

# *The Stetson Teacher-Scholar*

STETSON UNIVERSITY  
BROWN CENTER  
FOR FACULTY INNOVATION AND EXCELLENCE

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*The Stetson Teacher-Scholar, published by the Brown Center for Faculty Innovation and Excellence, is a monthly electronic newsletter that contains important updates about programming and other professional development opportunities for members of the Stetson teaching community.*

*“Knowledge is the prime need of the hour.”*

*-- Mary McLeod Bethune*

## **Welcome Back!!**



With the 2022-2023 academic year starting, we remain hopeful that we will finally emerge from a pandemic. As we begin the school year let us remember that *WE ARE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER*. There is light at the end of the tunnel. We have learned so much about ourselves and our institution since March 2020. As a community we emerge bruised and exhausted, but we learned we are resilient, clever, capable of great empathy and compassion, and above all, all of us did the best job we could do given the circumstances. So, let’s continue to summon our inner superhero and forge ahead into a new school year, and as we do let’s always strive to help one another, respect each other and above all, take care of ourselves and help our students.

## **Pandemic Reflections: What was the 2021-22 school year like for you?**

Would you be willing to share your thoughts regarding one or more of the following questions?

- In terms of teaching, how were you impacted?
- Do you feel you were able to successfully engage your students?
- Were you able to achieve a reasonable work-life balance?
- Were you able to manage stress and avoid burnout?
- What would you do differently if, heaven forbid, we were forced to respond to another pandemic?

Your experiences matter and sharing them can provide not only an archive of this period in time but prove useful to others and help them better navigate matters involving teaching, scholarship and well-being. The Brown Center will provide up to \$300 for refreshments and meals for groups of 3 – 4 people to engage in three conversations during the fall semester. So, get a group together and have a conversation over coffee, lunch, dinner or a snack. If you are interested, and we hope you are, contact Harry Price or Chris Griffin to get started.

### ***Focused Inquiry Groups***

A Focused Inquiry Group (FIG) allow small groups of faculty and staff (3-4 members) to meet in person or online to work together on a specific question, issue, or concern having to do with teaching and learning. Collaborative inquiry provides an opportunity for participants to recognize common challenges and work together to create solutions. Members of a FIG do not have to reside in the same department. Some example topics are

- Ungrading as an adaptive assessment tool
- Integrating fine arts into STEM to yield STEAM
- Integrating community engaged learning across the curriculum
- Creative ways to integrate faculty-student mentoring into the college experience.

The Brown Center will provide up to \$300 for refreshments and meals for groups of 3 – 4 people to engage in conversations during the fall and spring semesters. If you are interested, and we hope you are, fill out the [FIG form](#) or contact Harry Price or Chris Griffin to get started.

### ***Community Building***

We are all so busy. Teaching, meetings, research, personal and professional obligations, there's always something on our plate. In all the hustle and bustle, and pandemic related craziness, we sometimes forget that we are part of a community, and it needs nurturing too. The community is Stetson. And, we are part of a diverse community. A community that has taken some heavy hits over the past 2+ years. A community that needs some attention – some restoration. In support of rebuilding and strengthening the community that is Stetson, The Brown Center is going to host periodic get togethers during the school year. Intended to bring folks together to talk, laugh and maybe even heal old wounds, these gatherings will provide the space, for folks to be themselves and engage in genuine conversation. So, keep an eye open for upcoming announcements.

### ***The Brown Center will fund a limited number of OneHE microlearning licenses.***

What is microlearning? [Microlearning](#) is a skills-based training approach that delivers specific content over a short period of time. Learners can study at their convenience. Content can take many forms but should always be brief. The education-focused company, OneHE has partnered with the AAC&U to make ONEHE's resources more accessible for faculty. OneHE provides evidence-based courses and resources that enhance teaching practice through pedagogical development. Learn more about this [partnership](#) and explore some of the [free resources](#) OneHE offers. When viewing the free resources, make sure to scroll to the bottom of the page to see the complete list of activities and free resources. If you like the OneHE courses and want to continue, contact the Brown Center or center program manager, Chris Griffin, to obtain a license. The Brown Center will support requests on a first come first serve basis until funds run out.

