

Facing the New Normal:

Equity, Wellness, and Skills for Working in a Remote Environment

10:30am-11:00am	Welcome, Introductions, and Fall Highlights President Podell	
11:05AM-12:30PM	Morning Concurrent Sessions	Virtual
	<p>I. Navigating Uncharted Waters: Reflections on What We Have Learned About Ourselves and How that Might Support Us Moving Forward Dr. John D’Auria, Jon Edwards, Dr. Deborah London, Samaria Stallings</p> <hr/> <p>II. Engaging Students in the Online Class Heather Knuth, Katie McGrath, Richard Williams</p> <hr/> <p>III. Using Open Educational Resources (OERs) to Remove Barriers to Student Success Dr. Chris La Barbera, Dr. Nicole Lambert, Tim Rivard, Dr. Bernadette Sibuma, Meredith Watts</p> <hr/> <p>IV. Conversations on Race: What Can I Do? Lisa MacDonald, Dr. Lynn Moore</p> <hr/> <p>V. Combining Best Practices for Online Instruction with Trauma Informed Educational Practices Heidi Getchell-Bastien</p>	
12:30pm - 1:00pm	Lunch	
1:00PM-3:00PM	Afternoon Keynote Session	Virtual
	<p>“The First Amendment and Freedom of Speech in Higher Education” Kenneth A. Tashjy, Esq., General Counsel Massachusetts Association of Community Colleges</p>	

Disclaimer for program:

Please note that all sessions will be recorded, they may include your likeness and/or your voice. You have the option of muting your camera and/or your microphone but participation implies authorization for MassBay to use such likeness and voice on all recordings in perpetuity.

Professional Development Day

Morning Breakout Session Descriptions:

I. Navigating Uncharted Waters: Reflections on What We Have Learned About Ourselves and How that Might Support Us Moving Forward

Dr. John D’Auria, Jon Edwards, Dr. Deborah London, Samaria Stallings

We all hear about the importance of “maintaining a work-life balance,” but given all the unknowns and multiple challenges is this an attainable goal? How do we maintain our balance and be fully present during these complex times? Join us for a panel and discussion on this topic.

II. Engaging Students in the Online Class

Heather Knuth, Katie McGrath, Richard Williams

This summer, the college offered a series of workshops on best practices in online instruction. Each session was led by a faculty member (or two) who shared their strategies for engaging students in online courses. In this session, two of those faculty—Heather Knuth and Katie McGrath—will present from the sessions they led for those who were unable to attend this summer (or those interested in attending again). Heather will focus on increasing student success in online courses; Katie will demonstrate how to incorporate voice and visuals in your online course. After these presentations, faculty who attend will have an opportunity to share a strategy they use in their own online courses.

III. Using Open Educational Resources (OERs) to Remove Barriers to Student Success

Dr. Chris La Barbera, Dr. Nicole Lambert, Tim Rivard, Dr. Bernadette Sibuma, Meredith Watts

This session will focus on the use of Open Educational Resources (OERs) to achieve student success, especially in the context of a remote learning environment. Data on using OERs to close achievement gaps will be discussed. Faculty from distinct disciplinary areas will present on the use of OERs in their fields, and additional resources on OERs for faculty will be shared.

IV. Conversations on Race: What Can I Do?

Lisa MacDonald, Dr. Lynn Moore

It’s a question many are asking right now. Perhaps you’ve asked yourself, perhaps you’ve asked others. In the wake of George Floyd’s death, the protests, and the conversations around race happening all over our country, so many are seeking guidance as to how they can be of help, support, and service. Dr. Lynn Moore, Chief Diversity Officer and Lisa MacDonald, Director of Equity Compliance offer this session for participants to discuss this exact question, listen to different perspectives, and better understand the implications of intention versus impact this question may have. Resources, book recommendations, and takeaway materials will be offered.

V. Combining Best Practices for Online Instruction with Trauma Informed Educational Practices

Heidi Getchell-Bastien

Over the summer faculty had the opportunity to learn about best practices for online instruction. This session will review some of these best practices and their similarities to Trauma Informed Educational Practices (TIEP). Additionally, this session will examine how TIEP are of particular importance this fall because our students are dealing with the pandemic, witnessing police brutality, and living in a time of political unrest. After examining the basics of TIEP, participants will have the opportunity to participate in an activity that shows how to establish classroom norms prior to discussing controversial topics in an online environment.

Professional Development Day

Afternoon Keynote Session:

The First Amendment and Freedom of Speech in Higher Education

Kenneth A. Tashjy, General Counsel
Massachusetts Association of Community Colleges

Higher education has been characterized by the U.S. Supreme Court as the “marketplace of ideas” where diversity of thought and expression are supposed to be respected, supported, and nurtured. Lately, however, there have been efforts to limit campus speech by prohibiting so-called offensive or hate speech, and/or through the imposition of speech or inclusive language codes. These efforts, led in many cases by administrators or faculty, are intended to “protect” students from the alleged harmful effects of certain speech. However, in reality, these well-intended efforts often times result in prohibiting protected speech and stifling legitimate debate and discussion. Prohibiting protected speech at a public institution of higher education is a violation of the U.S. Constitution’s 1st Amendment and can subject an institution to civil damages and penalties, not to mention some very bad press. This training program will explore the 1st Amendment and its application in public higher education, including what is classified as protected and unprotected speech, and how speech protections may vary depending upon the forum in which the speech is occurring.