

THE LEARNING ORG



Center for Professional Development



Volume 6 no. 2

Reflect, Recharge, and Get Ready for 2026



Sessions during this month's celebration of [**Professional Development week**](#) encouraged us to reflect and set goals for the year ahead. Highlighted in this newsletter are many **CPD Certificate Programs – which kick off the first week of January**. The start of a new year is the perfect time to invest in your growth and learning.

Important submission deadlines to be aware of:

- CCIO Leadership Academy nominations are due **December 31, 2025**
- SUNY's Conference on Instruction and Technology (CIT) proposals close **January 9, 2026**

We also invite you to enjoy the season with our [**6th Annual CPD Holiday Cookbook**](#), filled with recipes and music to make your holidays bright.

From all of us at CPD, **happy holidays** and thank you for being part of our learning community.

Lisa Raposo
Executive Director

Inclusive Teaching & Learning Certificate – 2026

Strengthen your approach to teaching diverse learners with the **Inclusive Teaching and Learning Certificate Program**.

This **nine-course program** supports faculty and higher education professionals in developing equitable, student-centered teaching practices and provides evidence of essential skills for inclusive instruction.

Courses include topics such as Universal Design for Learning, equitable assessment, racial equity, communication strategies, and supporting non-traditional learners.



[More Info](#)

Winter Department Chair Academy — Registration Open!

January 6th – March 2nd, 2026

Join a cohort of department chairs and academic leaders in this fully online, asynchronous program designed to strengthen leadership skills, confidence, and connection. Participants will engage in weekly assignments, discussion-based learning, and receive access to *Crucial Conversations for Mastering Dialogue* and a DiSC Work of Leaders assessment.



The program is co-taught by Drs. Leah Deasy and Giacomo Oliva through Brightspace.

Team discounts available — email leadership@suny.edu for details.

[More Info](#)

[Register Now](#)

Learn About Assessment in Spring 2026

Advance your assessment skills with SUNY CPD's Institutional Effectiveness and Assessment of Learning Outcomes certificate programs—each offered **fully online** from **January 6th–May 11th, 2026** via Brightspace.

These **three-course series** are designed for faculty, staff, and administrators engaged in assessment or accreditation work. Learn to set measurable goals, analyze data, develop learning outcomes, design rubrics, and use results to drive continuous improvement.



[More Info - IE](#)

[More Info - ALO](#)

Mindful Leadership Course — Spring 2026

Ready to lead with greater clarity, calm, and intention? Join SAIL's 12-week *Mindful Leadership* course beginning January 6th, 2026.

Discover practical mindfulness strategies, explore meditation techniques, and build leadership habits that support well-being, resilience, and meaningful connection — all while earning a digital badge.

Register now and start spring with purpose.



[More Info](#)

[Register Now](#)

Join the SUNY Inclusion Quest (IQ) Digital Accessibility Challenge

Help make SUNY more accessible for all! **The SUNY IQ Digital Accessibility Challenge** empowers faculty, staff, and students to stay up to date on accessibility laws, build skills to create inclusive digital content, and foster equity across campuses.

Get started by watching one of the three recorded Orientation Webinars, where we will walk through the three phases of the challenge: **Knowledge Building, Assessment & Review, and Remediation.**

Visit the link below for more info on how to get started!

[More Info](#)



Get Funded in 2026: Learn to write Grants and Proposals

Sharpen your grant writing skills in this online asynchronous course running **January 6th–March 30th, 2026** via Brightspace.

Learn how to identify funding sources, plan and organize proposals, collaborate effectively, and strengthen your writing to boost your chances of getting funded.

Ideal for faculty, staff, graduate students, and grant writers looking to enhance their proposal development skills.



[More Info](#)

Learn the Data Literacy Essentials Needed for Higher Education in 2026

Strengthen your ability to use data for decision-making with our Data Literacy in Higher Education program—an **online, asynchronous series** offered via Brightspace.

Start with **Fundamentals of Working with Data** (Jan 6th–Feb 16th, 2026) to build a foundation in data concepts, governance, and analysis, then continue with **Storytelling with Data** (Feb 17th–Mar 30th, 2026) to turn insights into impactful narratives.



Perfect for faculty, staff, and administrators who use data to inform planning, assessment, and strategy.

