



January 2022 Looking Back at 2021

The past 2 years have been challenging for teaching and learning. Many of our instructors have demonstrated herculean efforts to create exceptional learning experiences despite the pandemic and other challenges. We'd like to take a moment to recognize a few of our teaching heroes.

Passport to Great Teaching Frequent Fliers

The [Passport to Great Teaching program](#) offered by CTE is open to all faculty, TAs, graduate students, post-docs, and staff. Participants earn 'miles' by attending workshops and events which can be applied toward themed teaching certificates. Certificates can be added to teaching portfolios, CVs, and LinkedIn profiles!

CTE wants to thank these travelers for being active Passport participants in 2021!

Dr. Diba Mani
Instructional Assistant Professor, College
of Health and Human Performance



- Earned 1,700 Passport to Great Teaching miles
- Presented a workshop in spring and fall 2021
- Presented a session at Interface 2021
- Earned the Global Teaching & Learning Passport to Great Teaching certificate

Honorable Mentions

Dr. Rebecca Piazza

Clinical Assistant Professor, College of Public Health and Health Professions

- Earned 2,877 Passport to Great Teaching miles
- Earned the Great Teaching Passport to Great Teaching certificate

Dr. Diana Weng

- Earned 1,900 Passport to Great Teaching miles
- Earned the CIRTLL Associate Passport to Great Teaching certificate

Affordability Champions

Instructors can apply for the [Affordable UF badge](#), which is awarded by CTE for courses using materials costing \$20 or less per credit hour (including lab materials and course fees).

CTE wants to thank these instructors for creating and continuing to offer affordable courses throughout 2021!

Dr. Matthew Traum

Instructional Associate Professor, Herbert Wertheim College of Engineering



- Earned the Affordable UF badge for 1 course in both spring and fall 2021
- Developed a student-created open educational resource using Pressbooks
- Recorded a [podcast episode](#) with CTE on using Pressbooks as an open educational resource

Honorable Mention

Dr. Tiff Jenson

Senior Lecturer, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

- Earned the Affordable UF badge for 2 courses in both spring and fall 2021

Online Teaching Excellence All-Star

The [Pathways to Online Teaching Excellence](#) process, coordinated by CTE, offers faculty the opportunity to earn quality online course designations as well as [exemplary online awards](#).

CTE wants to thank this instructor for their dedication and contributions to great online teaching in 2021!



Lauren Weisberg

Adjunct Lecturer, College of Education

- Submitted an online course for review and earned an Exemplary designation
- Served on 4 online course review teams
- Wrote a chapter on [Tech Tools for Teaching](#) in the *UF Instructor Guide*

Student Thank Yous

Thank-a-Prof is an initiative developed by CTE to give UF students the opportunity to submit thank yous to instructors to show appreciation for their hard work, dedication, and effort.

CTE wants to congratulate these instructors for receiving great student feedback in 2021!



Dr. Samuel Martins

Assistant Professor, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences

"This professor has the highest passion and motivation to be a great teacher for his students that I have not seen in a long time if I am being honest. He is good at connecting with students and providing lessons that do not lack depth yet are easy to comprehend."

- Received 14 Thank-a-Prof messages in 2021
- Received positive student comments in 2021 course evaluations

"Dr. Martins is an excellent professor who takes great care in ensuring the learning of his students. His passion for the subject shines through in his teaching, and he excels in making the most complex processes very simple and fun to learn about... This was my best class this semester by far, and Dr. Martins is one of the best teachers I have had in my time at UF."

Honorable Mention

Dr. Soohyoun Ahn

Lecturer, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences

"Thank you for caring, understanding, and for being very flexible with me and my unforeseen circumstances. I cannot thank you enough. Your overall kindness is something I will never forget!"

- Received 3 Thank-a-Prof messages in 2021

"Throughout the difficult transition to remote learning, you captured my attention during every lecture period by conveying food safety in an applicable and engaging way. Despite the inherent challenges that arose in the past year, you prioritized the needs of your students above all else. You were always happy to accommodate the needs of your students and you strived to create an ideal learning experience for the class as a whole...I believe that you truly embody what it means to be a Gator, so I would like to thank you, Dr. Ahn, for being a reliable source of insight, kindness, and overwhelming inspiration."

The Center for Teaching Excellence Team



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