



# EMPOWERING TEACHING EXCELLENCE

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The Office of Empowering Teaching Excellence (ETE) elevates and promotes USU's culture of teaching excellence through cross-disciplinary events and programs that are open to all USU instructors. All initiatives are guided and approved by the ETE Faculty Committee.

## Venues for Professional Development

### ETE Conference

- Presentations are faculty submitted, faculty led, span multiple disciplines and delivery formats, and focused on teaching innovations that have worked well right here at USU.

### ETE Seminar Series

- Topics pertain to various aspects of effective teaching and primarily focus on practical application, learned through experience, by seasoned teachers.
- Seminars are broadcast statewide, and feature speakers selected from USU's faculty and visiting guest speakers.

### ELearnX Interactive Workshop

- A three-day virtual workshop which provides a hands-on deep dive into the teaching tools and methodologies of online, broadcast, and blended instruction.

### Journal on Empowering Teaching Excellence

- A peer-reviewed online publication for higher education professionals who engage in the design and practice of instruction. Has over 30,000 downloads and is accessed in over 160 countries.

## ETE10 Badging Program: Recognition of Improvement Efforts

Participants in the ETE10 program earn digital badges for their participation in, and documentation of, teaching improvement activities. Badges count toward the Explore College Teaching, the Teaching Scholar and the Master Teacher Certificates. Badges can be earned in three tiers:

- **Engage:** For participation in an event and submission of a reflection.
- **Implement:** For implementing and documenting on a new teaching strategy or course design. Instructors follow these implementations all the way through to the end to gauge the student impacts.
- **Contribute:** For efforts that assist others in teaching improvement, such as presentations, journal articles, committee membership, and more

## Resources for Quality Feedback and Mentorship

### Learning Circles

- Collaborative, self-directed groups of instructors interested in a specific topic lend their unique viewpoints from different disciplines and experience levels to a discussion, building comraderies, developing a fuller understanding of their topic, and improving their instructional skills in the courses they teach.

### Plan Your Pathway Meetings and Follow-up

- Consultation opportunities for faculty to outline their objectives for their professional development in teaching. These meetings help instructors make a plan moving forward to accomplish those goals.

### Evaluation Support and Resources

#### Peer Review

- Peer review of teaching provides instructors the opportunity to receive feedback on their current teaching practices.

#### Student Collaborators On Teaching (SCOTs)

- Peer review of teaching provides instructors the opportunity to receive feedback on their current teaching practices.
- Contributes to engaged teaching and learning excellence by representing the student voice in an accountable manner.

## Affiliated Events

The ETE program promotes or partners with any teaching-development initiatives around campus. ETE is also takes part in the annual T4L Conference and is part of the Utah Teaching and Learning Group (UTLG).

## Faculty Driven

ETE programs and events are guided and approved by the ETE faculty committee, comprising representatives from each USU academic college, including faculty from the Logan and Statewide campuses. Committee members serve two-year terms and actively participate monthly throughout the school year.

## Funding Opportunities

### Scholar Awards

- Provides an award (up to \$4000) to support a cohort of USU instructors (5-7 individuals) to engage in the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL).

### Early Career Faculty Teaching Award

- Provides a small award (\$500). This instructor-student collaboration is focused on creating a foundational basis for reflective teaching practices and student-centered teaching.

Find More at [EmpowerTeaching.usu.edu](https://empowerteaching.usu.edu)