Each year, West welcomes a group of outstanding new faculty to our academic community. The Faculty Professional Development Academy: West Connect includes events for new and tenure-track faculty to provide information and resources; opportunities to expand perspectives by interacting and exchanging ideas with peers; and workshops relating to practical topics, instructional strategies, and implications for teaching.

The events are intended primarily for new and tenure-track faculty, but all faculty are welcome. According to our Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) in Article 13.8.d. full time tenured faculty members are obligated contractually to serve in one committee. The participation of these faculty members in three events per semester organized by the Faculty Professional Development Academy, during their first year as probationary faculty, meets this contractual obligation. Faculty not using the Professional Development Academy to fulfill their committee obligation may use attendance to these workshops for Flex Credit.

Unless otherwise noted, workshops are scheduled on Fridays from 10 am – 12 noon. Please RSVP to Kimberly Manner at mannerke@wlac.edu.

Third Annual Spring Summit
Student Success Committee and Academic Affairs | February 5 |
8:30 am-12:00 pm | Location TBA
Join us for an interactive day of professional learning as staff, faculty, administrators, and students come together to discuss College priorities. We guarantee you will leave with a deeper understanding of how West works. Coffee and pastries will be served.

Turn over for more workshops.

The Faculty Professional Development Academy – West Connect has been developed in collaboration between the Academic Senate, AFT Faculty Guild, and Office of Teaching & Learning.
March

Classroom Management
Clare Norris | March 25 | 10:00 am-12:00 pm | Winlock Lounge
As community college faculty members, we are experts in our disciplines. Of course we don’t always have the best tools to deal with student frustration, disappointment, and confrontations. When things go wrong, we don’t always know what to do. In this workshop we will not only offer research-based, practical, easy-to-apply strategies to engage students and defuse confrontations, but we will capitalize on our colleagues’ expertise and give you a chance to share your winning strategies.

April

Annual College-wide Leadership Retreat
Leadership Retreat Planning Committee | April 29 | 8:30 am-2:30 pm | GC Building
Spend an enriching, stimulating day with others from West who look to this event as a time when “all are leaders,” no matter where we work on campus. Look out for more details from the Leadership Retreat Planning Committee.

May

Gain a Better Understanding of Students with Disabilities and Different Learning Styles; and Semester Wrap-Up
Dr. Adrienne Foster and Office of Teaching & Learning | May 13 | 10:00 am-12:00 pm | Winlock Lounge
For the first hour of our session, Dr. Foster will discuss ways faculty can design their courses to be inclusive and to achieve deeper learning for all students, regardless of diversities in learning styles. We will wrap up the session and the year’s academy with faculty sharing which committee(s) they have joined.

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