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Transformation Information Issue 1

Office of Academic Affairs

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Transformation Information was created to communicate all things related to integrated clusters and our campus transformation. Thank you to Pam Anneser's student Tyler Mega who created our header graphic.

A Note from the Integrated Cluster Launch Team

We are gaining momentum for our initiative and are enjoying the conversations happening across the campus. We know it is sometimes difficult to deal with the unknown and to have your questions sometimes go unanswered. On the other hand, it's also part of the excitement as we build a new PSU.

Some of our challenges center around technology and how best to deliver you the information that you need and seek. We continue working on ways to better communicate and integrate information across the campus. Our methods may not be the most technological but our goal is to simply provide information to keep as many people in the know as possible. We have short-term tactics that we are using but are doing long-term planning to find the technology that is right for us.

Projects continue to roll in and we thank you for that! We are trying to strike a balance between being flexible while having a process. We'll keep with the current project proposal submittal system for now but are looking for ways to improve it.

Our integrated clusters announcement during our Columbus Day Open House was met with excitement and interest by both parents and students alike. We look forward to refining our message and learning more as we participate in more open houses.

If you have an idea for our monthly newsletter, feedback or a question you would like answered, simply reply to this email.

Introducing Our Open Labs

We have two fully operational open labs in Lamson and one in the Museum of the White Mountains. The open lab on the main level is intended to be used by students, faculty, and staff as a collaboration space. It can be used by several groups simultaneously and features three video displays, two of which have teamwork stations where up to four students may connect their laptops to a single video display. There is also a touch screen group-work area which has Skype capabilities. Students can also share across all three screens in the space. There is also directional audio above each area so sound will not travel beyond the intended work space.

The downstairs open lab has a more creative flair in terms of technology and multimedia capabilities. Use the Oculus RIFT virtual reality system, the high-end Macs or PCs, or the collaborative suites to work on creative projects such as videos, music tracks, animations, or class presentations.



Other technology includes a large poster printer and two 3D printers!

The MWM open lab is a collaborative space that includes moveable furniture (28 chairs and 14 flat tables), extra chairs for presentations (the room holds 70), a computer cart that includes a platform document camera that will allow you to project 3D objects or capture a brainstorming session.

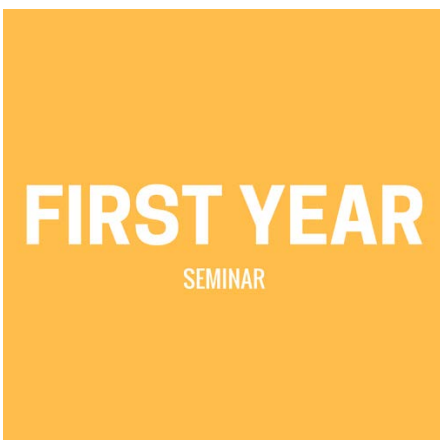


Pictured is just some of the technology you and our students can experience in our open labs.

Projects

To date, we've received 26 project proposal submissions for both funded and non-funded projects. Our first approval notification for projects requesting more than \$1,000 is on Oct. 27. The next submittal deadline is on Halloween!

[Click](#) to read a bit about our approved projects under the \$1,000 funding threshold.



Mark Fischler, interim VP for Student Affairs and Dean of the First Year Experience, charged the General Education Committee, in collaboration with a few cluster guides, with reworking the First Year Seminar to align with the cluster initiative. Read more [here](#).



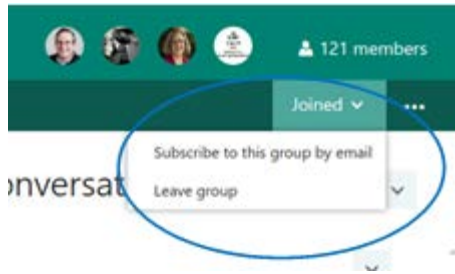
This semester the [Center for Business and Community Partners](#) has received 70 external inquiries and is currently facilitating active partnerships involving 103 organizations, 190 students, and 22 faculty/staff.



We are in search of an [operations manager](#) to help us create processes and build systems to enable cluster success and project scalability. We also are looking for a communications specialist to help with campus communication and offer support related to clusters.

Not Yet Receiving Cluster-Specific Emails?

Specific cluster information and conversations can be found in our Office 365 Groups.



If you would like to have cluster-specific communications delivered right to your inbox, go to the cluster group in Office 365 of your choice and click joined and click "subscribe to this group by email."

Quick Links

- [October Consolidated Cluster Calendar](#)
 - [November Consolidated Cluster Calendar](#)
 - [Project Proposal Forms](#)
 - [Project Proposal Tutorial Video](#)
 - [Guides](#)
 - [Project Ideas](#)
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