The Innovation and Design for Exploration and Analysis in Teaching Excellence (IDEATE) community is dedicated to collaboratively conducting and disseminating Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) research. The initial formation of the community of scholars launched in February 2020.

The community is structured around the IDEATE model (Donaldson & Choi, 2020) which was designed as a means of enabling faculty to take the lead in innovating and transforming practices in teaching and learning in a sustainable way while remaining grounded in theory and empirical evidence. The IDEATE community collaboratively conducts research in courses across multiple disciplines to identify and refine both discipline-specific and generally applicable evidence-based high-impact practices.

The IDEATE Model Uses Four Perspectives

- Situated Learning Theory
- Complex Conceptual Systems Theory
- Learning Sciences Theoretical Frameworks
- Definitions of Learning, and Design-Based Research Methodology
Research Studies
The SoTL research studies in the IDEATE community are collaborative projects using design-based research methodology which involves 1) grounding a learning experience design in learning theories, 2) multiple iterations of implementing the design, collecting data, and analyzing data to identify ways to improve the design, and 3) overall analysis to speak back to theory and writing up of findings for publication.

How can teachers be confident that students are actually learning? The Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) is the investigation of teaching and learning practices within the context of higher education to provide empirical support for such inquiries.

SoTL

Members
The members of the IDEATE community include both tenure track and academic professional track faculty of all ranks. Among the disciplines currently represented are animal science, integrative biosciences, plant pathology, recreation, park, and tourism sciences, pharmacy, biomedical engineering, computer science, agricultural leadership, and teacher education.

Dissemination
Since February 2020, IDEATE members disseminate their findings in academic journals and conferences, as well as through faculty development workshops. Numerous publications are currently in preparation, and many have been completed including:

- 11 Conference papers
- 3 Journal articles
- 2 Faculty development workshops

Since February 2020, sixteen faculty in the IDEATE community taught 4,258 students.