Day One: Friday, March 31

3:00 – 4:00  Registration and check-in.................................................................Bluebonnet Room

4:00 – 4:30  Welcome and conference overview..................................................Live Oak Room
Facilitator: Nancy Simpson

Super Foods snack: Roasted red pepper hummus with pita chips, carrots, broccoli & cauliflower served with ranch dip

4:30 – 6:00  Large Group Session........................................................................Live Oak Room
Using innovative engagement activities to build classroom community and rapport
Facilitators: Sara Fehr and Caitlin Holden; Texas A&M University

In this session, presenters will review steps for facilitating student engagement activities and lead attendees through five innovative activities ranging from three to 30 minutes. Afterwards, attendees will develop a plan for incorporating student engagement activities into their courses while accounting for personal and logistical concerns (e.g., class size, self-efficacy, time, space, and content).

6:00  Socialize (Individual pay - Cash and CC accepted)..................................Eagles Nest

6:15 – 8:00  Dinner...............................................................................................Overlook Restaurant
Achiote-marinated chicken breast & beef sirloin, pepper & onions, Spanish rice, charro beans, fresh flour or corn tortillas, salsa, served with tomatoes, shredded lettuce, jack & cheddar cheese, sour cream & pico de gallo, iced tea and water.
I Scream, You Scream dessert bar – assorted vanilla bean ice cream, sugar cones and waffle bowls, chocolate & caramel sauces, Maraschino cherries, chopped nuts, sprinkles and whipped cream.

8:00  Reflection & Recreation: Non-organized activities
TV and games available in the Perch Room. Feel free to bring your favorite game to share!

At Dark  Escape to the stars: Open to guests, weather permitting.......................Eagle Eye Observatory
Movie under the stars......................................................................................Front Patio Overlook Restaurant
Day Two: Saturday, April 1

8:00 – 9:00  Breakfast .......................................................................................................................... Overlook Restaurant
Scrambled eggs, Applewood bacon & chorizo, refried beans, skillet potatoes, salsa fresca, cheddar cheese, flour tortillas. Beverage of your choice.

9:00 – 10:15  Large Group Session .................................................................................................................... Live Oak Room
**Challenging assumptions: Role playing in the classroom**
*Facilitator: Catharina Laporte, Texas A&M University*

Role playing: underutilized, high impact, active teaching methodology. Developed to illustrate to STEM students the assumptions people make about ‘the other’, and how it feels to be ‘the other’. Come prepared to role play a real world case study; easily adapted to teach a vast range of other abstract concepts.

10:15 – 10:30  Break .................................................................................................................................................. Live Oak Room
Granola bars, coffee, and water.

10:30 – 11:30  Small Group Session: Select one presentation ............................................................................................. Multiple Locations

**The food truck challenge: Team projects for activating student learning** ..............Live Oak Room
*Facilitator: Steven Mark, Houston Baptist University*

One of the best ways to activate student learning is by engaging them in an experiential learning project that combines external activities with internal class activities. Using a managerial accounting team project as a model, this session seeks to engage other teachers to develop similar team/group projects in their specific classes.

**One assignment to rule them all: Using infographics to accomplish multiple learning objectives** .................................................................Bluebonnet Room
*Facilitator: Kati Stoddard, Texas A&M University*

In this session attendees will (Bring your laptop):

1. Learn how infographics can be used as an effective way of teaching critical thinking, communication and empirical and quantitative skills.
2. Learn how infographics can be used to promote self-directed learning, creativity and enthusiasm for learning
3. Develop their own infographics

**Forms of classroom assessment methodologies to improve student understanding and retention**......................................................................................Eagles Nest
*Facilitator: Surupa Shaw, Texas A&M University*

The development of the first-year students as eager, enthusiastic learners is the key to energize and create a supportive learning environment for university educators. It can be accomplished with a symbiotic relationship between the educators and the students, based on the mutual respect by realizing the importance of the effort and time invested.

**Effectively using technology to engage and facilitate online student learning** ..........Perch Room
*Facilitator: Larry Wolken, Texas A&M University*
Educational material presented online frees up classroom time for more interactions with students. Flipped/blended/online courses are one way universities are dealing with increased enrollments. This session is an opportunity for instructors to share ideas, questions, fears, challenges, successes and failures in using online technology effectively in traditional classroom courses and large enrollment online courses.

**Stimulating intrinsic motivation through service learning**...Overlook Deck (Back of Restaurant)

*Facilitator: Dalila Salazar, Texas A&M University*

“Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I may remember. Involve me and I learn.”

–Benjamin Franklin

This session serves to provide an overview of service learning, an example of a successful service-learning project, and an opportunity to assist participants in brainstorming ideas for service-learning projects in their disciplines.

**Conversations about teaching**..........................Front of Overlook Restaurant

*Facilitator: Alan Dabney, Texas A&M University*

Interested in discussing another teaching-related topic or sharing thoughts and ideas generated from the conference? Join this group!

11:30 – 12:00 Break

12:00 – 1:00 Lunch............................................................................................................Overlook Restaurant

Tomato basil soup, mixed greens salad with assorted dressings, assorted deli meats and cheeses, served with Boston lettuce, sliced tomatoes, red onion, dill pickles, mayo, horseradish cream, Dijon mustard, Artisan breads, potato salad, iced tea and water.

