"RUNNING OUT OF ROAD’ FOR FAFSA COMPLETION

"The number of students who filled out the federal aid form is down nearly 30 percent. The ramifications for access and enrollment could be devastating." (Source: Inside Higher Ed)

Read more here.
**HOW CAN UNIVERSITIES KEEP ONLINE STUDENTS ENGAGED?**

"Institutions like the University of Maryland Global Campus, Grayson College and Western Governors University are using a variety of tech tools to maintain student engagement — a key challenge in online learning." (Source: GovTech)

Read more [here](#).

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**EDUCATION DEPT IS ‘CONCERNED’ ABOUT POTENTIAL OPM FAILURES AS GROUPS SOUND ALARM ON 2U**

"A spokesperson said the agency was worried about how the collapse of an online program management company would impact college students." (Source: Higher Ed Dive)

Read more [here](#).

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**FLORIDASHINES CATALOG SEES RECORD NUMBER OF PROGRAM UPLOADS**

The 2023-24 academic year saw the highest numbers ever for programs uploaded to the FloridaShines catalog. There are almost 8,000 unique programs in the Catalog. Along with that record-breaking participation from institutions, FloridaShines has also completed its first round of data transfer from the Catalog to Credential Engine to support the statewide Education Meets Opportunity Platform (EMOP) initiative. FLVC has been working with the Florida Department of Education and statewide stakeholders since August 2021 on EMOP, which is developing a comprehensive and interactive credential registry for the state. The programs provided by institutions to the FloridaShines Catalog play a significant part in this statewide effort.

Read more [here](#).
FL-IDN hosted a free webinar, _Behind the Curtain: Tips to Make Virtual Facilitation of Faculty Development Workshops Easier_, on Tuesday, April 2. This webinar aimed to equip instructional designers with helpful organizational tips, systems, and tools that can make preparing and facilitating virtual faculty development workshops easier.

Attendees had the opportunity to take a peek “behind the curtain” to explore practical tips and tricks that can help them stay organized, keep track of important tasks, and create a smoother virtual facilitation experience. Attendees also explored how they can use tools like Wakelet and Scribe to easily share resources with faculty so that learning can continue beyond the workshop.

**Learning Outcomes**

By the end of the webinar, attendees were able to:

- Describe organizational tips that can make it easier to facilitate virtual faculty development workshops;
- Identify different tools and techniques that can be used to share workshop resources with faculty;
- Plan how to incorporate the strategies learned into one’s practices.

Many thanks to Tolulope Noah (California State University, Long Beach) for sharing their expertise and experience with our community.

The recording and other resources can be found below.
A regular meeting of the FLVC Members Council on Distance Learning and Student Services will be held on Tuesday, May 21 from 12:00 - 5:00 p.m. and Wednesday, May 22 from 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. at Seminole State College's Automotive Center in Sanford, Florida. Members may look forward to future meeting planning, DLSS updates, system updates, networking round tables, a Microcredentials panel, standing committee work, SUS chair elections, "Cool Tools" presentations, and a dinner reservation at a local Irish pub.

**REGISTRATION**

Please register your attendance (in person or online) below: https://forms.gle/7qpbNSSaHqkJWPMF7

If attending in person, there is a $60.00 meeting registration fee. Payments may be made by institution check, purchase order, or credit card. Payment instructions can be found on the registration form.

Registration closes on Monday, May 6, 2024. The last day to cancel and receive a refund is Friday, May 10, 2024.

Credit card link: https://commerce.cashnet.com/FLVC

**HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS**

Individual reservations can be made by using the direct booking link here.

Room rate: $139/per night | Free self-parking

The last day to reserve a room under the FSU/FLVC room block is Monday, April 29, 2024.

Orlando Marriott Lake Mary
1501 International Parkway, Lake Mary, Florida 32746
Phone: +1 407-995-1100

Booking link: https://book.passkey.com/go/FLVClakemaryroomblock
MEETING DETAILS

Draft Agenda:
Draft May 2024 MCDLSS Meeting Agenda

Draft February Meeting Minutes:
Draft February 2024 MCDLSS Meeting Minutes

Sanford/Lake Mary Campus Address:
100 Weldon Boulevard, Sanford, FL 32773

Campus Map:
Seminole State Campus Map

Parking Information:
We will be in the Automotive Showroom (AT building). Lot 18 and 19 are recommended for parking. Parking passes are not required.

Directions to Breakout Locations for Standing Committees:
Online Instruction: This standing committee will remain in the main conference room, AT-102.

Strategic Partnership and Licensing: This standing committee will walk to E-101. The E building is only 5 minutes away from the Automotive Showroom.

Student Support/Web Services: This standing committee will walk to F-220. The F building is only 5 minutes away from the Automotive Showroom.

Guest Wi-Fi:
Guest Wi-Fi credentials will be shared prior to the meeting.

