



# Connect Collaborate Innovate

A Newsletter From The Provost's Office



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Vice Provost, Online Learning

## Creating Connections \*IRL

As we come to the end of this wildly transformative year, I would like to offer my gratitude for all of the experiences you have shared with me and the many ways you have touched my life. Building meaningful relationships in life is hard. Factor in the virtual nature of interactions while living in a pandemic and creating authentic connections reaches a new level of complexity. Yet, our FSW community *did* it! We *are* doing it! We will *keep* doing it.

I have the privilege of writing the last edition of *Connect Collaborate Innovate* in 2020 and I'd like to take the opportunity to foster those relationships by inviting you to connect with me right now. Yep - all of you!

**\*IRL is online lingo for "in real life"**

**Take a quick moment, send an email to me at [rjester@fsw.edu](mailto:rjester@fsw.edu) and share a single word, a short phrase or brief thought to any or all of the following prompts.** Ready, set, go... then come back! I'll share some other ideas for connecting with each other and our students.

- 1. Outside of work, what brought you joy this year?**
- 2. What was an unexpected success that you experienced at FSW in 2020?**
- 3. Is there something we can collaborate on to improve in 2021?**

# CONNECT WITH COLLEAGUES

TAKE TIME TO CHECK IN WITH ONE ANOTHER

Excellent, you came back! I hope that my inbox becomes flooded with your diverse perspectives! I am a little nervous that I'll be able to reply to you all, but I promise I will at least say thank you. I will compile your responses, organize them into themes, and share what I learned in my next newsletter (respecting your privacy of course).

The opportunities that I have had to connect with staff and faculty

this semester have informed much of the work that we do in online learning - from facilitating training, to providing technical support and creating resources for you.

I encourage you to visit the TLC Training Calendar at [www.fsw.edu/tlc](http://www.fsw.edu/tlc) to participate in the Community of Practice in Instructional Technology and Accessibility Tech Tuesdays to learn from your colleagues about

ways to engage and support student learning using technology. If you have not already, join the new asynchronous Digital Pedagogy Reading Group facilitated by Dr. Scott Ortolano. The lively conversations range from online teaching philosophies, to ed tech challenges, to discipline specific topics. It is a great way to stay connected through our shared experience.



# TOGETHER

Photo by [Adi Goldstein on Unsplash](#)

# CONNECT WITH STUDENTS

## OFFER SUPPORT EARLY AND OFTEN

Yesterday I attended an FGCU Special Event "*Creating Connections in a Remote Environment*" by Karen Costa, author of *99 Tips for Creating Simple and Sustainable Videos*. In short, it was amazing. Please explore her website [100faculty.com](http://100faculty.com) for valuable resources and to learn about the importance of [Humanizing Online Learning](#) and [Trauma-Aware Teaching](#).

The takeaway for me was to be present in class by using video and voice; make mistakes (they are the best part!); be flexible and have empathy (times are tough!); and build in time to get to know about your

**'THE BEST WAY TO HUMANIZE ONLINE LEARNING: DON'T BE A ROBOT!'**

students. The most vital connections in a classroom are:

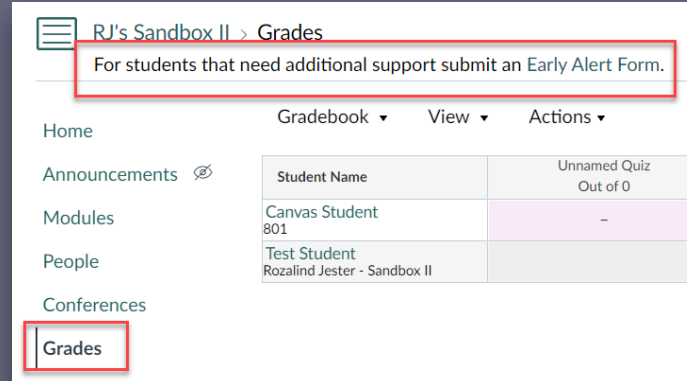
**Teacher-Student Connections**

**Student-Student Connections**

**Student-Content Connections**

If you categorize the content in your course (e.g. videos, readings, assessments, discussions, etc), are you supporting a balance of all three? Are any missing?

Lastly, reach out to your students *before* the semester starts to begin building those connections. They are more likely to succeed if they know you care! Check out this earlier message from me to find out the best ways to do so: [Student Access to Canvas and Communication Strategies](#)



## USE FSW'S EARLY ALERT PROGRAM

Early Alert is an intervention system designed to identify, reach out, and provide support to students who are experiencing challenges or having difficulty with their coursework. Its driven by faculty members who want to provide every opportunity for their students to succeed. Learn more at <https://www.fsw.edu/earlyalert>.

**\*NEW\*** A direct link to the Early Alert Form has been added to every Canvas Gradebook!



# VIRTUAL DROP-IN SUPPORT



this  
must be  
the place

## CONNECT WITH SUPPORT

### INSTRUCTIONAL DESIGNERS AND TECHNOLOGISTS ARE HERE TO HELP

As you prepare your Canvas shells for the first day of classes take advantage of the support resources that are available to you. The Office of Information Technology has a team of Instructional Designers and Instructional Technologists to help you with course imports, troubleshooting and more. Visit [www.fsw.edu/helpdesk](http://www.fsw.edu/helpdesk) to explore resources in the [Knowledge Base](#).

During Spring Duty Days join a virtual drop-in session to get answers to questions you may have about course development, especially a problem you may be having with a specific course or technology. Our team of Instructional Designers will be providing live support via Zoom. This is another opportunity for connection. Meet the wonderful staff that support you and get one-on-one assistance!

**JANUARY 4<sup>TH</sup> & 5<sup>TH</sup>**

8:00 AM to 5:00 PM

<https://fsw.zoom.us/j/88173228701>

Meeting ID: 881 7322 8701

### ASK A QUESTION OR GET HELP WITH:

- Canvas Navigation
- Creating Modules, Pages, Assignments, Quizzes
- Adding Videos
- Using Gradebook
- Updating your Home Page
- Sending Announcements
- Creating Accessible Links
- The New RCE Features
- Adjust Course Settings (Show or Hide Tools)
- Upload your Syllabus
- How to Use Student View
- Updating Canvas Notifications
- Publish/Unpublish Content



# CONNECT WITH LOVED ONES

## WE NEED THIS TOO

My wish for you this holiday season is that you *disconnect* from work and prioritize the connections IRL!

May you find safe and fulfilling ways to create memories and build relationships with those that matter most - your family, your friends and yourself.

May you get time to rest, to indulge in the things that bring

you joy, to seek inspiration, and just have a jolly good time!

With the New Year comes opportunity and, when we return, let us focus our collaborative efforts on advancing FSW's mission to *inspire learning; prepare a diverse population for creative and responsible participation in a global society; and serve as a leader for intellectual, economic, and cultural awareness in the community.*

I am confident that together we can!



*Dr. Rozalind Jester has a doctorate in Ocean Science and, like most UC Santa Cruz alumni, is a proud Banana Slug. She joined FSW as faculty in 2008, served as Director, eLearning 2017-2020 and recently joined the Provost's Office as AVP, Online Learning. In this role she looks forward to collaborating with faculty and staff to support innovative online teaching and learning at FSW. She has a mild obsession with jigsaw puzzles.*

Reach out via email: [Rozalind.Jester@fsw.edu](mailto:Rozalind.Jester@fsw.edu)

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