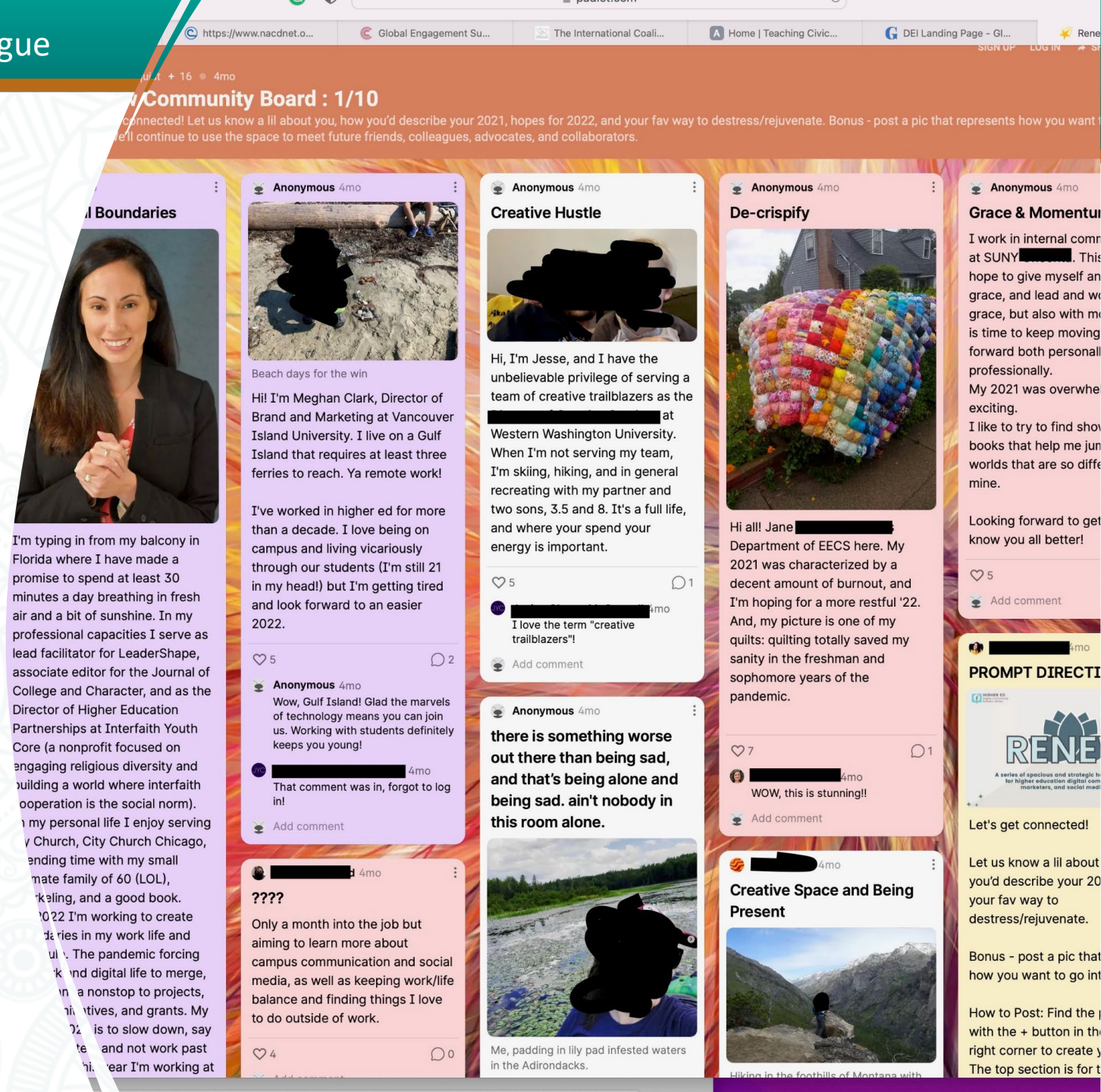
- **Concurrent Sessions**

- **Navigating Hot Topics in Higher Education:** Optional, informal conversational sessions where Institute participants and faculty can engage in dialogue about issues impacting higher education today

- **Institute Ignite Sessions**: 10-minute sessions for all participants to share updates, insights, and ideas

Tools for Engagement

- Institute Platform
- Padlet
- Zoom



AAC&U Platform Login



All institute content will be hosted on the IELED Institute platform. The link is available in the program and has been shared via email along with a guide with step-by-step login instructions.

Log in with your AAC&U account email and password to access institute content. AAC&U has registered all 2026 institute participants. If you are unsure which email address was used during registration, contact your team leader who can refer to your team's institute application.

If you have not previously logged in to the AAC&U website, please click "Reset Password" when prompted in the login process to set your password. **Do not create a new account.** If you have trouble, reach out to memberservices@aacu.org.

See you on Tuesday, July 14!


AAC&U