

Faculty Retreat

Wednesday, August 16, 2023

8:30 - 8:45 am Check-In & Grab Breakfast

8:45 - 10:00 am Welcomes, Updates from Academic Affairs, Overview of the Day

10:15 - 11:30 am Presentation by Dona Cornell, VP for Legal Affairs and General Counsel, UH System & Lauri Ruiz, Title IX/Equal Opportunity Office for UHD

11:30 - 12:00 pm Break and grab box lunch

12:00 - 12:45 pm Student Needs Panel: Dr. Meritza Tamez, Dean of Students, Mr. Eugene Bernard, Director of Student Life, Dr. Hope Pamplin, Director of Disability Services, Mr. Michael Connelly, AVP of Advising and Student Progression

12:45 - 2:15 pm **Keynote Speaker: Dr. Robert Talbert, Professor in the Department of Mathematics and Senior Faculty Fellow for Learning Futures at Grand Valley State University**

Title: Grading for Growth: Toward more humane, authentic, and trustworthy ways to evaluate student work

Description: Grading as we know it is significantly broken. The traditional approach involving one-and-done assessment, points, partial credit, and averaging is demotivating for students, demoralizing for faculty, time-consuming, disconnected from science, and of questionable statistical validity. But it is not unchangeable, and in fact there is no better time than now to explore alternatives that prioritize student growth and align better with how humans learn. In this talk, we'll explore the history and issues of traditional grading, propose a framework for "alternative" grading practices, and see how to implement alternative grading without massive requirements of time or energy.

Bio sketch: Robert Talbert is a Professor in the Department of Mathematics and Senior Faculty Fellow for Learning Futures at Grand Valley State University. He holds a Ph.D. in Mathematics from Vanderbilt University. Robert has experimented with and advocated for innovation in teaching and learning throughout his 25-year career in higher education. He is the author of *_Flipped Learning: A Guide for Higher Education Faculty_* (Stylus Publications, 2017) and the co-author (with his GVSU colleague Dr. David Clark) of *_Grading For Growth: A Guide to Alternative Grading Practices That Promote Authentic Learning and Student Engagement in Higher Education._* As Senior Faculty Fellow for Learning Futures, he coordinates the Laker Learning Futures program which connects faculty with teaching innovation research projects, and assists with Grand Valley's expansion of active learning classrooms. He writes on higher education and leadership at rtalbert.org and on alternative grading practices at gradingforgrowth.com.

Robert lives in western Michigan with his wife, two teenage children, and three cats. He aspires to spend more time cycling or playing bass guitar than being in front of a computer.

2:30 – 3:30 pm Climate Survey Results & Faculty Discussion: Bernardo Pohl, Faculty Senate President