



The CFD Monthly

Workshops, Events, Resources, and More

November 2025

Spring 2026 Educators' Retreat

Purpose & Pathways: An Educator's Retreat for Fostering Career-Ready Students



Kelly Lester
Associate Provost of Faculty
Success

SPRING 2026 EDUCATORS' RETREAT



WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2026



Russ Willis
Associate Provost of Student
Success



T.J. Tesh
Associate Professor of Music
and Spring 2025 Provost
Faculty Fellow



Heather Glausier, Assistant
Director of Career Education
and Employment Readiness in
Career Services



Stephanie McCoy Smith
Interim Director of Kinesiology
and Nutrition and Spring 2025
Provost Faculty Fellow

Join colleagues from across campus for a full-day retreat focused on preparing our students for success beyond graduation. Purpose & Pathways will explore how educators can intentionally integrate career readiness into curriculum, programs, and learning experiences.

- Wednesday, January 14, 2026
- 8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
- ☕ Coffee and lunch provided

Curricular Career Readiness at The University of Southern Mississippi

T.J. Tesh, Associate Professor of Music and Spring 2025 Provost Faculty Fellow

Best Practices for Career Readiness initiatives at Four-Year Institutions

Stephanie McCoy Smith, Interim Director of Kinesiology and Nutrition and Spring 2025 Provost Faculty Fellow

Ready for a Career in ____?

Russ Willis, Associate Provost of Student Success

Kelly Lester, Associate Provost of Faculty Success

Career Ready for Life

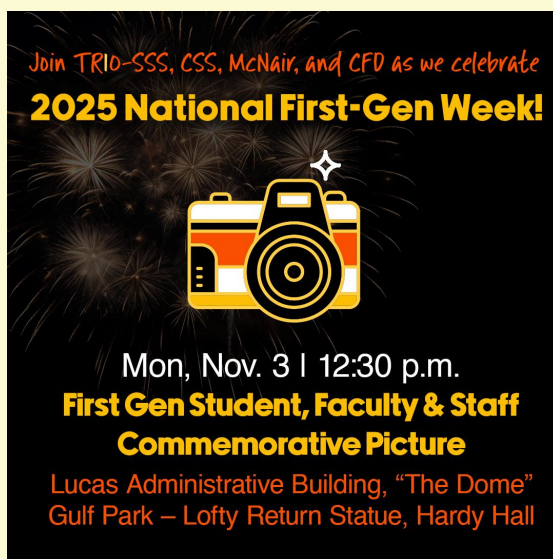
Heather Glausier, Assistant Director of Career Education and Employment Readiness in Career Services

Why Attend?

- Gain strategies for fostering career-ready learning outcomes
- Connect share ideas with campus colleagues
- Take away actionable tools for your own courses and program development

Join us as we align our educational purpose with the pathways that guide students toward meaningful and fulfilling careers.

[Register for the Educators' Retreat Here](#)



First-Generation Faculty & Staff Photo Opportunity

This year's first-generation celebration will be commemorated with an in-person photo on **Monday, November 3, at 12:30** on the steps in front of the **Dome (Administration Building)** for those who are on Hattiesburg Campus and in front of the **Lofty Returns statue on the north side of Hardy Hall** for those who are on the Gulf Park Campus. Wear your First-Gen t-shirts for the photo, and encourage First- Gen students to join as well! All faculty, staff, graduate and undergraduate students who identify as First-

Generation college students are welcome to join in the photo.

Monday, November 3, 2025 | 12:30 pm

Hattiesburg Location | Dome (Administrative Building), the steps out front
Gulf Park Location | Lofty Returns statue on the north side of Hardy Hall

Upcoming Events

November 4

Ctrl+Alt+Succeed: The Ultimate Teams Playbook, Pt. 2

12- 1:00 pm | IC 319 & Teams | [Register](#)

November 5

Strategies and Resources for Bringing Digital Methods into the Classroom

12:15 - 1:30 p.m. | IC 319 & Teams | [Register](#)

November 6 & 13

Show up and Write!

