



DISTANCE LEARNING & STUDENT SERVICES

SUPPORTING THE LEARNING NEEDS OF FLORIDA STUDENTS

Interview with Josh Strigle

Josh Strigle is the Director of E-Learning and Learning Support Centers for the College of Central Florida. He has been with the institution for 20 years. He is the incoming chair for the Distance Learning and Student Services Members Council. It will be his second term as chair.

What are your responsibilities at the College of Central Florida and tell us about your history at the institution?

I started out as a student assistant and have kind of grown up with the departments. I've done a little bit of everything from duplicating VHS tapes for the students, for their telecourses, all the way up to the mid-management role that I have now. The Learning Support Centers, which are our tutoring centers at our different campuses report to me. The bulk of my time and energy is supporting e-learning and overseeing the support for faculty and students — the faculty professional development for e-learning, the course design concerns, compliance concerns, all those types of things.

What is your vision for the value and goals of the Members Council in the year ahead?

I think the primary value is the cooperation. I truly think the Members Council has been the most valuable thing in my career as far as enabling me to do my job. We sometimes call ourselves, "the biggest of the small institutions."

I know those numbers fluctuate a little bit but generally if you divide the college system into three tiers, we're the largest of the small tier. Having that knowledge base to work with has been incredibly helpful. I can only imagine for some of the institutions that are even smaller it must be very helpful to them as well. So, my interest in serving in a leadership role is just to do whatever I can to facilitate that type of sharing. I would also welcome the chance to be able to be an ambassador to those outside the Members Council and communicate with them just how valuable the group is to the institutions.



Josh Strigle
College of Central Florida
Director, E-Learning and
Learning Support Centers

What will be your primary areas of focus be during your year as chair of the Council?

I've been personally focusing on faculty-student interaction. There are some new regular and substantive interaction rules from the Department of Education and those have been a big focus for me. I think that influences my desire to see the group be included in any kind of policy decisions from the state that affect distance learning.

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I would like to be able to do what I can to make sure the group is included in those decisions and has a voice. Whatever policies are created are an opportunity to work together to make sure we're in compliance. During my previous term as chair the group was focused on developing a course quality process and I think they have a pretty good handle on that, but I think faculty support and training is an area that we might be able to focus on. For a final thought: I think it's just wanting to get the members involved. The biggest benefit that I've seen from working with the group is when I've picked something, such as regular and substantive interaction, that I've said, "ok, I'm just going to dive into this and see what I can contribute," and before you know it, I'm able to make a tangible contribution to my peers. That

is very fulfilling and also a really good addition to your career and your work to be able to do something like that. Another example is that one of our committees about five or six years ago decided to look at a scorecard, a rubric for supporting online students — institution wide support —not just tech support. We looked at the entire services of the institution and making sure that we're providing them equally for our online students. That work was started by a few of us at one of our quarterly meetings, and eventually turned into a nationally recognized scorecard that's seen some international implementation. I've had meetings with an institution in Ireland for them to implement it and large institutions all over the country have used that work that was started in the Members Council.



College 101 webinars held in September, October

"College 101: What to do, when to do it, and how" — a series of free webinars that provided students all the information they need to explore their education options after high school and apply and pay for college was held Sept. 15 and 22, and Oct. 10 and 19.

Experts in higher education from across Florida were on hand during each session to share information and answer questions to help students plan their future after high school.

The first webinar held on Sept. 15, "Explore," detailed all the postsecondary options available to students, including the career and technical programs and two-year degrees and four-year degrees that can lead them to the career that they want.

The second webinar held on Sept. 22, "Apply," showed students how to get all their information ready to apply to the college that best matches their needs and submit an application that stands out to admissions officers.

The third session held on Oct. 10, “Fund,” showed students how to not let the cost of college stop them from achieving their dreams. They learned about various scholarships and grants and how they can qualify for them.

An additional session, “Filling Out the FAFSA,” was held on Oct. 19, and gave students a step-by-step demonstration on how to fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. To view the recordings of these College 101 webinars, visit <https://www.floridashines.org/go-to-college/get-ready-for-college/college-101-event>.

Education news from Florida and beyond

The University of Central Florida, the University of South Florida, Florida International University and the University of Florida were named among the top employers in Florida by Forbes magazine.

“Forbes partnered with market research company Statista to compile it’s fourth annual list of America’s Best Employers By State. The list is divided into 51 rankings—one for each of the 50 states, plus the District of Columbia—and was compiled by surveying 70,000 Americans working for businesses with at least 500 employees. Surveys were conducted anonymously, allowing participants to freely share their opinions. The final list ranks the 1,382 employers that received the most recommendations.” Read the full list [here](#).

A federal judge ruled that Cleveland State University can’t virtually scan students’ rooms during remote tests. “The ruling marks a victory for digital privacy advocates around the country, who have spoken loudly against the practices of online test proctoring for many years.” Read the full article in The Verge [here](#).