1:00 – 2:15 Large Group Session..........................................................Live Oak Room

**Rehearsal for the revolution**

*Facilitator: Rayna Dexter, Texas A&M University*

Through the use of Augusto Boal’s Games for Actors and Non-actors, arts-based strategy-developing exercises that foster collaboration and community-led engagement, theater becomes rehearsal for real-world action. We will create Forum Theater, in which dramatization becomes the basis of a discussion about solutions to our shared teaching challenges.

2:15 – 2:30 Break.............................................................................................Live Oak Room

Seasonal fruit, sunflower seeds, almonds, cauliflower, broccoli & carrots served with curried ranch dip

2:30 – 3:30 Small Group Session: Select one presentation...................................................... Multiple Locations

**“Thread” around the world: Activating student engagement through an interdisciplinary synchronized curriculum project in International Tourism & Fashion Fundamentals courses**...............................................................Live Oak Room

*Facilitator: Svitlana Ramer, Texas A&M University*
“Thread” around the world is a synchronized curriculum project developed by Dr. Ramer and Dr. Eike for their International Tourism and Fashion Fundamentals courses aimed at activating student learning of cultural diversity and strengthening multicultural efficacy. During the workshop, participants will recreate, in a compressed format, the projects students performed during the synchronized curriculum. Session attendees will be provided travel literature and will research different countries of the world, create tourism itineraries. They will also be provided fabric samples and will design mood boards and collections based on the culture of the country they researched, ultimately proposing targeted retail locations for their developed apparel items.

**Enhancing student engagement in college classes through movement**
*Bluebonnet Room*

*Facilitator: Hildi Nicksic and Sara Fehr, Texas A&M University*

Evidence links physical activity with cognition and learning preparedness, supporting the use of movement in the classroom as a mechanism for student engagement. This interactive session will provide attendees with strategies to promote active learning and facilitate student engagement across multiple disciplines, content areas, and learning environments.

**Against all odds: Activating learning for today’s student**
*Eagles Nest*

*Facilitator: Alton McWhorter, Texas A&M University College of Dentistry*

Anyone who has taught for any length of time knows that students have changed. The following topics will be discussed as potential options to address the new learner: engaging students at the very first session, use of a smaller group format, and co-teaching to enhance guided discussion of information.

**Every student has a story: Using digital storytelling in the college classroom**
*Perch Room*

*Facilitator: Lynne Masel Walters and Martha Green, Texas A&M University*

A digital story is a short, creative, reflective, multimedia narrative, edited on a computer, created to communicate with an audience. This session will engage participants in the development of a digital story and demonstrate their educational uses. Topics include story structure, video creations, writing the narrative, using voice and images.

**Interdisciplinary service learning and learning communities: Integrating high-impact practices into a classroom of students from different disciplines**
*Overlook Deck (Back of Restaurant)*

*Facilitator: Trez Jones Texas A&M University*

Explore the use of a unique grouping of students from Education and Human Development, Engineering, and Liberal Arts to achieve the high impact practices of learning communities and service learning.

**The development and implementation of an innovative, research-informed second language curriculum: Objectives, steps, and outcomes**
*Front of Overlook Restaurant*

*Facilitator: Gabriela Zapata, Texas A&M University*

This presentation describes the implementation of an innovative curriculum based on research-informed practices and assessment approaches for the teaching of Spanish at Texas A&M University. We will discuss the theoretical and pedagogical bases of the new curriculum, the instructional materials that were created, and the assessment of students’ work.
Conversations about teaching

Facilitator: Nancy Simpson, Texas A&M University

Interested in discussing another teaching-related topic or sharing thoughts and ideas generated from the conference? Join this group!

3:30 – 5:30 Reflection & Recreation: Organized activities
- Bugs! Bugs! Bugs! with Adrienne Brundage (Meet at the Butterfly Garden)
- Outdoor Adventure Hike with Rick Harwell (Meet at the Overlook Patio, restaurant front)

5:30 – 6:30 Wine and Cheese Social (Individual pay - Cash and CC accepted) Eagles Nest
Artisanal cheese platters with gourmet crackers and seasonal fruit.

6:30 – 8:30 Dinner Overlook Restaurant
Coffee-chili rubbed pork loin, carved prime rib, seasonal vegetables, green chili scalloped potatoes, and mixed green salad with assorted dressings, served with house made bread, iced tea and water. House made brownies for dessert.

At Dark Escape to the stars: Open to guests weather permitting Eagle Eye Observatory
Movie under the stars Front of Overlook Restaurant

Day Three: Sunday, April 2

7:30 – 8:30 Coffee and Snacks Live Oak Room
Whole fruit, hard boiled eggs, and selection of assorted pastries. Beverage of your choice.

8:30 – 10:00 Large Group Session Authentic Assessment of Complex Learning Outcomes
Facilitators: Jeff Froyd and Sam Shields, Texas A&M University Live Oak Room

10:00-10:30 Closing Session and conference evaluation Live Oak Room
Facilitator: Jeff Froyd

10:30 – 11:30 Brunch Overlook Restaurant
Full breakfast buffet with seasonal fruit with yogurt, fresh scrambled eggs, bacon-cheddar cheese grits, Applewood bacon, sausage links, skillet potatoes, selection of assorted pastries, pancakes and maple syrup. Your choice of beverage.

8:00 – 12:00 Final Check Out

11:30 Bus Arrives

12:00 Bus Departs

12:00 Everyone must be checked out of rooms
NOTES:


Local activities (Not included in Conference):
Vanishing Texas River Cruise: www.vtrc.com kayaking, river cruise, etc.