

# Fostering Community and Establishing Best Practices through Professional Development

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# Outcomes

- Reflect upon current professional development practices
- Consider new formal and informal professional strategies and activities
- Discuss similarities, differences, and challenges of professional development approaches
- Contemplate how professional development can foster a sense of community



# The University of Findlay

University of Findlay-University School Articulation Program (UF-USA)

# Professional Development

- **Formal Professional Development:**
  - Workshops
  - Training Sessions
  - Classroom Visits
  - Syllabus and Course material review
- **Informal Professional Development:**
  - Phone calls
  - Emails
  - Sharing of assignments and pedagogical strategies

Tinberg and Nadeau (2011) argue that the “best” dual enrollment programs “carve out space for faculty in all institutions involved to discuss pedagogical methods and the goals of the program” (p. 720)

# How can we meet this charge?

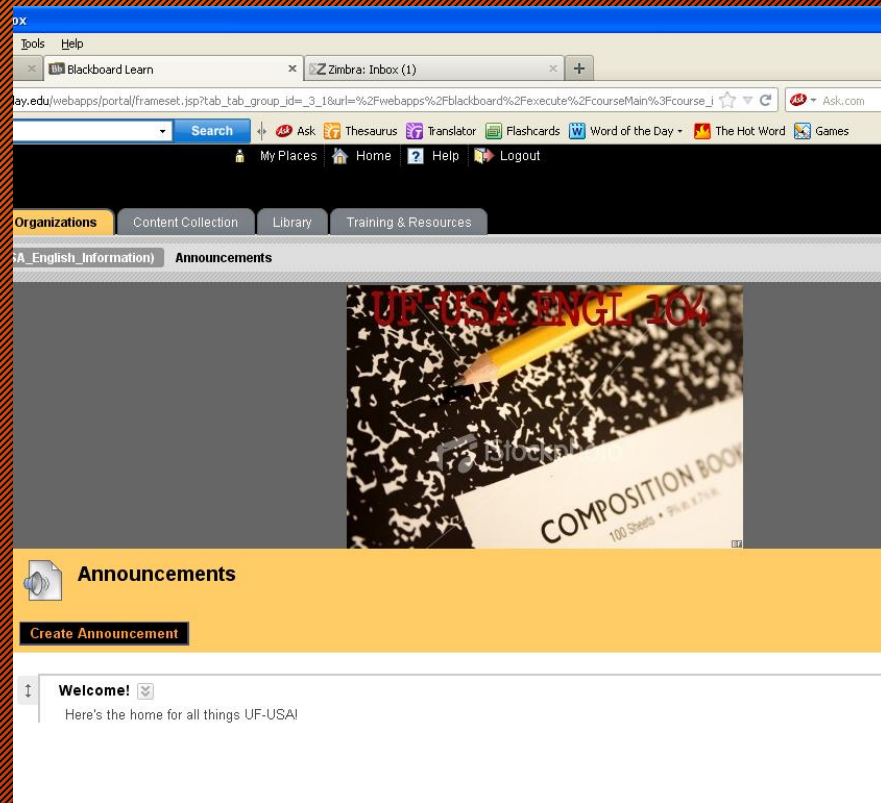
- How can institutions “carve out space” for professional development?
- What types of formal PD are being offered?
- What types of informal PD are occurring?

# Formal: Orientation to the Program

## Week Long Training Course

Theory  
Practical Application  
Course Building  
Presentation

## Final Portfolio of Materials



The screenshot displays a web browser window with two tabs: 'Blackboard Learn' and 'Zimbra: Inbox (1)'. The address bar shows a URL from 'ay.edu'. The browser's toolbar includes a search bar and various utility icons like Ask, Thesaurus, Translator, Flashcards, Word of the Day, The Hot Word, and Games. Below the browser, a navigation menu features 'Organizations', 'Content Collection', 'Library', and 'Training & Resources'. The main content area is titled 'Announcements' and features a large image of a composition book with the text 'UF-USA ENGL 304' and 'COMPOSITION BOOK' overlaid. Below the image, there is a yellow bar with a document icon and the text 'Announcements', followed by a 'Create Announcement' button. At the bottom, a 'Welcome!' announcement is visible with the text 'Here's the home for all things UF-USA!'.

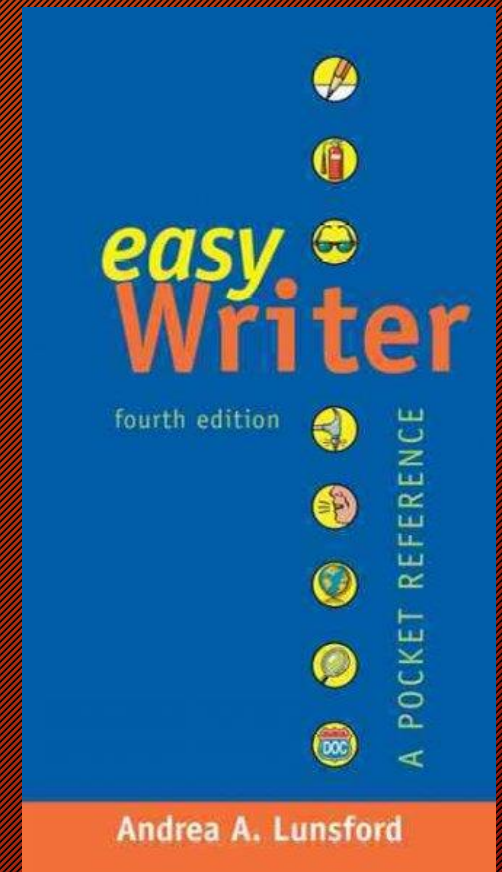
# Formal

- On-going checks of essays/calibration
- Site visits
- Summer retraining session



# Informal

- Email conversations/phone conversations
- “Strategies that Work”
- Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs)
- Sharing of materials



# On-going Formal and Informal PD



- UF-USA Professional Development Day
- MA in Rhetoric and Writing
  - Guest speaker (Duane Roen)
- DVD
- Research and writing projects

“

If we are to shape a consistent, strong, effective message [of writing instruction], we cannot ignore this collaboration” (Taczak and Thelin 21).

”

**The importance of community**

# Community



# Discussion

- What similarities or differences do you see in your PD and the formal and informal PD opportunities just described?
- What challenges or obstacles have you faced or would you anticipate facing when implementing PD into your discipline?
- Of what importance is community to your concurrent enrollment program?

# Best practices

- Guidelines
- Administrative support
- Training sessions: topics covered
- Assessment:
  - HLC, comp/lit, GE, NACEP, program assessment

# Questions



# Works Cited

Taczak, Kara, and William H. Thelin. “(Re)Envisioning the Divide: The Impact of College Courses on High School Students.” *TETYC* (September 2009): 7-23.

Tinberg, Howard and Jean-Paul Nadeau.  
“Contesting the Space between High School and College in the Era of Dual- Enrollment.” *CCC* 62.4 (June 2011): 704-725.