

2026 ACCA CONFERENCE

NOV 8-10, 2026 | MONTGOMERY RENAISSANCE HOTEL AND SPA MONTGOMERY, AL

FACULTY

Been There. Done That. Learned Something.

Mon, Nov 9 | Session I | 10:00 a.m. - 10:50 a.m.

Brittany Beatty - English Discipline Chair, Central Alabama Community College
Explore experiential learning and how it differs from a hands-on activity. Identify opportunities that connect course content to real-world experiences, workplaces, communities, and problems, and examine practical examples for classroom use.

Present with INTENT: Evaluating Nursing Students Beyond the Exam

Mon, Nov 9 | Session I | 10:00 a.m. - 10:50 a.m.

Stephanie Hedden - Nursing Instructor, Coastal Alabama Community College
1) To explore the necessity of formal training in case presentation 2) to discuss the benefits of descriptive, formative feedback on case presentation, & 3) to describe the synergistic effects of the case presentation event upon critical thinking and clinical judgment skills for nursing students

Going Back to One: Teaching the Skill Under the Math

Mon, Nov 9 | Session I | 10:00 a.m. - 10:50 a.m.

Chris Vaughn - Adjunct Math Professor, Calhoun Community College
Participants will experience a live attention-training practice, identify the specific cognitive skill each practice rehearses, and adapt the structure to a moment of not-knowing in their own discipline.

Intentional Partnerships: Managing Key Relationships for Success

Mon, Nov 9 | Session I | 10:00 a.m. - 10:50 a.m.

Rachael Lalowski - Account Manager II, Lightcast
By the end of this session, participants will be able to: Develop a framework for building and maximizing strategic partnerships that advance institutional and workforce development goals Utilize labor market intelligence to maximize relationships with local employers and industry partners

Developing a Simulation-Based Boot Camp Model: A Bold Framework for Real Impact

Mon, Nov 9 | Session II | 11:00 a.m. - 11:50 a.m.

Carman Godfrey - Director-Simulation Program, Coastal Alabama Community College
1. Describe one benefit to implementing a simulated boot camp experience model for your program. 2. Identify two components of implementing a simulated boot camp experience model for your program. 3. Formulate a plan to create a personalized simulation boot camp experience model for your program.

Preparing Future Nurses for Crisis: A Student-Created Mini Mass Casualty Simulation

Mon, Nov 9 | Session II | 11:00 a.m. - 11:50 a.m.

Angela Hyde - Nursing Instructor, Shelton State Community College
Upon completion of this presentation, participants will: 1. Explore a student-created mass-casualty simulation. 2. Gain insight into using START triage in nursing education. 3. Consider low-cost strategies for strengthening disaster preparedness.

Using Innovative Technology to Remove Barriers to Student Academic Success.

Mon, Nov 9 | Session II | 11:00 a.m. - 11:50 a.m.

Janina Nobles-Slack - Child Development Instructor and CTE Division Chair for Sumiton and Jasper, Beville State Community College
Explain how cross-sector partnerships (community college, university, and community organizations) enhance student access, engagement, and success. 2. Identify common barriers to postsecondary retention and program completion and how the Virtual Learning Lab addresses them.

Designing Real-Time Feedback in Canvas Using AI, HTML, SCORM, and APIs

Mon, Nov 9 | Session II | 11:00 a.m. - 11:50 a.m.

Sherry Stancil - Speech Instructor, Calhoun Community College
1. Identify different ways to add interactive learning experiences to Canvas. 2. Examine examples of AI-supported practice and feedback activities. 3. Build and package an interactive lesson using the provided app. 4. Upload and test the completed lesson in Canvas from a learner's perspective.

From Passive to Purposeful: Designing Meaningful Interaction Without Increasing Faculty Workload

Mon, Nov 9 | Session III | 2:00 p.m. - 2:50 p.m.

Stephanie "Paige" Scott - Director of Distance Education, Central Alabama Community College
By the end of the session, participants will distinguish surface-level activities from meaningful interaction, assess alignment with RSI requirements, and apply practical strategies to strengthen engagement and instructor presence in online courses without increasing workload.

Death of the Monologue: Transforming the Classroom Scene by Scene

Mon, Nov 9 | Session III | 2:00 p.m. - 2:50 p.m.

Verjilya Hughes - English Tutor 1| English Adjunct Instructor, Bishop State Community College
Transform lecture-heavy content into interactive lessons using a scene-by-scene design framework. Explore visual, auditory, and hands-on strategies, practice redesigning a course topic, and learn ways to strengthen engagement without doubling preparation time.

From Chapter to Champions: How to Build and Grow SkillsUSA

Mon, Nov 9 | Session III | 2:00 p.m. - 2:50 p.m.

