

# Center for Educational Excellence

Dr. Lesley Leach  
Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs and Development  
leach@tarleton.edu

Dr. Jim Gentry  
Director of Instructional Development and Course Design  
gentry@tarleton.edu

Dr. Sharon Bowers  
Director of Community Service and Service-Learning  
bowers@tarleton.edu

Ms. Soncee Heard  
Coordinator of Applied Learning Initiatives  
heard@tarleton.edu

Dr. Amber Harris Bozer  
Director of Faculty Scholar Development  
bozer@tarleton.edu

Ms. Larrissa Rodriguez  
Administrative Coordinator  
lrodriguez@tarleton.edu

The Center for Educational Excellence strives to develop and support faculty scholars in the areas of teaching and learning, faculty scholar development, community engagement and service-learning, and applied and experiential learning to provide transformational academic experiences for students. The CEE celebrates faculty excellence and supports faculty with center-wide initiatives such as New Faculty Academy, Educational Excellence Week, ACUE training, Faculty Development Grants, and more!

The Instructional Development and Course Design pillar seeks to promote research-based teaching practices by:

- providing professional development programming for faculty, including the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SOTL) program
- creating and supporting quality faculty development initiatives
- providing access to a team of instructional designers who are well versed in academic technology and teaching practices
- developing and conducting workshops and individualized online courses to support and improve teaching by modeling evidence-based teaching practices

The Community Engagement and Service-Learning (CESL) pillar supports community-based teaching and learning by:

- providing professional development programming for faculty, including the Engaged Scholars Academy
- managing institutional support for the use of GivePulse to match, track, and assess the community engagement of our students, faculty, and staff
- facilitating the Community Engagement Cup challenge
- leading Service-Learning Day
- celebrating the community engagement initiatives of our faculty, staff, and students

The Faculty Scholar Development pillar supports faculty by:

- providing professional development programming for faculty, including the Faculty Scholarship Cohort program and trainings
- managing institutional support for Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) and JBI SUMARI
- offering the Impact Challenge to enhance scholarship profiles
- leading learning communities including an introduction to systematic reviews
- celebrating faculty scholarship
- assisting in the development of long-term scholarship agendas for early-career faculty

The Applied and Experiential Learning pillar supports faculty and staff in facilitating applied and experiential learning opportunities for students by:

- providing oversight for the Applied Learning Experience (ALE) program
- facilitating study abroad, study away, and National Student Exchange (NSE)