Dinner on Tuesday:
Grafton Street Pub
7055 Co Rd 46A, Lake Mary, FL 32746
Tuesday, May 21, 2024 | 6:00 p.m. | 20 people

SEMINOLE STATE COLLEGE HIGHLIGHTS

The College’s first and largest campus, Sanford/Lake Mary offers a complete curriculum that is sure to meet even the most unique needs. The campus is home to dozens of degree and certificate programs as well as the Grindle Honors Institute, Center for Fine and Performing Arts, Emil Buehler Perpetual Trust Planetarium and Raider intercollegiate athletic programs. It is also home to the University of Central Florida at Seminole State, which allows UCF students to complete select bachelor's degree programs on the Seminole State campus.

To keep up with the growing needs of Seminole County, Seminole State completed an $85 million makeover at Sanford/Lake Mary. The latest project, a two-story, 77,000-square-foot Student Center, opened in January 2018 and serves as a one-stop facility for student services and student life.

CFADA AUTOMOTIVE TRAINING CENTER HIGHLIGHTS

This $10.1 million center is a one-of-a-kind facility in Florida, and one of only a handful of similar facilities in the nation. Designed and built to meet the unique training needs of Seminole State’s automotive programs, The Barbara Miller CFADA Automotive Training Center includes:

- A 19,200-square-foot shop with 40 bays;
- Four alignment lifts;
- Four above-ground lifts and 29 in-ground lifts;
- A corporate training suite housing eight bays with four in-ground lifts and one heavy-duty in-ground lift;
- Five high-tech classrooms with plasma screens and HD projectors to enhance learning;
- Corporate offices for CFADA, which represents 92 dealerships in six Central Florida counties;
- A 2,000-square-foot show room.
This year's Florida OER Summit will be held virtually on May 23-24. The theme of this year's Summit is “Innovations and Trends.” Join librarians, educators, instructional designers, and OER professionals from across Florida and the U.S. as they explore existing trends, look towards innovative directions, and discover how OER positively impacts students, faculty, and institutions.

Topics covered during the two-day event include: ZTC degrees/pathways, gamification and adaptive learning, library digital content and archives student engagement and development and collaboration.

To register, go [here](#).

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These features make the center an ideal setting for students to receive specialized training for branded vehicles and emerging technologies such as alternative-fuel vehicles and hybrid vehicles. In addition to housing Seminole State's Automotive Programs, The Barbara Miller CFADA Automotive Training Center is the site for the annual Florida finals of the Ford/AAA Student Auto Skills Hands-On Competition and is a National Training Center for the National Alternative Fuels Training Consortium (NAFTC).

The facility, which opened Jan. 19, 2007, is located on Seminole State's Sanford/Lake Mary Campus and allows students to receive on-the-car experience and on-the-job training.
HOW THIS EDUCATION PROFESSOR IS EQUITIZING HER ASYNCHRONOUS ONLINE METHODS COURSE

"Dr. Sarah Straub, an Education Studies professor at Stephen F. Austin State University, believes so much in the potential of asynchronous online learning to extend opportunity to more students that after the Covid-19 pandemic, she wanted to learn about transitioning more of her courses to that format. Straub was assisted in that in 2022 when she participated in Digital Learning Praxis: Engendering Quality and Equity Across the Learning Lifecycle, a workshop facilitated by Dr. Angela Gunder of Online Learning Consortium..." (Source: Every Learner Everywhere)

WEBCAST | FREE AND OPEN TO ALL | MAY 7, 12:00 PM (MDT)
CAN MICROCREDENTIALS RE-ENGAGE 40.4 MILLION LEARNERS?

"Join us for an insightful webcast tailored for higher education leaders and administrators, focusing on the effective policy and practice of credential initiatives in today's educational landscape. With a staggering 40.4 million Some College, No Credential adult learners seeking avenues for upskilling and reskilling, institutions face a pressing need to adapt and innovate. Today's adult learners expect more: they want their educational journey to provide benefits while they are earning their degree, not after the degree is in hand. This webcast will explore the strategic integration of microcredentials as a tool to re-engage and support adult learners while simultaneously enhancing institutional revenue streams. Through expert analysis, real-world scenarios, and empirical research, participants will gain invaluable insights into effectively leveraging microcredentials. Register to save your seat." (Source: WCET)

BIDEN TOUTS EFFORTS TO COMBAT JUNK FEES IN HIGHER ED

"The Biden administration recently highlighted several ongoing efforts to crack down on “junk fees” in higher education. The President's latest budget proposes to eliminate student loan origination fees, which are charged when borrowers first take out their loans and range from 1 to 4 percent. The administration would also like to prevent colleges from automatically billing for textbooks as part of tuition and fees, give students back their unused meal plan dollars, and eliminate certain fees on college-sponsored deposit accounts. Any policy changes will not take effect until July 1, 2025 at the earliest..." (Source: Inside Higher Ed)
MORE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ARE GETTING A JUMP ON COLLEGE CREDITS NOW
"An excellent way to increase college access is by offering it to high school students. Nearly one million high school juniors and seniors around the nation are enrolled in dual enrollment. Not only does dual enrollment increase access to higher education, but it is also a great way to save students time and money. A school district in Texas saved families approximately $700,000 in the 2023 school year by offering free college classes to their students..." (Source: EdTech Magazine)