### ***Kognito Tutorial: Learning to Help at Risk Students, Faculty, and Staff***

Given the mounting stresses resulting from two years of pandemic and other societal issues, more now than ever we need to be prepared to help our students and colleagues by listening, being empathetic, and being prepared to point them toward professional assistance if necessary. The Stetson Counseling Service is an essential service offering a host of different programs and services. If you think a student

needs assistance, please direct him/her to the [counseling service](#). Not sure how to help a student or colleague that may be reaching out to you? Consider completing the Kognito tutorial which is available on *My Stetson* resources tab under [tutorials](#). Using an evidence-based approach, Kognito uses scenarios to create digital experiences that simulate conversations with virtual individuals to help people learn, practice and self-assess their ability to manage conversations that can lead to positive changes in mental (emotional and social) and physical health.

### ***Academic Leadership Development Series***

As the hub for faculty development, the Brown Center is committed to facilitating the development of faculty-led initiatives and collaborations. In this spirit, the Brown Center and CAS Associate Dean, David Hill are working together to create a year-long series of panel discussions and conversations for current chairs and faculty who may want to take on the role in the future. The first session will take place Monday, August 29 from 9:00am-10:30am in the Faculty Lounge. The session will be an open discussion on the Roles and Responsibilities of Chairs. Be on the look out for future announcements.

### ***Welcome New Marchman Chair***



Dr. Jeremy Posadas, Associate Professor, Religious Studies joins Stetson and will serve as Chair of the Hal S. Marchman Program for Civic and Social Responsibility. Jeremy comes to Stetson after 10+ years of dedicated teaching and service at Austin College in Sherman, Texas near the Oklahoma-Texas border. Jeremy's work focuses on social ethics, social justice, advocacy, and community engaged learning. He is excited to begin teaching and his work as the Marchman Chair. His passion for community engaged learning is infectious. Stay tuned for

announcements about upcoming events to learn more about ways to integrate community engaged learning into coursework.

### ***Welcome New Faculty***

For the first time since 2020, new faculty orientation was held in-person Hooray!!! Let's extend a warm welcome to the newest members of our Stetson teaching community.

Olusola Adetero, Environmental Science and Studies  
 Eric Andre, Studio Art  
 Joseph Cox, Political Science  
 Sam Desmet, Music  
 Allison Parks, Political Science  
 David DiQuattro, Philosophy  
 Nancy Marksbury, Library  
 Alwin Franke, World Languages and Cultures  
 Matthew DiFebo, Sport Business  
 Erica Goldstein, Health Sciences  
 Katie Hartikka, Sociology  
 Breahannah Hilarie, Counselor Education  
 Olena Kolupayeva, Communications and Media Studies

Hannah Markley, English  
 Shyanne Mathers, Business  
 Jason Ortega, Biology  
 Jon Oxford, Music  
 Jeremy Posadas, Religious Studies  
 Timothy Rosenberg, Music  
 Scott Semenyna, Psychology  
 Michael Serwornoo, Journalism  
 Sarah Smilely, Health Science  
 Hana Taha, Public Health  
 Paul Votaw-Miller, Human Resources  
 Dashiell Waterbury, Music  
 Aaron Witek, Music

***Always Seeking Input***

Do you need specific readings? Would you prefer video tutorials when learning about new approaches to teaching? Do you have ideas about workshops or other activities? Do you seek peer mentorship or coaching? Do you want to talk about grants? Is there information you are seeking but cannot find on the Brown Center website? Do you just want to talk about designing or revamping a course? ***Please let us know what you need.*** We need your input to learn if our programming is helpful. So, please take a few minutes to complete this short [survey](#). The information we collect is very important and helps us plan and offer better programming. If you are interested in receiving updates and the digital newsletter, please complete the short [subscription form](#). ***Remember, faculty development needs input like plants need water. We can't help you if you don't let us know what you need.***

All the best as you start a new school year!!!

Harry Price

Faculty Director

Brown Center for Faculty Innovation and Excellence