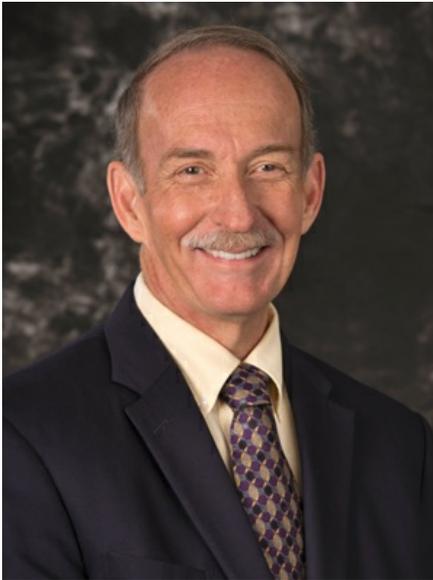


# Update from the Executive Director

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## Spring 2020



FLVC Colleagues,

We find ourselves in unprecedented times. I don't think any of us would have predicted what has happened over the last few weeks. Certainly while we all work from home and strive to find the things that we need at the grocery store (Who would have predicted the toilet paper issue?) our colleges and universities are struggling to not only finish the semester for their students but also worrying about how summer semester will play out. Below are a few notes to give you a sense of how our conversations with our institutional representatives are playing out.

All are moving classes online with several already making the call to move the first sessions of summer online, as well.

Test proctoring is a problem from several aspects. Proctoring costs for those that have solutions in place has exceeded projected budgets, and it is requiring additional resources.

Earlier UCF moved over 4,900 face-to-face sessions online alone. Multiply that by 40 colleges and universities, and the scale is pretty daunting. Given the hit on budgets for proctoring, some are seeking to construct per test costs to pass on to students. In some disciplines, high stakes testing (such as in Nursing) is proving challenging. And as you might guess, lack of equipment, such as webcams or even computers, is causing considerable hardship for students.

Solutions for labs and clinical instruction are proving challenging to find in the online conversion, and most institutions are scrambling for options.

Colleges and universities are reporting challenges in the performance of web-conferencing solutions. Some were using an "included" or "free" version of a platform and quickly exceeded the capabilities forcing a move to the professional or pay-to-play version. Once again, such required moves will challenge existing budgets. And students use of cell phones to accomplish many tasks is illuminating the lack of solid performance of some platforms on such devices.

Generally, there is a lot of concern over student access. The digital divide is certainly raising its ugly head in this scenario. Students may not have access to the equipment or bandwidth for online instruction. Many do not have webcams needed for some proctoring solutions. Students with disabilities are a concern and special attention is being directed to those where they can be identified for support.

Finally, in the move of all of the curriculum to online, many are identifying gaps in their curriculum in terms of courses or specific learning objects in some disciplines. We are collecting information on learning needs to distribute and encourage sharing among the institutions.

While no one seems really sure how long this will go on, the safe bet says that we will be into summer before we see any change in practice. Hopefully things will improve rapidly, however we have to plan well in advance so online instruction is likely here for the first part of summer. In the meantime, DLSS

is providing support to our institutions with regular web-conferences, sharing ideas and support for students using a variety of our existing learning, advising, and purchasing resources.

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## Find Us On Social Media

Connect with the [Florida Virtual Campus](#), the [Orange Grove](#), and [FloridaShines](#) on Facebook!

Connect with the [Florida Virtual Campus](#), the [DLSS Members Council](#), the [Orange Grove](#), and [FloridaShines](#) on Twitter!

Connect with the [Florida Virtual Campus](#) on LinkedIn!

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## MyCareerShines Updates

### MyCareerShines Galaxy

MyCareerShines Galaxy is an online tool that allows students in K-5th grades to explore their career possibilities. This new and exciting career exploration tool will be available in classrooms Spring 2020!

MyCareerShines Galaxy highlights 120 possible career occupations and promotes equity by avoiding common assumptions about gender roles. It leverages a badge system to reward and motivate students to explore work environments and encourages usability with a blend of video, text, and audio narration, flexibility on desktops, laptops, and tablets, and fun characters, aliens and astronauts.



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## Student Services Updates

### 2+2 Articulation Toolkit

FLVC is excited to announce a collaboration with the State University System Board of Governors, and a steering committee comprised of State University System representatives, Florida College System representatives, and administrators, to develop a web-based 2+2 Articulation Toolkit. The Toolkit is under development and will assist Florida College System students with navigating the processes for transferring to a four-year degree program at a state university.