Proposed federal legislation would require public and private colleges with endowments over \$1 billion to cover between 25 and 75 percent of all students’ cost of attendance, according to [this article](#) from Inside Higher Ed. According to the article, “higher ed experts say colleges won’t be able to do that, given strict rules around endowment spending.”

Transient Student Admissions Applications numbers see sharp increase

Transient Student Admissions Applications submitted during summer 2022 surpassed last year’s summer applications by 37 percent.

There were 24,989 applications created during the summer 2022 period with 13,697 applications approved.

As of Oct. 1, there have been, 4,737 applications submitted this Academic Year (2022-23), which is a four percent increase during the same period last year.

Thank you for supporting the mission of the Florida Virtual Campus and being a part of the Transient Admissions Application process to support your students. Please do not hesitate to contact the Florida Virtual Campus Help Desk, throughout the semester, for further assistance.

Zero Cost Textbook stats for first year

It has been almost a full academic year since the implementation of the Zero Textbook Cost (ZTC) course indicator within the FloridaShines Online Course Catalog. Here are some interesting facts about your institutions' participation.

- In Fall 2021 there were 121 ZTC sections in the Catalog, while in the Spring 2022 there were 924 ZTC offerings. In the Summer 2022 term there were 614 ZTC sections found in the Catalog.
- The most common course titles with ZTC sections were General Psychology, First Year Experience Orientation and Composition II.
- Congratulations to Hillsborough Community College, University of North Florida, Florida SouthWestern State College and Indian River State College, which each offered more than 250 ZTC sections during the first year of the implementation.

News from the Florida Instructional Designer Network



A Fulfilled Summer for a Promising New Academic Year

Thanks to our guest speaker, Mr. Josh Strigle's hard work and support, 380 IDN community members and friends attended the IDN's special summer webinar series. The IDN community keeps growing with more than 500 members.

The IDN Advisory Committee worked tirelessly through summer and successfully completed the following projects:

- 2022 Instructional Design Leadership Survey
- Successful Launch of the [IDT Around Florida](#) project
- Call for 2022-2023 IDN Webinar Presentation Proposals & Proposal Reviews
- 2022-2023 IDN Professional Development Webinar Scheduling.

Visit the IDN website at <https://dlss.flvc.org/idn> for resources and webinar recordings. Subscribe (or encourage your colleagues to subscribe) to the [IDN listserv](#) for news and announcements on professional development, [career opportunities](#) as well as rich resources shared by the IDN community members.

THANK YOU, FL-IDN Advocates and Supporters!

2022-2023 IDN Professional Development Webinar Schedule

Fall 2022

- **September 7**
 - [Click to Watch](#) *How Accessible Is it? A Proactive Approach for Online Course Accessibility-* Katie Profeta, Indian River State College
- **October 4**
 - [Click to Watch](#) *Training Camp: Successful Implementation of E-Faculty Coaching-* Kristen Kelton, Tarrant County College District
- **November 8**
 - *Cultivating Deep Learning Using Discussion Boards-* Rob Rose, University of North Florida
- **December 1**
 - *Quality Content: A Case Study on Creating Effective Training for Educators-* Caity Bente, Florida State University Program for Instructional Excellence

Spring 2023

- **January 17**
 - *Setting the Bar: A Quality Approach to Online Learning-* Katie Ragsdale & Carleigh Okwali, Polk State College
- **February 7**
 - *Fast 5: Quick Tips to Make Your Course More Accessible-* Lindsey Morris, Tarrant County College
- **March 7**
 - *Building Interactive Textbooks for OER-driven Courses-* Laurie Nave, University of Alabama in Huntsville
- **April 11**
 - *Live online: ALIVE-* Dax Parcels, Palm Beach State College

The IDN Digital Badges & Awards

The IDN will keep awarding [digital badges](#) in Fall 2022. Participating in at least two IDN webinars/events in Fall 2022 and meet the associated criteria, you will earn an IDN Professional Development Award badge. Digital

badges and awards are also available for the IDN guest speakers and partners. IDN Awards recipients can choose to include the award in their performance review or curriculum vitae as evidence of professional development or community service achievement.





News from Florida Academic Success and Quality (FLASQ) Initiative

Congratulations!

Please join us in congratulating the following Florida institutions for having one or more courses recently Quality Matters-Certified:

- Florida Atlantic University
- Florida International University
- Florida State College at Jacksonville
- Florida State University
- Hillsborough Community college
- Polk State College
- South Florida State College
- University of Florida
- University of North Florida
- University of West Florida



Mark Your Calendars

2022 QM Connect Conference

Quality Matters' annual [QM Connect Conference](https://bit.ly/3ACVUGt) will be held on Nov. 6-9 at Loews Ventana Canyon Resort in Tucson, Arizona. See more details at: <https://bit.ly/3ACVUGt>

DLSS Members Council meeting scheduled for Nov. 2-3

We look forward to seeing you at the next Members Council meeting which will be held at the College of Central Florida-Ewens Century Center on Nov. 2 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. and Nov. 3 from 9 a.m. to noon!

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