



816 of this year's biggest teaching and learning issues in higher ed

BY MERIS STANSBURY March 6th, 2017

EDUCAUSE survey of almost a thousand college and university thoughtleaders reveals key issues within faculty development, academic transformation, and much more.



Since 2011, the EDUCAUSE Learning Initiative (ELI) has surveyed the higher education teaching and learning community to identify its key issues. This year, the top three dominant issues within colleges and universities include those around faculty development, academic transformation and digital and information literacies.

The community polled by the ELI is wide in scope: the initiative solicits input from all those participating in the support of the teaching and learning mission, including professionals from the IT organization, the center for teaching and learning, the library, and the dean's and provost's offices.

According to college and university thought leaders, these are the 16 biggest teaching and learning issues in 2017:

1. Faculty Development: Empowering and enabling faculty to craft active learning engagements and deploy edtech to achieve learning objectives.

2. Academic Transformation: Breakthrough teaching and learning models, innovative partnerships and alliances, and strategic transformation of the campus mission.

3. Digital & Informational Literacies: Identifying and developing new student competencies in finding, evaluating, creating, and managing digital information in the 21st century.

4. Accessibility & Universal Design for Learning: Educating the community in effective practices and course designs that are accessible by everyone.

5. CBE & Assessment of Student Learning: All forms of student learning are viewed through new assessment lenses, such as competency-based learning.

6. Open Education: The rising cost of textbooks, widespread mobile usage, and a need for broader access have led to open educational resources.

7. Online & Blended Teaching and Learning: Evolving course delivery methods combine traditional and online learning to serve on-campus students and remote learners alike.

8. Learning Space Designs: Learning spaces are evolving from places of presentation to interactive spaces of discovery, inquiry, and making.