1:00 - 3:00 p.m. | Teams | [Register](#)

November 7

Curricular Analytics: Visualizing Student Pathways

9:00 - 10:00 a.m. | IC 101 | [Register](#)

November 11

Ctrl+Alt+Succeed: Canva for Non-Designers

11:30 - 12:30 p.m. | IC 319 & Teams | [Register](#)

November 12

Preparing for Pre-Tenure Review Panel

1:00 - 2:15 p.m. | IC 319 & Teams | [Register](#)

November 14

Mentoring Milestones: Supporting Faculty through the First Year

10:00 - 11:00 a.m. | IC 319 & Teams | [Register](#)

November 19

Ctrl+Alt+Succeed: Coursera and AOP's Professional Standards Program - Keys to Your Success

2:00 - 3:00 p.m. | IC 319 and Teams | [Register](#)



This month, we bring you a Tiny Teaching Tip and AI in Action collaboration! CFD Director, Melanie Leuty, shares tips on how to use Rubrics in Canvas effectively, including how to use Copilot to create a rubric and upload into Canvas.

Using Rubrics *in canvas*

DR. MELANIE LEUTY



CALL FOR APPLICATIONS!

Do you have an innovative teaching
idea? Apply for a *Mini Grant!*



Want to grow as a leader and connect with colleagues
across campus? Apply to the *Faculty Leadership
Institute (FLI)* and join a community focused on
leadership, learning, and professional development!

Searching for our next
**Faculty Leadership
Institute Cohort!**
[Learn more here!](#)

Have a great teaching
idea?

Apply for **Innovative
Teaching Mini-Grant** to
bring it to life!
[Find more information
and the application
here.](#)

**All applications due
November 15th**



Our Ctrl+Alt+Succeed series is off to a great start! In case you missed it, in our first

session, CFD Assistant Director, Gayle Sollfrank provided an overview of Teams' basic features to keep you organized— from keeping notes and scheduling meetings to managing groups, assigning tasks, and sharing meeting records! [Click here to watch the full session recording.](#)

Given the great response to this first session, we've scheduled a second Teams workshop to go deeper into these specific functions:

- Sync your OneDrive with Teams
- Utilize a Scheduling Poll in your Calendar Invite
- Adding a Poll in your Teams meeting
- Meeting settings to share your screen, use break out rooms, and change your background
- Where to find the video recording of your meeting and share it

Check out the video below as a preview of what you'll learn and make plan to join us!

Ctrl+Alt+Succeed: The Ultimate Teams Playbook, Pt. 2

Tuesday, November 4, 2025 | 12- 1:00 pm | IC 319 & Teams

[Register Here!](#)



Ctrl+Alt+Succeed: The Ultimate Teams Playbook, Pt. 2

Watch the video above as Gayle Sollfrank walks through how to change the share settings in a recorded Teams video. She shows how to adjust permissions, control who can view or edit your recording, and make sure your video is shared securely with the right audience!

Service-Learning FACULTY FELLOWS PROGRAM

APPLICATIONS DUE
NOVEMBER 30, 2025

USM Service-Learning Faculty Fellows Program

USM's Center for Community Engagement accepts 6 faculty each year to participate in the Service-Learning Faculty Fellows program, in which faculty meet weekly during the spring semester to learn about service-learning pedagogy and redesign an academic course to include a service-learning component. Faculty Fellows receive \$2400 to teach the initial service-learning course within 1.5 years of seminar completion

Applications are due Nov. 30th

[Learn more here!](#)



JOIN US FOR

Cocktails and Conversations

FRIDAY | DECEMBER 5 | 4-6 PM

at Mahogany Bar

Sponsored by: **Association of
Office Professionals (AOP)**



Cocktails and Conversations will be held on **December 5th** from **4 – 6 p.m.** at **Mahogany Bar** with appetizers sponsored by AOP. Join us!



Share the Holiday Spirit

The Center for Community Engagement and the Center for Faculty Development will be hosting a Salvation Angel Tree again this year. Help us meet the holiday needs for area families.

It's as easy as:

1. Adopting an Angel (child) or Silver Bell (older adult) by selecting a tag on our tree in the CFD (International Center, room 319)
2. Purchasing holiday gifts for your adoptee.
3. Dropping off your donations in the CFD by December 3rd.

Email cfid@usm.edu with questions.





Center for Faculty Development (319 International Center) | 118 College Drive, #5211 |
Hattiesburg, MS 39406 US

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