BIDEN ADMINISTRATION WANTS ACCREDITORS TO SET BENCHMARKS FOR STUDENT OUTCOMES
"What happens when colleges consistently have poor student outcomes? There is talk about requiring accrediting agencies to set benchmarks for student achievement. Many politicians have argued for years that accreditors are failing in their quality-assurance role when there are low graduation rates at accredited institutions. The Biden administration has proposed requiring accreditors to set minimum expectations of performance on several standards such as graduation and licensure pass rates. If this change were to be enacted, it would represent a significant shift for the Education Department..." (Source: Inside Higher Ed)

HOW AI CAN ADDRESS CRITICAL CHALLENGES FACING HIGHER ED
"Artificial intelligence is increasingly being integrated into higher education to address challenges such as personalized learning and operational efficiency. AI-powered tools are streamlining administrative tasks like scheduling, registration and financial aid management, freeing up valuable staff time and reducing errors. AI-enhanced learning analytics provide more comprehensive data analysis, enabling professors to understand student behaviors and needs while identifying at-risk students early in their courses..." (Source: EdSurge, Anthology)

REPORT: HOW COLLEGES CAN CONTRIBUTE TO RURAL PATHWAYS FOR CAREERS
"Less than one-third (31 percent) of adults who live in nonmetro areas have earned an associate or bachelor’s degree, 14 percentage points behind those in metro areas. However, college and career pathways can help guide learners to earning the credential and landing the job they want. A March report from Jobs for the Future identifies three key themes in developing pathways in rural communities and how education and workforce leaders can better serve young people living in these areas..." (Source: Inside Higher Ed)

STUDY: MORE HIGH SCHOOLERS ARE SEEING GREATER VALUE IN ON-THE-JOB TRAINING THAN COLLEGE
"Fewer high schoolers are motivated to go to college and are prioritizing on-the-job training and certificate programs that can land them jobs faster, cheaper and easier, according to a new survey. College enrollment has decreased by 8% since 2019, previous reporting by USA TODAY shows. According to a new survey published this month, top reasons include an unwillingness to take on debt, the pressure that college brings and the fact that it may not be worth the money it costs to attend..." (Source: USA Today)

NEW MICROSOFT EDUCATION UPDATES FOCUS ON AI AND SECURITY
"Microsoft Education announced several new features of its artificial intelligence and security tools aimed to assist educators and help prepare students for future careers in which AI will play a prominent part. One of these is AI for Educators Learning Path, a new tool for educators to learn more about AI’s potential to increase literacy and engagement. The Microsoft AI Education Toolkit is a free resource for leaders developing plans for their institutions, including examples, case studies, and materials to get started. See the original article to read more about Microsoft Education’s newest updates..." (Source: Campus Technology)

DIGITAL WALLETS EXPLORED AS NEXT GENERATION TRANSCRIPTS
"ASU Pocket is a digital credentials wallet that holds a student’s transcript, certificates, and other badges. Arizona State University is one of many institutions that is turning toward a catch-all digital wallet. Digital credential wallets are a tool to keep learning and employment records in one place. They are common in many state departments, and digital licenses, visas, and age verification methods are increasingly common. Academia initially used digital wallets to ease the transition for transfer students, but a new focus is on giving students a feeling of ownership over their records and achievements. Will digital credentials wallets be the next trend?" (Source: Inside Higher Ed)
TV MUST-SEE:
RIPLEY
“A wealthy man hires down-on-his-luck grifter Tom Ripley to travel to Italy to urge his vagabond son to return home; Tom’s acceptance of the job is the first step in a life of deceit, fraud and murder.” Series is now available on Netflix.
(Source: Rotten Tomatoes)

YOU GOTTA GO:
PLANT STREET MARKET
“Plant Street market is a local community market located in historic downtown Winter Garden, with 20 vendors featuring natural, organic food and handmade products all inside of one building. The Plant St. Market is your local indoor artisan market. Open 7 days a week, we strive to create a community of quality and diverse farm fresh products, artisan specialties and local products. Also, attached to the market is the Award Winning Crooked Can Brewing Company, our on-site hand crafted beer. With live entertainment and our pet friendly patio, this is the place to enjoy a day.” (Source: Crooked Can)

YOU GOTTA TRY IT:
KRAZY GREEK KITCHEN
“Located in beautiful Lake Mary, Florida, the Krazy Greek Kitchen represents European charisma and charm. Enjoy your meal on our terrace overlooking Lake Mary’s Central Park or within our modern yet casual dining area. From the traditional Gyros, Greek Salad, Hummus, Dolmades and other well known Greek dishes to gourmet dishes such as Grilled Octopus, we blend Mediterranean cuisine tradition with modern creative touches resulting in just delicious, unique plates for your degustation and enjoyment.” (Source: Krazy Greek Kitchen)

SPINE-BENDERS:
“It’s finally time for our shiny new Monthly Picks — but don’t be fooled, these aren’t just any books. This roundup is the best of the best (aren’t they always?) with books from our favorite authors and stories we can’t get enough of. From a laugh-out-loud thriller to an unforgettable look at cinema, a big-hearted story about family (and an adorable woolly mammoth) to an indelible Newbery Medal Winner, this selection is as delightful as ever.” (Source: Barnes & Noble)