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KCKCC Contact Kelly Rogge 913-288-7173 krogge@kckcc.edu

ACUE Contact Jackie Kerstetter 814-440-2299 jkerstetter@acue.org





Kansas City Kansas Community College and ACUE Launch Joint Initiative to Promote Student Success Through Evidence-Based Teaching

KCKCC educators will earn nationally-recognized credential in instructional practices shown to help students engage and persist in their studies and learn more

September 8, 2017—Kansas City Kansas Community College (KCKCC) and ACUE today announce a partnership to increase student success through effective instruction as part of the school's four-pillar Strategic Plan. The program launches this September when 60 full-time and adjunct educators begin a national certificate program in evidence-based teaching practices shown to increase student achievement and course completion.

KCKCC is one of seven competitive grant winners, and the only community college, selected by the Kauffman Foundation to receive support under the KC Scholars program to implement ACUE's Course in Effective Teaching Practices. Faculty who complete the program are awarded a nationally-recognized Certificate in Effective College Instruction that is co-endorsed by ACUE and the American Council on Education (ACE).

Based on more than three decades of research on the specific teaching practices that improve learning for all students, ACUE's course complements the work of the college's Center for Teaching Excellence (CTE), which was established in 2016 under the direction of Thomas Grady. CTE works to "foster academic discourse specific to the craft of teaching while leveraging technology, academic assessment, and professional learning to enhance pedagogy and student learning."

"The faculty and administration at Kansas City Kansas Community College are really looking forward to the opportunity to participate in the ACUE Course in Effective Teaching Practices," says Grady. "Participation in this professional development opportunity demonstrates our institutional commitment and dedication to implementing evidence-based teaching strategies that focus on student success. We would like to thank ACUE and the Kauffman Foundation for supporting faculty and administration at KCKCC in our efforts to provide a framework for engaging learners, creating pathways for success, and striving for excellence in higher education." ACUE's Course in Effective Teaching Practices is aligned with the latest research in cognition and adult learning, and it exceeds online learning standards, as certified by Quality Matters. It consists of 25 learning modules that address over 200 evidence-based teaching practices and are organized into five units of study:

- designing an effective course and class
- establishing a productive learning environment
- using active learning techniques
- promoting higher order thinking
- and assessing to inform instruction and promote learning

"We are excited to collaborate with Kansas City Kansas Community College as they engage their faculty in this additional opportunity alongside the Center for Teaching Excellence work designed to fully support instructors in learning and putting into practice the evidence-based teaching practices we know improve student motivation, engagement, and learning," states Penny MacCormack, chief academic officer at ACUE.

About Kansas City Kansas Community College KCKCC boilerplate

About ACUE

ACUE was founded in 2014 by leaders in higher education to promote quality instruction at colleges and universities nationwide. ACUE's comprehensive Course in Effective Teaching Practices prepares college educators to implement all of the essential practices shown to improve student outcomes. Aligned with the latest research in cognition and adult learning, ACUE's course design exceeds online learning standards, as recognized by Quality Matters. Educators who satisfy course requirements earn a Certificate in Effective College Instruction endorsed by the American Council on Education (ACE). Visit acue.org/course to learn more.

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