CITL Data Fellows 2019-2020

The Center for Innovations in Teaching and Learning (CITL) at UC Santa Cruz invites all interested staff and faculty (senate and non-senate) to join a new learning community we are calling the CITL Data Fellows.

The learning community will meet monthly during the 2019-20 academic year to consider issues related to the increasing use of learning and data analytics, including big data, artificial intelligence, metrics, and algorithmic thinking in higher education, particularly as part of the teaching and learning mission.

The primary focus of the group will be on the question of which kinds of data should be available to staff and faculty, and how we will be prepared and guided to use the data shared with us.

New data analytics tools are being pioneered in the UC system and around the country to track and support student success at the classroom, program, and institutional level. Some of these tools are already available to advisers and others will soon be available to instructors at UC Santa Cruz.

Questions we might consider include:

- What approach should the campus take to preparing faculty and staff to make use of data provided about individual student performance, or data related to courses, departments, and divisions?
- What is the place of “early warning systems” (high- or low-tech) and other predictive analytics in higher education, including higher education pedagogy?
- What kinds of data should be accessible to instructors, advisors, and students themselves?
- Can the use of student learning data and other learning analytics decrease rather than simply increase faculty and staff workloads?
- When, if ever, is it appropriate to compare the performance of individual students, of departments, or of instructors using such data?
- How can we support faculty and staff to become informed and responsible users of data?

Application Process

There is no application process for the learning community, but we request that interested colleagues commit to participating in the group throughout the year. We will meet no more than once a month, for a total of about 10 meetings, likely on Fridays.

Please send your name, university affiliation (e.g. role and department), email address, and any specific topics you would like to see addressed, to Associate Vice Provost for Teaching and Learning, Jody Greene, at jgreene@ucsc.edu as soon as possible, but at latest by June 1, 2019.