Kelli Morris - Director of Career Services & Cooperative Learning, Calhoun Community College
Participants will leave with actionable tools, proven practices, and adaptable strategies to launch or expand SkillsUSA at their institutions.

Learning Styles: Preference or Predetermination?

Mon, Nov 9 | Session III | 2:00 p.m. - 2:50 p.m.

Kendall Yates - Coordinator, Therapeutic Massage, Southern Union State Community College
Educators will understand that "preference" to learning doesn't mean it's the only way you CAN learn. We will discuss engaging ways to get students interactive in classroom and discover alternative study habits and form plans that work for them.

Selfless Leadership for Success

Mon, Nov 9 | Session IV | 3:00 p.m. - 3:50 p.m.

Marisa Hamilton - Chair Division of Communications/Instructor, Jefferson State Community College
This presentation will address conflict management, faculty burnout, motivating future leaders, and supporting balance for your faculty and staff. Additionally, I will address some of the moments in my tenure "policy and procedure" couldn't prepare me for but the lessons learned were invaluable.

Beyond ChatGPT: Using Artificial Intelligence to Foster Critical Thinking, Engagement, and Workforce Readiness

Mon, Nov 9 | Session IV | 3:00 p.m. - 3:50 p.m.

Syed Raza - Instructor, Calhoun Community College
Identify AI strategies that increase engagement; design AI-enhanced active learning activities; integrate AI literacy and ethical practices; develop critical thinking and workforce-ready skills; apply AI for simulations, decision-making, and authentic learning experiences.

Bold Moves, Real Impact: Transforming Mathematics Through Music, Games and Hands-On Learning

Mon, Nov 9 | Session IV | 3:00 p.m. - 3:50 p.m.

Simone Mosley - Mathematics Instructor, Bishop State Community College
Participants will be able to identify and apply innovative instructional strategies, including music, educational games, collaborative learning, and hands-on activities to increase student engagement, strengthen retention of mathematical concepts, and build student confidence in mathematics.

Teach Like a Pirate

Mon, Nov 9 | Session V | 4:00 p.m. - 4:50 p.m.

Robert McWilliams - Psychology Instructor, Bishop State Community College
In order for all members of the classroom to be engaged and learning, both the teacher and the students need to be excited about what they are learning. Showing students that you are excited about learning will engage them as learners and lead to more successful learning.

Beyond Supervision: The Essential Role of Clinical Instructors in Developing Clinical Judgment

Mon, Nov 9 | Session V | 4:00 p.m. - 4:50 p.m.

Julie Jones - Nursing Instructor, Jefferson State Community College
Examine clinical instructor's role in fostering clinical judgment. Compare active and passive clinical teaching models. Discuss the impact of instructor engagement on student clinical reasoning and patient safety. Implement instructional strategies that promote clinical judgment.

What Do You Mean by That? Rethinking How Students Understand Course Concepts

Mon, Nov 9 | Session V | 4:00 p.m. - 4:50 p.m.

Kelly Kendall - Instructor/Division Chair, Coastal Alabama Community College
Explore how students' experiences shape their understanding of course terms. Practice using image clusters to identify gaps between intended meanings and student associations, uncover misconceptions, and guide clarification, discussion, and instruction.

From Input to Impact: Elevating the Student Experience through 3-Tiered Feedback

Tue, Nov 10 | Session VI | 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Ashley Alfaro - Speech Instructor, Calhoun Community College
Participants will evaluate early, midterm, and end-of-term feedback tools and formulate targeted solutions for common classroom feedback.

Looking in the Mirror: Self-Discovery for Stronger Teams and Better Student Service

Tue, Nov 10 | Session VI | 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Robert McWilliams - Psychology Instructor, Bishop State Community College
By the end of the presentation, participants will identify personal strengths, understand how personality influences workplace and student interactions, and apply self-discovery insights to improve collaboration, communication, and student support.

Evolving Biology Instruction: From Passive Lecture to Evidence-Based Instructional Practices

Tue, Nov 10 | Session VI | 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Schuyler Huff - Biology Instructor, Coastal Alabama Community College
By the end of the session, participants will be able to identify and apply at least three evidence-based active learning strategies that can be incorporated into their existing courses to increase student engagement while maintaining academic rigor and required course content.

From Paper to Automation: SSCC Streamlining Health Services Program Decisions Through Automated Communication

Tue, Nov 10 | Session VI | 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Tennyson Smith - Director of Recruitment, Shelton State Community College
1. Explain the benefits of automating program decision communications. 2. Assess how communication automation can improve both operational efficiency and the student experience. 3. Best practices for creating a seamless student experience for program decision offer letters and orientation.