Coaching in Higher Education – Spring 2026

Enhance your leadership and student support skills with **Coaching in Higher Education** program, delivered online via Brightspace.

Begin with **Coaching Strategies** (Jan 20th–Apr 13th, 2026), a 12-week course that introduces core coaching competencies, ethical practices, and techniques to support individuals and teams through organizational and change initiatives.



Advance to **Developing a Student Success Coaching Mindset** (Apr 21st–Jun 1st, 2026), where you'll learn evidence-based strategies to empower students, foster holistic development, and improve retention and completion outcomes.

These courses are ideal for **mid to senior-level leaders, faculty, and staff** looking to strengthen their coaching expertise in higher education.

Career Readiness Champion Certificate Spring 2026

Equip yourself to support student career success with **Career Readiness Champion Certificate**, an online program designed for faculty and staff across campus.

The three-course series includes:

- **An Introduction to the Career Development Process** (Jan 6th–Feb 16th) – Learn foundational competencies for advising, coaching, and guiding students in career planning.
- **Designing Your Career Development Toolkit** (Feb 17th–Mar 30th) – Explore career resources, campus services, and strategies to help students achieve their goals.
- **Integrating Career Development into Your Role & Campus Culture** (Mar 31st–May 11th) – Apply your learning to create a concrete plan for embedding career development into your work and campus environment.



Ideal for faculty, advisors, coaches, counselors, student affairs staff, and **anyone supporting students' career journeys**.

DEISJ Curriculum Development Certificate Program

This three-course certificate supports SUNY educators in developing curriculum that aligns with SUNY's Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Social Justice (DEISJ) General Education

outcomes. Developed by SUNY DEISJ faculty fellows and staff, the program builds foundational knowledge and practical course design fluency.

- **Course 1: Foundational Concepts in DEISJ** (January 27th – March 9th, 2026)
- **Course 2: Select Topics in DEISJ** (March 10th – April 20th, 2026)
- **Course 3: Building Your DEISJ Curriculum** (April 21st – June 1st, 2026)



Audience: Faculty, adjuncts, librarians, instructional staff, graduate assistants, and others involved in course design or teaching.

[More Info](#)

SUNY Business Intelligence Workshops (Online)

Join these **live, half-day Zoom workshops** to learn how to create, customize, and share reports using the SUNY Business Intelligence (BI) platform.

Two **Introductory Student Data Workshops** will be held on **February 11th** and **March 17th, 2026**, with an **Advanced Workshop** on **April 30th, 2026**.

Sessions run **1:00–4:00 p.m. ET** and cost **\$50 per person, per workshop**.



Learn more and register:
[SUNY BI Introductory Workshop – Student Data](#)
[SUNY BI Advanced Workshop](#)

Nominations Open for the CIO Leadership Academy

NOW is the time to nominate your IT colleagues destined for leadership for the **CIO Leadership Academy**!

Nominations for the 2026 Academy are being accepted through Dec 31st, 2025

The learning will **begin in February**, and participants will move through the cohort experience under the guidance of a seasoned CIO mentor through **May 2026**. SUNY scholarships will be available!

[Learn more](#) and [submit a nomination](#).



[More Info](#)

Save the Date: SUNY SURC 2026

Mark your calendars! The 2026 SUNY Undergraduate Research Conference (SURC) will take place at two locations this spring:

- SURC West – **SUNY Fredonia, Tuesday, April 21st, 2026**
- SURC Central – **Upstate Medical University (Syracuse), Friday, April 24th, 2026**



Students and mentors from all academic disciplines are encouraged to participate in this showcase of undergraduate research and creative activity across SUNY.

More details will be shared soon—visit the link below for updates or email SURC@SUNY.edu with questions.

[More Info](#)

Deadline Approaching! Call for Proposals – SUNY CIT 2026

May 26th–29th, 2026 | SUNY Stony Brook

The Conference on Instruction and Technology (CIT) invites educators, technologists, administrators, and thought leaders from across SUNY and beyond to submit proposals for **CIT 2026**.

CIT 2026



Stony Brook University

This year's theme, *Designing the Future of Learning*, highlights the transformative power of resilient teaching, innovative practices, and inclusive strategies that drive student success.

Share your insights, showcase successful models, and collaborate with colleagues shaping the future of teaching and learning.

