



ATHENS STATE  
UNIVERSITY

*Welcome to the First-Year  
Faculty Experience*

Friday, September 10, 2021

11:00 p.m.

ATLIS Conference Room



# Agenda I

- Review of Program Purpose and Goals
- Welcome and Introductions
  - New faculty introduced
  - Prior year participant(s) and their program perspectives: Jessica Spowart (Asst. Prof. Art) and Robert Torregrosa (Asst. Prof. Chemistry)
  - Mentors have been invited to this session in the past to introduce protégés, but well, you know...virus ☹



## Agenda II

- **First-Year Faculty Experience Webpages**
  - Vision, mission, and goals
  - Policies and guidelines affecting
    - All employees
    - Specifically faculty
- **Faculty Course Evaluation Survey**
  - Role, implementation, review of questions
  - Suggestions for improving student participation (e.g., informal surveys)
  - Brief discussion



## Agenda III

- Assignments and Questions for Today's and Future Discussions
  1. Greatest joy so far? (today)
  2. Greatest challenge since beginning your tenure (next meeting)
  3. What does effective teaching entail? Best teaching practices? (next meeting or Nov. meeting)
  4. Distance Education
    - What are your perceptions about distance learning?
    - Are you familiar with the ASU policy?
    - <https://www.athensedu.org/pdfs/policies/Operating/Academics/Distance-Learning.pdf>



# Agenda IV

- Forming teaching partnerships
  - Attempt to arrange for a fellow new faculty member to
    - Discuss a time for class observation this year
    - Discuss an appropriate amount of class time for observation
    - Observe
    - Document findings and share in writing to place in promotion/tenure portfolio
- Attend a University-sponsored function
  - there are many, just ask around
  - At least one this academic year or one per semester
- Next meeting for FYFE: Friday, Oct. 8, 2021, ATLIS Conference Room

END



# Goals of the Mentoring Program for New Faculty Members

- (The new name of the program is “First-Year Faculty Experience.”)
- To help new faculty members acclimate to the Athens State academic, administrative and physical environments.
- To understand the meaning of quality teaching at Athens State University
- To foster a relationship with a faculty member that should be free from scrutiny, creating a relationship in which a new faculty member has a sense of safety when sharing concerns regarding general or specific aspects of the academic appointment



## Goals II

- To assist in the retention of good faculty members
- To establish a sense of camaraderie while learning more about the mechanics and atmosphere of Athens State University
- To educate new mentors about the mentoring process
- To establish a desire among faculty to serve as a mentor or serve multiple times as a mentor.

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