

Preface

A Focus on Faculty Excellence: USG's Office of Faculty Development

When I came to the University System of Georgia after ten years at Emory's Oxford College, I gained a new set of faculty colleagues—twelve thousand of them—from across the system. The move also invited a series of opportunities—to work in public higher education again, to join the academic team in a state known for its innovative approach to student success, and to reimagine how to support faculty across an incredibly diverse array of institutions.

Working with the committee of faculty who evaluated the portfolios submitted for the 2019 Regents Awards for Excellence in Teaching, I quickly discovered that good teaching strategies included in the portfolios far outnumbered the awards that the committee had to offer.

Would it be possible create a way to share these strategies with USG faculty? Denise Domizi, our Director of Faculty Development, had ideas for a publication that could showcase the good work that is happening across Georgia. Denise's expertise and that of the CTL directors who participated in the review process led to this book.

The authors of the essays in *Engaged Student Learning* are faculty nominated by their institutions for teaching innovation and excellence. We are excited to include some of their best practices in this inaugural volume.

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