



CENTER FOR ADVANCEMENT OF FACULTY EXCELLENCE (CAFE)

Updates for AY 2024-2025

Update #1: Me!

- Dr. Jeffrey Williams, new Director of CAFE
 - Associate Professor of Music (Voice)
- **August explosion**
 - My last ten days of:
 - new Part-Time Instructor trainings
 - First-Year Faculty trainings – Distance Ed, Watermark, HR, Green Zone training, APPQMR, Library, IT, etc.
 - Luncheons with Academic Affairs and Mentors/Mentees
 - Mentor training for those assigned to full-time tenure-track faculty and select full-time 3-year instructor lines



National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity

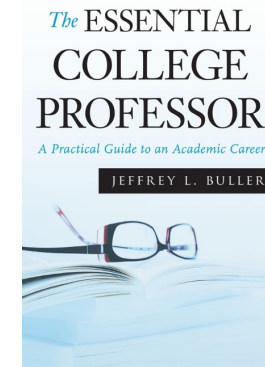
Faculty Success Program – May 20 through July 28, 2024

- The Faculty Success Program is a 10-week intensive program where you learn to:
 - Understand the common challenges that many scholars face in balancing research, teaching, and service.
 - Avoid the most common time management mistakes.
 - Develop a consistent daily writing routine to increase research productivity.
 - Learn why and how to align work time with professional priorities, personal values, and long-term goals.
 - Develop a network of support and accountability for academic writing.
 - Cultivate a network of mentors for long-term success.
- Self-directed weekly modules and weekly meetings led by an NCFDD-certified coach
- Individual coaching sessions that helped me troubleshoot my “hurdles”
- Supported by Maria Cronley & Tucker Brown – thank you! 😊



2024-2025 FYF Faculty program

- Developing First-Year Faculty content and curriculum
 - co-facilitated with Dr. Charlie Gonzalez, Education
- all First-Year Faculty that are part of the program will receive a copy of:
 - *The Essential College Professor: A Practical Guide to an Academic Career*, by Jeffrey Buller (2009)
 - APSU Leather Executive Portfolio Organizer
- **APSU Amazing Race**
 - FYF discovering and taking pictures across campus



Faculty Conference and Annual Meeting Schedule

- **Three very full days of Conference sessions on:**
 - Library Resources, Assessment, ChatGPT, Graduate Program Recruitment, Interactive Learning Experiences, SoTL, Cross-Disciplinary Collaboration, AI Detectors, Professional Workplace Communication, FLP, Work-Life Balance, and more!
- **Then:**
 - *RTP Updates* – Wednesday, August 14th
 - *Student Affairs Reorganization* – Thursday, August 15th
 - *Distance Education Updates* – Thursday, August 15th
 - *Academic Affairs Updates* – Thursday, August 15th
 - *Convocation & University Luncheon* – Monday, August 19th
- Have breakfast with us on Thursday, August 15th provided by **Career Services** – thank you! 😊



Current CAFE Advisory Board Roster

- Alex Adams, CoBHS Rep – ***new this year***
- Wes Atkinson, CoAL and Associate Dean Rep – returning
- Benita Bruster, CoE Rep – original member
- Susan Cockrell, CoB Rep – returning
- Nancy Gibson, Library Rep – original member
- Charles Gonzalez, CoE Rep – original member
- Mickey Hepner, Ex-Officio Dean Rep – returning
- Julie Hodges, Ex-Officio Staff Rep & Distance Education – returning
- Melissa Kates, Ex-Officio CoBHS & Former Director – ***new role***
- Andrew Kostakis, CoAL & Faculty Senate Rep – ***new this year***
- Christine Mathenge, CoSTEM Rep – original member
- Lisa Sullivan, CoSTEM & Chair Rep – ***new this year***
- LaNeeça Williams, Ex-Officio Chief of Institutional Culture – returning

Grad Assistant: Autumn Johnson, MBA candidate – ***new this year***

The Future of FLP at APSU

2023-2024 final project that focused on APSU's **Faculty Leadership Program (FLP)**

- Charles Gonzalez, Teaching and Learning
- Andrew Kostakis, Languages and Literature
- Jennifer Thompson, Allied Health Sciences
- Jeff Williams, Music

- Facilitated by Melissa Kates

2024-2025 recruiting year for
2025-2026 next APSU FLP cohort

**Wednesday, August 14th
10:15-11:15am, MUC 303**



1. Advantages and Challenges of the Current FLP

We met with previous FLP participants. Some ideas that came out of that meeting:

| ADVANTAGES OF THE PROGRAM | CHALLENGES OF THE PROGRAM |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| • Networking | • Inconsistent expectations |
| • University Systems/Processes | • Recruitment |
| • Working on a joint project | • Justifying re-assigned time |

To address the challenges, we propose a:

- **New** Mission Statement
- **New** Curriculum
- **New** Challenges Conference

2. **New** Mission Statement

The Faculty Leadership Program (FLP) offers tenured and tenure track faculty a year-long series of practical leadership training and networking opportunities with the broader university community. Participants will be equipped with the tools and knowledge required to lead effectively and contribute to the growth and development of APSU.

