



STRONG WORKFORCE FACULTY INSTITUTE: **RETHINKING THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE FOR RETENTION AND SUCCESS**

Frequently Asked Questions

1. How will the Strong Workforce Faculty Institute support us in our current work?

Faculty participating in the Institute will work collaboratively with researchers and deans on their campuses to better understand, and connect with, their students. By the end of the Institute, participants will have completed an online form and has two parts: 1) an investigative research (and reflection) and 2) an action plan to implement their ideas at the classroom level.

2. What is included in the “investigative research”?

The investigative research consists of quantitative and qualitative questions about your courses and students. You will fill out each section to the best of your ability, using data/information provided by your institution’s researchers and your own knowledge of your courses/students. These are Sections I through IV of the online form. (More information about the sections are provided below.)

3. What is included in the “action plan”?

The action plan is what you plan to change in the classroom based on what you have learned during the investigative research. You will determine your own timeline and activities in the action plan, after consulting your dean and researchers. This is Section V of the online form. (More information about the sections are provided below.)

4. How many sections are in the online form? When is the online form due? What is the timeline?

Feb 28, 2020	First in-person (kickoff) professional learning event
Mar 31, 2020	Section I of the online form due
Apr 30, 2020	Sections II and III of the online form due
May 29, 2020	Section IV of the online form due
July 31, 2020	Section V (action plan) of the online form due
Sep 25, 2020	Second in-person professional learning event

5. What support will I receive to complete the online form?

Prior to each section’s due date, you are expected to meet with the dean and researcher(s) assigned to the Institute. Consult your dean and researcher(s) for more information (time, date, location) about the monthly meetings. If you cannot attend the scheduled meeting, then make arrangements with your dean and researcher(s) to review your responses to the section(s) at a different date.

6. What if I have a technical issue with the online form?

Contact sandiego-imperial@coeccc.net.

7. When and where will the February 28 and September 25 events be held?

The February 28 kickoff event will be from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the San Diego Sheraton Hotel & Marina (1380 Harbor Island Dr., San Diego, CA. 92101). Parking will be free upon arrival. The September 25 event has not been scheduled yet. Please hold the date on your calendar.

8. What if I decide not to participate in the Institute after attending the February 28 kickoff event?

You will receive the \$250 stipend for attending the event, but not the remainder of the stipend, which is \$1,750. To receive the remaining \$1,750, you must complete the online form and attend the follow-up meeting on September 25, 2020. Contact the dean participating in the Institute from your campus for instructions on how to receive your stipends.

9. Will the Strong Workforce Faculty Institute be a recurring/annual project?

The Regional Consortium has not determined if this will be a recurring, annual institute. However, the collaboration among faculty, dean and researchers should not end on September 25, 2020. The goal of the Institute is to foster this relationship and sustain it beyond September 2020.

10. I teach at two different colleges. Can I analyze data across multiple campuses for the online form?

No, you will participate from one college and use that college's information to answer the investigative research questions in the online form. It is up to the other college's discretion to provide you with data for your other courses. Please be cognizant that researchers are limited in bandwidth, supporting other faculty with their online forms.

11. As an adjunct instructor, what if I do not have a course scheduled in the semester immediately following the September 25, 2020 event to implement my action plan?

You can implement the action plan whenever your next course occurs, or according to the timeline you provided in your action plan. Consult your dean for assistance in developing your action plan.

12. Do we have to evaluate courses we have personally taught or, as department chair, can I evaluate all sections of a particular course in an attempt to improve retention and success?

The online form is set up to evaluate only what you have personally taught. All other activities should be discussed with your dean and researcher(s).

13. Some courses are co-taught by multiple faculty members. Can I analyze the various classes from the course in the online form?

This should be discussed with your dean and researcher(s). Some data may not be available/accessible if they are not your students.

14. How long is the online form expected to take?

This will vary by college and faculty. The online form may take 20-25 hours to interpret the data with the researcher(s), fill out the online form, meet with the dean and researcher(s), and develop an action plan to implement in the classroom.

15. Will there be resources available to me to formulate changes in the classroom? Will there be funding for my action plan?

No, the purpose of the Institute is to develop an action plan that you can implement without external resources.

16. What if I make changes in the classroom and nothing changes in terms of retention or success?

That's okay! The purpose of the Strong Workforce Faculty Institute is to encourage collaboration, reflection, and data-supported decision-making. The Regional Consortium encourages continuous collaboration among faculty, deans, and researchers to ultimately impact retention and success.