



CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AND LEARNING

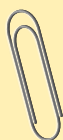
NEWSLETTER



January 2026

Dear Mountain Lions,

The Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning is growing every day! If you would like assistance or resources, email cetl@mctc.edu.



Physical Library

We should have nine new titles joining our library very soon! If you're interested in any titles, just email cetl@mctc.edu.



Jan. 2026 Updates

- Planning for January In-Service is nearing completion!
- The Achieving the Dream team will be participating in their second cohort session.
- CETL plans for Spring '26 are underway.

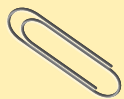
Important Dates

- Spring 2026 In-Service: Tuesday, Jan. 13 – Thursday, Jan. 15
- Course Assessment Reports Due Friday, Jan. 9

HLC Trivia Corner

There are four total criteria associated with accreditation, the second of which is Integrity: Ethical and Responsible Conduct. It is broken into the following:

- 2.A. Integrity
2. B. Transparency
2. C. Board Governance
2. D. Academic Freedom and Freedom of Expression
2. E. Knowledge Acquisition, Discovery, and Application



MCTC Podcast Studio

There are three (3) different sessions for experiencing a studio demo during Spring 2026 In-Service. However, only five (5) people can participate per session due to the room's size.

Make sure to use the sign-up link in the In-Service schedule to reserve your spot!

ACUE

We will be visited by Michael Hellard, a senior director for ACUE, on Tuesday, Jan. 13. He will discuss ACUE's offerings, demo a course in the ACUE commons, and explain the benefits of participating in the program.

He's also bringing breakfast, so arrive hungry!

Spring 2026 Offerings

This semester is shaping up to be the most exciting yet, both in terms of on-campus offerings and further CETL development. This semester, you can expect the following sessions:

- February: Designing Engaging Online Courses
- March: Publishing and Presenting
- April: Panel w/ Graduating Students

We'll also be implementing our first ever Wellness Fridays series, hosted by Dr. Britani Black! These sessions will occur every second Friday of the month beginning in February.

The CETL team is continuing to meet with other institutions' CETL teams to learn as much as we can!



Course Assessment and Accreditation

The Course Assessment Reports for Fall 2025 are our second step towards strengthening our assessment efforts. Everyone did an excellent job last year of creating a new, solid foundation, and now we're working to build upon it.

I've already seen several reports directly mentioning previous assessment findings and improvement plans from last semester, which is great. When it comes to accreditation, and to assessment success overall, that's what matters the most: improvements in student success.

If you need a digital copy of your Fall 2024 reports, please let me know by Thursday, Jan. 8!



Fundamentals of AI

This semester, Gerald Doyle and Josh Keck will be helping the first MG 280-201 Special Topics: Fundamentals of Artificial Intelligence course. This course will meet online.

If you're interested in participating, make sure to reach out to one of the instructors!



"Wellness Fridays"

One of the content areas addressed in the Campus Needs Survey was the inclusion of wellness resources for faculty and staff. During these "Wellness Fridays" sessions, Dr. Britani Black will be discussing topics such as self care, managing student emotions and compassion fatigue, and burnout! These will be flex sessions.

Peer to Peer Observation Program

With new semester preparations underway, now is a great time to discuss participation in the Peer to Peer Observation Program with your colleagues. If you were unable to participate in Fall 2025, you are expected to participate in Spring 2026. Faculty need only do this once every academic year.

The [link](#) to the Peer to Peer Observation Form is available in the email to which this newsletter is attached. A Word doc. version of the rubric is also available in said email.

If you have any questions about the Peer to Peer Observation Program, please email either your chair/dean or cetl@mctc.edu.



Around Academia: Research Highlights

Published in *Inside Higher Ed*, Kathryn Palmer's "[5 Predictions on How AI Will Shape Higher Ed in 2026](#)" discusses the AI bubble, connections between tech companies and collegiate institutions, and more.

To be discussed at In-Service, Museus and LePeau discuss the importance of executing and assessing high impact practices ethically and efficiently in "The Devil in the Details: How High-Impact Practices Can Miss the Mark." Available in Academic Search Complete.

Looking for community-college specific research? Check out [Community College Review](#) and [Community College Journal](#), made available by the AACC.