

## Developing Faculty Learning Communities At Two-Year Colleges

Author: Susan Sipple Robin Lightner / Category: Education /

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Summary: Free developing faculty learning communities at two-year colleges pdf download - this book introduces community college faculty and faculty developers to the use of faculty learning communities flcs as a means for faculty themselves to investigate and surmount student learning problems they encounter in their classrooms and as an effective and low-cost strategy for faculty developers working with few resources to stimulate innovative teaching that leads to student persistence and improved learning outcomes two-year college instructors face the unique challenge of teaching a mix of learners from the developmental to high-achievers that requires using a variety of instructional strategies and techniques even the most experienced teachers can find this diversity demanding faculty developers at many two-year colleges still rely solely on the one-day workshop model that while useful rarely results in sustained student-centered changes in pedagogy or the curriculum and may not be practicable for the growing cohort of part-time faculty members by linking work in the classroom with scholarship and reflection flcs provide participants with a sense of renewed engagement and stimulate collegial exploration of ways to achieve educational excellence flcs are usually faculty-instigated and cross-disciplinary and comprise groups of six to fifteen faculty that work collaboratively through regular meetings over an extended period of time to promote research and an exchange of experiences foster community and develop the scholarship of teaching flcs alleviate burnout and isolation promote the development testing and peer review of new classroom strategies or technologies and lead to the reenergizing and professionalization of teachers this book introduces the reader to flcs and to the scholarship of teaching and learning offering examples of application in twoyear colleges individual chapters describe among others an flc set up to support course redesign an adjunct connectivity flc to integrate part-time faculty within a department and collaborate on the curriculum a cross-disciplinary flc to promote student self-regulated learning and improve academic performance and persistence a critical thinking flc that sought to define critical thinking in separate disciplines examine interdisciplinary crossover of critical thinking and measure critical thinking more accurately an flc that researched the transfer of learning and developed strategies to promote students application of their learning across courses and beyond the classroom each chapter describes the formation of its flc the processes it engaged in what worked and did not and the outcomes achieved just as when college faculty fail to remain current in their fields the failure to engage in continuing development of teaching skills will equally lead teaching and learning to suffer when two-year college administrators restrain scholarship and reflection as inappropriate for the real work of the institution they are in fact hindering the professionalization of their teaching force that is essential to institutional mission and student success when flcs are supported by leaders and administrators and faculty learn that collaboration and peer review are valued and even expected as part of being a teaching professional they become intrinsically motivated and committed to collaboratively solving problems setting the institution on a path to becoming a learning organization that is proactive and adept at navigating change

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