



## Building Sustainable Learning Communities

**Atlantic Center for Learning Communities Curriculum Planning**

**Retreat Agenda**

**October 17-19, 2018**

**Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center  
303 Tunxis Rd, West Hartford, CT 06107**

### **Wednesday, October 17**

4:00 - 6:00 p.m.	<b>Check-in and poster set-up</b>
6:00 - 7:00 p.m. Dining Room	<b>Dinner</b>
7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.  Main Conference Room; First Floor	<p><b><u>Keynote and Q &amp; A</u></b></p> <p>“Powerful Pedagogical Practice”</p> <p><b>Anne Goodsell Love, Ph.D.</b>, Executive Director for Student Retention, Rutgers University-Newark</p> <p><b>Reception and poster displays of learning community programs and best practices (following keynote presentation)</b></p>

### **Thursday, October 18**

8:00 - 8:30 a.m. Dining Room	<b>Breakfast</b>
8:40 - 10:10 a.m.  First Floor Classroom  Main Conference Room	<p><b>Learning Exchanges (Concurrent Sessions) *</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. “Powerful Pedagogical Practice, Continued” (Anne Love, Rutgers University-Newark )</li> <li>2. “Learning Communities 101: Developing and Implementing Learning Communities” (Brad Hollingshead, Florida Southern College, and Terry Novak, Johnson &amp; Wales University)</li> </ol>
10:10 - 10:30 a.m.	<b>Break</b>

10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. First Floor Classroom  Main Conference Room  Second Floor Classroom	<b>Learning Exchanges (Concurrent Sessions)*</b>  1. "Learning Communities without Borders (James Dutcher and Jack Mino, Holyoke Community College)  2. "You Make Lemonade: What Do We Do if our Learning Community Doesn't Run?" (Shannon Proctor, Leah Richards, Milena Cuellar, Marsha Oropeza, LaGuardia Community College)  3. "Leading from within: A Peer Mentor Pilot" (Lisa Hibl, U of Southern Maine)
12:00 - 1:00 p.m. Dining Room	<b>Lunch</b>
1:00-2:30 p.m. First Floor Classroom  Main Conference Room  Second Floor Classroom	<b>Learning Exchanges (Concurrent Sessions) *</b>  1. "Accidental LC Sustainability: Capitalizing on Campus-wide Innovations" (Pat Morelli, U of Hartford)  2. "Integrating Disciplines through Class Video Projects" (Leigh Garrison-Fletcher, Lucy McNair, Poppy Slocum, LaGuardia Community College)  3. "Developing Wonder: Psychology, Theatre, and Children" (Adrienne Kapstein, Pace University)
2:30-4:30 p.m.	<b>Team Time; Opportunity for singles from similar schools to connect</b>
4:30-5:30 p.m.  Main Conference Room	<b>World Café: Table Discussions</b>  1. "Developing Integrative Assignments" (Sue Maxam, Pace University)  2. "Learning Communities from the Student View" (Anush Grigoryan and Nefertiti Williams, Kingsborough Community College)  3. "Building the Bonds of Faculty Collaboration" (Terry Novak, Johnson & Wales University)
6:00 - 7:00 p.m. Dining Room	<b>Dinner</b>
7:00 - 9:00 p.m. Main Conference Room	<b>Reception and Continued Conversations</b>

**Friday, October 19**

8:00 – 9:00 a.m. Dining Room	<b>Breakfast and Check out of rooms</b>
9:00-11:00 a.m.  First Floor Classroom  Main Conference Room	<b>In-depth Learning Exchanges (Concurrent Sessions) *</b>  1. “Inside ‘Inside the Sky’” (John Fiske, Bunker Hill Community College)  2. “Translanguaging Spaces of Learning: Reading and Writing Hybrid Texts” (Deborah Schwartz, Naoko Akai-Dennis, Josh Heerter, Bunker Hill Community College)
11:15 a.m.-12:00 p.m.  Main Conference Room	<b>Closing Conversation:</b>  “Pitching Sustainability to Key Stakeholders: Creating an Effective Elevator Speech” (ACLC Leadership Team)
12:00 p.m. – 12:30 p.m.  Dining Room	<b>Lunch</b>
12:30 p.m.	<b>Departure</b>

## **\*Learning Exchanges: Topics & Facilitators**

Workshops offered through the annual ACLC Retreat provide opportunities for teams and individuals to work together to identify, design, and ultimately implement learning community strategies that can strengthen teaching and learning at their home institutions. Facilitators design workshops that encourage participant interaction and rich conversations about the ways in which effective learning community strategies can be applied in a variety of settings.

### **Wednesday, October 17**

7:00 p.m. Keynote: “Powerful Pedagogical Practice” **Anne Goodsell Love, Ph.D.**, Executive Director for Student Retention, Rutgers University-Newark

### **Thursday, October 18**

#### **8:40-10:10 a.m.**

1. “Powerful Pedagogical Practice, Continued” (Anne Love, Executive Director of Student Retention, Rutgers University-Newark)

Join Dr. Love for continued discussion of her keynote topic.

2. “Learning Communities 101: Developing and Implementing Learning Communities” (Brad Hollingshead, Florida Southern College, and Terry Novak, Johnson & Wales University)

Designed for faculty and administrators new to learning communities, this workshop offers participants an overview of best practices in learning communities, including key elements necessary to the success of a learning community. This is an opportunity to begin or continue creating specific learning community ideas for the participant’s home institution. Participants will come away with an understanding of strategies for successfully launching learning communities, as well as resources to support them in their work.