Services offered by CAFE

- **Teaching Consultations**

- Low stakes, confidential, one-on-one or small group consultations are being offered by CAFE.
- Example of services:
 - Classroom observation and feedback
 - Curriculum mapping
 - Syllabus review
 - Assessment methods and strategies
 - Course redesign
 - Active learning strategies
 - Student engagement
- Consultation requests can be made via CAFE website: <https://www.apsu.edu/academic-affairs/faculty/cafe/teaching-at-apsu/consultations.php>
- We are also recruiting teaching consultants – if you are interested in serving as a consultant email, cafe-fac@apsu.edu or williamsjj@apsu.edu.

- **Mid-semester student interview sessions**

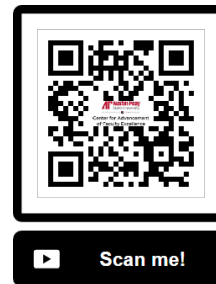
- CAFE will come to your class, midterm, to conduct an informal interview session with your students regarding their learning in your class.
- Provides real-time, qualitative feedback directly from your students.
- To request a midterm interview session email cafe-fac@apsu.edu.

Other Updates

- Watch for information on the next phase of **CAFE Perks** – a rewards program unveiled last year where faculty earn points by participating in eligible workshops, programs, learning communities, and other initiatives
- Same with being an **AOQF Reviewer** – watch for updates
- **Faculty Leadership Program** tab on our website with past participants, success stories, and stockpiling of Spring semester project topics
- University Awards page on our CAFE Website (from Academic Affairs page)
- Continuing **CAFE Newsletter**
 - Examples of APSU Faculty Excellence – send me your news! Include me on e-mails that you would send to your Department Chair, Dean, Respective College Admin / PR person.

Give to CAFE

- Give your ideas! If you have suggestions for programs and events, or want to facilitate a learning community, please reach out.
- If you like this conference and other CAFE programs and initiatives, please consider giving to the CAFE Fund of Excellence.
- Every little bit helps
- All funds will go towards continued and evolving programs and services offered by CAFE.
- A donate button is included on every newsletter
- You can also donate this week via this QR code:



CAFE Social Media

Instagram – @apsucae_fac

Facebook - @APSU Center for Advancement of Faculty Excellence

X - @apsucae_fac

Follow us **NOW** and tag us!

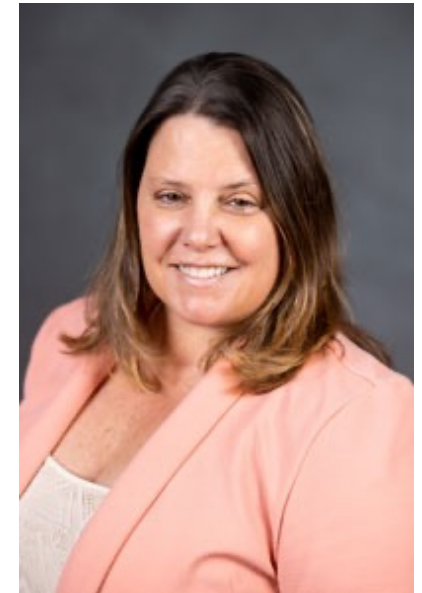
We'll share your content and want to celebrate YOU!



Celebrating Melissa Kates, Inaugural Director

- Established CAFE as the trusted resource for transformative educators at APSU
- Many initiatives and programs
- Facilitated multiple leadership groups
- All things Faculty Conference scheduling
- Created materials and processes that can be utilized for years to come

Thanks, Melissa! 😊



Three years of CAFE at APSU

- How can CAFE support you in 2024-2025? What programming are you craving?
 - Brainstorming session
- Who should our next Keynote Speaker be?
 - Brainstorming session

Have an amazing year!

- I look forward to bolstering you in any way I can while offering as much creative and relevant programming to enrich our APSU faculty experience!
- I appreciate your support and attendance at all things CAFE this year. Remember I am a Center of 1 – thanks for your grace and understanding.
- **Please be in touch!** williamsjj@apsu.edu, cafe-fac@apsu.edu
931-221-7648, MMC 322 & Claxton 229