Research and design activities are underway for the various phases of the project, in consultation with the steering committee. Phase I of the Toolkit will include a user-friendly web page highlighting the 20 critical content areas identified by the steering committee, with information for secondary and postsecondary students, secondary and postsecondary advisors, and other key users. This toolkit will assist in addressing the most critical issues across four major components of 2+2 articulation: the academic transition, the admissions process, the cultural transition, and information on A.A. graduates.

### Common Prerequisites Manual

The new interface for Florida's Common Prerequisites Manual is ready to go live! The user-friendly

interface was designed and developed with the focus of making it more usable for advisors, and to provide a better alternative to the previous PDF format.

The Common Prerequisites Manual lists the prerequisite courses and substitutions for each university degree program. The Manual serves as an advising tool for students to learn about the required prerequisite courses they must complete in order to be admitted into an upper division program at a State University in Florida.

## **Postsecondary State Network Meeting**

The Florida Virtual Campus showcased its innovative educational services on a national stage, participating for the first time in a presentation at the Postsecondary State Network Meeting held Jan. 29-30, 2020, in Seattle.

Nashla Dawahre-Williams, director of advising and student services at the FLVC, took part in a session at the conference that explored how FLVC uses a wide array of resources to prepare students for college. The session focused on FLVC's thriving partnership with the Florida College System's Student Success Center. Dawahre-Williams was joined in the presentation by Abbey Ivey, director of the Florida Student Success Center.

Jobs for the Future, Inc. (JFF) biannually convenes the Postsecondary State Network, which is composed of postsecondary and policy leaders from 16 states as well as national partners and funders.

## **Virtual College Week**

More than 2,400 people representing 50 school districts in the state of Florida participated in this year's Florida Virtual College Week.

The three-day event, which was held Oct. 28-30, 2019, provided high school counselors, students, and parents access to live webinars featuring experts in the areas of college and university admissions, scholarships, financial aid and career planning. Speakers at the event came from a wide variety of institutions including the Florida College System, the State University System, and the Florida Department of Education.



Those who registered for Virtual College Week received valuable and essential information on how to: become eligible for a Bright Futures Scholarship, enroll in college courses while still in high school, navigate the college admissions process, earn a degree without compiling debt, complete college courses online, earn and finish up their college degree through Complete Florida, enroll in a technical college, take advantage of the services offered by FloridaShines, and use MyCareerShines to help land their dream job.

All the sessions for this year's Virtual College Week were recorded and can be found at <https://www.floridashines.org/go-to-college/make-a-plan-to-shine-in-college/virtual-college-week>.

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## **Other Updates**

### **Quality Matters**

The QM System License Subscription gives Florida institutions a more cost-effective way to collaborate with one another as they work toward improving course design and meeting quality standards. As the system lead institution, FLVC keeps providing

administrative support and services to twenty-eight member institutions.

It is time to renew your QM subscription for 2020-2021. Watch for the subscription renewal notice and invoice from Quality Matters. A [Supplemental IYOC License Subscription](#) is provided to the institutions as an option for 2020-2021. For more information or questions, contact [Tom Tu](#), the System Lead QM Coordinator at FLVC.



## FLVC-IDN Professional Development Webinar Series

Promoting accessibility awareness, accessibility compliance and best practices for accessible course design, delivery, and assessment is one of the top professional development priorities for the [FLVC-IDN \(Instructional Designer Network\)](#). This spring the FLVC-IDN partners with the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights will offer a professional development webinar series focusing on accessibility.



The FLVC-IDN regularly invites guest speakers and experts in the field to present at the webinars on various topics around instructional design, technology, digital learning, quality assurance, accessibility and OER. Please watch for webinar announcements, and join us at the events!

The FLVC-IDN is a statewide professional development network and community of practice for Florida instructional/learning designers, instructional/learning technologists, and educators. Visit [FLVC-IDN website](#) for more information and resources. Subscribe to the [FLVC-IDN Listserv](#). Follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#). Contact [Tom Tu](#) for more information or questions.

## The Orange Grove

[The Orange Grove](#) Support Team has completed the user account verification and update project. We will deliver the updated user account information to the point of contact person designated by your institution. For more information or questions, contact [Tom Tu](#), the TOG System Administrator.



The Orange Grove is an Open Education Resource Repository for educators, students, and the public in Florida and beyond. Check out this [Introduction to the Orange Grove](#), and learn what it is and how it can support you and your institution in integrating OERs and making education more affordable.



DLSS

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Shines

MyCareer  
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