#### **10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.**

1. “Learning Communities without Borders (James Dutcher and Jack Mino, Holyoke Community College)

Inter-institutional learning communities are border crossing partnerships par excellence. Not only are students and faculty collaborating across disciplines and classrooms but institutions as well. Add to that an international dimension, and inter-institutional LCs can be a powerful means of crossing academic, cultural, and spatial borders. In this session, participants will complete a brief survey, then partner to consider the potential for inter-institutional co-teaching opportunities on their home campus.

2. “You Make Lemonade: What Do We Do if our Learning Community Doesn’t Run?” (Shannon Proctor, Leah Richards, Milena Cuellar, Marsha Oropeza, LaGuardia Community College)

We’ll share strategies for rewriting recipes for successful learning communities when the available ingredients change! Additionally, participants will practice using the charrette feedback process to create and refine strategies for adapting existing prep to allow for collaboration outside a formal learning community.

3. "Leading from within: A Peer Mentor Pilot" (Lisa Hibl, U of Southern Maine)

We are excited to update our colleagues on our student leadership pilot as it goes "live" in fall 2018. We'll share strategies for targeted student leadership through our structured "menu" of options in the Russell Scholars Program at USM, including innovative funding possibilities to support second-year student involvement. We'll engage retreat members in conversation on how to define the roles of TAs and Peer Mentors positions and on effective strategies for quantitative and qualitative assessment.

**1:00-2:30 p.m.**

1. "Accidental LC Sustainability: Capitalizing on Campus-wide Innovations" (Pat Morelli, U of Hartford)

In the last few years, several critical changes in teaching and learning at the University of Hartford have begun to influence the culture of the classroom and the campus at large as well as the quality and level of buy-in and support from upper administration. Interestingly, without deliberate planning, Hartford's Academic Learning Community program has bubbled up with new energy and creativity, in part, in response to these varied initiatives. This session, intended for both new LC faculty and veterans curious about new options, will provide information on the various wrap-around endeavors that have begun to neutralize silos and reinvigorate Hartford's Learning Communities.

2. "Integrating Disciplines through Class Video Projects" (Leigh Garrison-Fletcher, Lucy McNair, Poppy Slocum, LaGuardia Community College)

Our workshop will focus on using class video projects as a multimodal tool for integrating disciplines and assignments in learning communities or clusters. We will share a video made by our students at LaGuardia Community College as a class project for a cluster called 'Language Power'. We will then lead workshop participants in developing their own video projects that integrate disciplines and course objectives in their own learning communities.

3. "Developing Wonder: Psychology, Theatre, and Children" (Adrienne Kapstein, Pace University)

This workshop is an overview of "Developing Wonder: Psychology, Theatre, and Children", a Learning Community that combines Psychology and Theatre for the Very Young (TVY). TVY encompasses a wide range of theatre, live performance, dance, installation, and participatory-based work for children from birth to five years old. This course provides a detailed study of the different stages of cognitive, social, physical and emotional development from infancy to early childhood and pairs this with an examination of seminal theatre artists making performances for this audience.

**Friday, October 19**

**9:00-11:00 a.m.**

1. "Inside 'Inside the Sky'" (John Fiske, Bunker Hill Community College)

You will experience some of the activities John Fiske uses in his accelerated learning communities cluster, "Inside the Sky" at Bunker Hill Community College. The combined ENG095/ENG111 course propels students from developmental writing through the first college level writing course in one semester. John, an enthusiastic private pilot, uses various aspects of aviation to teach writing to a very diverse cohort of students. Come fly this one!

2. "Translanguaging Spaces of Learning: Reading and Writing Hybrid Texts" (Asther Asmalesh, Deborah Schwartz, Naoko Akai-Dennis, Josh Heerter, Bunker Hill Community College)

Please join us as we share our teaching approaches, student-centered learning seminars. We'll ground notions of "translanguaging" in current research. We'll present what we do in the classroom, our tutoring and support spaces, and in the community to foster student agency. Finally, we'll pose questions about how best to invite voice and agency into our seminars as students read, engage with, and produce different forms of beautiful and useful text.

**11:15 a.m.-12:00 p.m.**

"Pitching Sustainability to Key Stakeholders: Creating an Effective Elevator Speech"

Join members of the Atlantic Center for Learning Communities leadership team in discussing strategies for reaching key stakeholders on campus through short elevator-speech pitches designed to further your institution's learning communities' work. Participants will have the opportunity to create their own stakeholder-specific speeches and will be encouraged to practice those speeches before heading back to campus.

### **Poster Session and Reception—Wednesday, October 17, following keynote presentation**

Join us for a post-keynote reception and poster session. Take some time to peruse displays showcasing learning community efforts at the various institutions represented by this year's retreat participants. This is a great time for conversation and discovery!

### **World Café—Thursday, October 18 from 4:30-5:30 p.m.**

Back for another year is the Thursday afternoon World Café. Facilitators will offer brief introductions to specific table topics and will encourage conversation about the topic among the participants at the table. The session will be divided into short segments so that participants may sample more than one topic. Participants are welcome to stay at one table. Participants will continue conversation at the end of the session with a pre-dinner reception. Join us after dinner for our traditional Thursday evening reception and continued conversation.

### **Campfire with Kingsborough!**

Weather permitting, all are welcome to join George Hill from Kingsborough Community College around the campfire on Thursday evening after dinner. The fire pit is located off the wooded path behind the retreat center. This has grown to be a true ACLC retreat favorite!

### **Team Meeting Dedicated Space: Monastery Lounge (second floor)**

The Monastery Lounge on the second floor is reserved as dedicated space for team meetings and conversations with colleagues across institutions. No Learning Exchange workshops are scheduled for the Monastery Lounge in order to afford participants ongoing use of this space. The lounge is designed in such a way as to allow several small groups to use the space concurrently.