Proposal deadline: January 9th, 2026, at 11:59 PM

Learn more and submit your proposal at cit.suny.edu.

[More Info](#)

Call for Proposals – SUNY GradCon 2026

The purpose of the SUNY Graduate Research and Creative Activities Conference is to showcase the research excellence carried out SUNY-wide at the graduate level. SUNY graduate students from all academic disciplines are invited to submit their research, scholarly, and creative activities to the 2026 SUNY Graduate Research and Creative Activities Conference (GradCon) as panelist presenters or poster presenters.



Abstract submissions are due at **11:59pm on Sunday, February 22nd, 2026**. The conference will be held virtually on **Friday, May 1st, 2026**.

Instructor Spotlight: Michele Forte

We're excited to shine a spotlight on **Michele Forte**, SUNY Empire, School of Health and Human Services — and instructor for SUNY CPD's **Coaching Strategies & Developing a Student Success Coaching Mindset** courses.

Michele helps participants shift from reactive problem-solving to intentional, capacity-building coaching. Her courses create a supportive community where participants apply coaching strategies to advising, student interactions, and team work, while deepening cultural humility and collaborative problem-solving.

"Teaching these courses reminds me that coaching is a practice, not a finished skill. Watching participants coach each other, share strategies, and build confidence in their own voices reinforces why this work matters so deeply in higher education."

Thank you, Michele, for empowering SUNY colleagues to foster meaningful growth for students and teams across the system!

[More Info on Coaching Strategies](#)

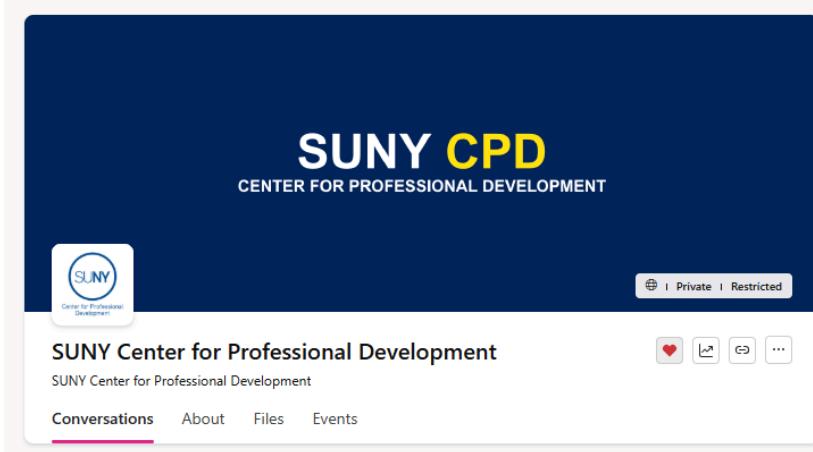
CPD Gives Back ❤️



The entire CPD team spent a day this past week volunteering at **Sarah's Guest House**, cooking and baking meals in support of individuals and families staying there during medical treatment. It was a meaningful opportunity for our full team to give back, work together, and support a vital community resource that provides comfort and care when it's needed most. We're proud to support our community and make a difference beyond our daily work.

Special thanks to our **Jen Snyder**, for helping organize and support this volunteer effort. And **David Haas**, Executive Director of **Sarah's Guest House** for helping organize and support this volunteer effort. To learn more about Sarah's Guest House or find ways to get involved, visit <https://sarahsguesthouse.org/>.

Connect, Share, and Collaborate on Viva Engage!



Did you know? The SUNY Learning Commons on Viva Engage is your members-only space to connect with colleagues from across the SUNY system!

In the Commons, you'll find:

- Communities of Practice and Groups focused on shared interests or professional roles
- Topic-based groups where you can dive into specialized discussions
- Spaces to share photos, updates, and event highlights
- And the option to request new groups for projects, initiatives, or emerging topics

We already have an active SUNY CPD group—and there are many other channels where you can:

- Ask questions
- Share resources and best practices
- Celebrate successes and milestones

Access is open to **anyone with a Microsoft email**, but to keep groups focused and relevant, you'll just need to fill out a short form to be added.

Ready to get involved? Click the button below to see our active communities.

Let's keep building our SUNY community together—one conversation at a time!

[Learn More](#)



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