



Navigating Change: Centers for Teaching & Learning in the Age of Transformation

Friday, June 5, 2026 | 9 a.m.-3 p.m. ET

Presented by the SOCHE Faculty Development Committee
Cedarville University, Cedarville, Ohio | Stevens Student Center

Event Program

Time	Session	Location
9:00-9:30 a.m.	Event Check-In and Continental Breakfast	Event Room 240
9:30-9:45 a.m.	Welcome and Opening – Dr. Victoria DeSensi, Wilmington College	Event Room 240
9:45-10:30 a.m.	<p>KEYNOTE – Leading Through Change <i>Dr. Jared Pyles, Cedarville University</i></p> <p>In a year marked by rapid institutional adoption of generative AI, this keynote reflects on what it means to lead when the pace of change is beyond your control. Drawing from firsthand experience, it explores how leadership shifts from managing outcomes to stewarding people – especially when innovation creates division, uncertainty, and moral tension.</p>	Event Room 240
10:30-10:45 a.m.	Break and transition to morning workshop sessions	
10:45-11:30 a.m.	<p>Morning Workshops (<i>choose one at registration</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <p>• Building Community Among Faculty Founding a community of interconnected cross-disciplinary faculty learners to promote teaching excellence, student success, and discover how colleagues teach and feel about teaching. <i>Facilitator:</i> Dr. Kevin Coghlan, Edison State Community College</p> <p>• Helping Contingent Faculty Navigate the Changing Higher Ed Landscape through Faculty Professional Development College and university administrations are increasingly relying on contingent faculty to meet institutional teaching needs. These faculty require professional development opportunities to effectively serve the institution’s educational mission, and faculty development centers need to account for this in their programming. In this workshop, we will share practices we have found helpful in the UCBA Learning + Teaching Center such as the Adjunct Convocation, postcards, and Canvas resource site. Participants will engage in discussion and activities to explore new ideas for supporting contingent faculty at their institutions. <i>Facilitators:</i> Dr. Joseph Baumgartner and Dr. Brenda Refaei, University of Cincinnati Blue Ash College <i>Moderator:</i> Dr. Victoria DeSensi, Wilmington College</p> 	<p>Event Room 240</p> <p>Event Room 245</p>
11:30 a.m. -12:30 p.m.	<p>Lunch and Connection Time</p> <p><i>Catered by Rudy's Smokehouse, Springfield</i> Menu: Pulled chicken (GF/DF) Beef brisket (GF/DF) Sweet BBQ sauce (GF/DF/vegetarian) Hot BBQ sauce GF/DF/vegetarian) Sandwich Buns (vegetarian) Green salad (GF/DF/vegan) with dressings on side Roasted red skin potatoes (GF/DF/vegan) Mac-N-Cheese (vegetarian)</p>	Event Room 240

12:30-1:15 p.m.	<p>What We Protect: Setting Priorities for Change That Matters</p> <p>When resources are tight, the hardest part isn't finding ideas – it's deciding what to protect, what to change, and what to stop without lowering learning quality. This session helps CTL leaders make those choices explicitly. Participants will complete a 5-point semantic differential Value Profile to surface what they prioritize for change that matters (e.g., building faculty capability through work on real course artifacts such as assignments, assessments, activities, and rubrics; criteria-based feedback and iteration; increasing visible student thinking; protecting rigor; supporting adoption; expanding reach; and sustaining the center). Participants will then apply their profile to one offering (program, service, or resource) to identify mismatches, make a Keep-Modify-Sunset decision, and select one redesign move that is both high-value and realistic. You'll leave with a clear priorities profile, a defensible decision about one offering, and a concrete next step that fits limited resources.</p> <p>Facilitators: Dr. Gregg Wentzell and Dr. Ellen Yeziarski, Miami University Moderator: Dr. Victoria DeSensi, Wilmington College</p>	Event Room 240
1:15-1:30 p.m.	Break	
1:30-2:30 p.m.	<p>PANEL: Changes in Higher Education That Are Reshaping the Faculty and Student Experience</p> <p>Higher education is undergoing structural transformation driven by generative AI, educational value, financial pressures, and shifting student expectations. These converging forces require systemic institutional responses from administrators, faculty, and staff. Higher education, as we know it, is changing.</p> <p>There is a need to shift from reactive adaptation to strategic design. This panel will discuss how CTLs can serve their members and stakeholders given these changing needs. Panelists will explore the evolution of faculty roles in an AI-enabled environment, the shift toward student ready institutional models, and structures that support innovation under financial constraint.</p> <p>Moderator: Ryan Liming, Cedarville University Panelists: Dr. Romena Holbert, Wright State University; Dr. Jessica McKinley, Sinclair College; Rita R. Thomas, Central State University; and Dr. Ellen Yeziarski, Miami University</p>	Event Room 240
2:30-3 p.m.	Closing: Peer Reflective Practice – Dr. Victoria DeSensi, Wilmington College	Event Room 240