

InnovatED Symposium

EMPOWERING MINDS,
INNOVATING HEALTH CARE EDUCATION

*September 30, 2025
Truhlsen Campus Events Center*

About the InnovatED Symposium Hosts

The InnovatED Symposium is brought to you by the UNMC Interprofessional Academy of Educators and UNMC Distance Education, in collaboration with our event sponsors.

The Interprofessional Academy of Educators cultivates a community across professions that connects educators with like interests to drive collaboration, innovation and scholarship.

The Office of Distance Education leverages technology and pedagogical expertise to empower fully online learners from diverse backgrounds in achieving their educational and professional goals.

Contact the Academy for guidance on

TEACHING & LEARNING

- Course planning and curriculum design
- Online and in-person teaching strategies
- Educational best practices
- Peer feedback on teaching

CAREER

- Presentation skills
- Mentorship

EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH

- Research design
- Data collection methods
- Approaches for data analysis
- Developing funding proposals
- Identifying publication outlets and preparing manuscripts

unmc.edu/academy

Leadership

Tanya Custer, PhD, MS, RT(R)(T)ARRT

Director, Interprofessional Academy of Educators
Director of Distance Education
Associate Professor, College of Allied Health Professions

Analisa McMillan, PhD, MSED

Associate Director, Interprofessional Academy of Educators
Director, UNMC Distance Education
Director, Office of Teaching and Learning,
College of Public Health
Assistant Professor, College of Public Health

Jana Wardian, PhD, MSW

Associate Director, Interprofessional Academy of Educators
Associate Professor, Director of Research & Scholarly
Activity for Hospital Medicine, Internal Medicine,
College of Medicine

Elizabeth Beam, PhD, RN

Education Researcher, Interprofessional Academy
of Educators
Director, Global Health
NSRI Fellow & Affiliate Faculty, Global Center for
Health Security
Associate Professor & HEROES Program Director,
College of Nursing

Maha Farid, MBBCH, PHD, MBBCH, MS

Education Researcher, Interprofessional Academy
of Educators



The InnovatED Symposium demonstrates UNMC's commitment to advancing health professions education. It provides a platform for educators from across UNMC to exchange insights and discoveries using an interprofessional approach, and I look forward to the collaboration and advancement that will be generated throughout the event.

Jane Meza, PhD

Interim Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

Special Thanks

We would like to thank the following partners for their support of the InnovatED Symposium.

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A special thank you to Liz Husmann, former IAE program associate, and Alexis Zgud, communications manager, for their expertise and leadership in organizing this year's symposium.



Event Schedule

8:30 AM – 9:00 AM	ATRIUM Registration & Networking Network with Educators from across UNMC
9:00 AM – 9:20 AM	MAIN EVENT HALL Welcome Tanya Custer, Analisa McMillan
	Opening Remarks Jane Meza
	Distinguished Educator Presentation Tanya Custer, Analisa McMillan
9:20 AM – 10:10 AM	KEYNOTE MAIN EVENT HALL Three Ways to Take Work Off Your Plate Thomas J. Tobin
10:15 AM – 11:05 AM	SESSION 1: CONCURRENT MAIN EVENT HALL The Heart of the Matter: Integrating Health Humanities in the Health Sciences Classrooms Erin Torell, Emily Glenn
	ROOM B Collaborative Learning in Online Environments: Strategies for Designing, Supporting and Assessing Group Projects Tanya Custer, Analisa McMillan, Kim Michael, Peggy Moore
	ROOM C Exploring Nursing Students' Perceptions of Advanced Experiential Technology in Enhancing Clinical Decision-Making Skills Missy Ofé Fleck, Paul Dye, Emily Coffey, Elizabeth Bockoven
	ROOM D Feedback and Artificial Intelligence: A Novel Approach to Creating Objective “360 Eval” Feedback for Clinician Educators Evan Symons, Cory Rohlfsen
11:15 AM – 12:05 PM	SESSION 2: CONCURRENT MAIN EVENT HALL AI Accessibility Assistants: Finding the “Easier Button” for Faculty and Student-Focused Workflows Kristin Bradley, Erin King
	ROOM B Understanding Auditory Hallucinations: An Empathy-Based Simulation Experience Nathan Chen
	ROOM C Findings From Surveys Across the Atlantic Ocean Ally Dering-Anderson, Daniel Kresock, Tanner Cromer, Paige DeWeese, Shelby Butts
	ROOM D Enhancing Pre-Health Student Preparation through Competency-Based Learning in Bioinformatics Harnoor Dhaliwal, Matthew Muellner, Ryan Chapman
12:05 PM – 1:00 PM	MAIN EVENT HALL Lunch <i>Food and Drinks Provided</i>

1:00 PM
– 1:50 PM

SESSION 3: CONCURRENT

MAIN EVENT HALL

Enhancing Education: Uncovering the Potential of Microcredentialing for Higher Learning

Peggy Moore, Analisa McMillan,
Dustin Krutsinger, Nicole Kolm-Valdivia,
Tuggen Even

ROOM B

ADA Title II Compliance Made Easy

Michael Kozak, Julie Gregg

ROOM C

Learning Scenarios Using Standardized Patients and Innovations in Technology Including AI and Telehealth Technologies: The Nuts and Bolts to Get Started

Lynne Buchanan, Renee Sullivan

ROOM D

IAE Special Session (25 minutes each)

Fostering Belonging in Global and Interprofessional Classrooms: A Two-Tiered Engagement Approach

Maha Farid

Disseminating Your Educational Innovations

Elizabeth Beam, Maha Farid, Jana Wardian

2:00 PM
– 2:50 PM

SESSION 4: CONCURRENT

MAIN EVENT HALL

Blending the Best of Technology and Professional Development

Heidi Keeler, Renee Paulin

ROOM B

Advancing Scholarly Writing Through Collaborative Practices

Kim Michael, Tanya Custer,
Analisa McMillan, Peggy Moore

ROOM C

Enhancing Course Development with Generative AI: Practical Tools for Health Professions Educators

Nishank Varshney

ROOM D

Teaching the Vast Body of Evidence: Bolstering Evidence-based Practice Classes with Innovations Relevant Across Professions

Molly Whitlow

3:00 PM
– 3:50 PM

SHORT STACK SESSIONS

MAIN EVENT HALL

Leveraging AI for Clinical Reasoning Assessment and Coaching: Multi-Institutional Implementation of a Novel Large Language Model

Alexandra Sorrick, Cory Rohlfson

AI Essentials for Healthcare Educators

Michael Kozak, Tanya Custer,
Andrew Robertson

Teaching Smarter with Khanmigo

Michael Kozak

AI Patient Bots for Formative Learning

Nick Guenzel

Augmenting Medical Education with AI: Practical Applications in Clinical Training and Course Design

Jami Monico

Blueprints, Not Band-Aids: Designing Courses for Real Impact

April Elker

Lights, Camera, Learn: Mastering the Art of Lecture Videos

Janet Skogerboe

Integrating E-Learning and iXCEL to Create Immersive Student-Centered Modules

Matt Vilburn

3:50 PM
– 4:00 PM

MAIN EVENT HALL

Closing Remarks

Tanya Custer

See pages
9 – 14 for full
presentation
descriptions.

The background of the page is a photograph of a university courtyard. In the foreground, there are trees with vibrant autumn leaves in shades of orange, yellow, and red. Below the trees, a modern building with large glass windows and a metal frame is visible. In the center of the courtyard, there is a large, dark, cylindrical sculpture with a white, textured top. The ground is paved with light-colored rectangular stones. A teal-colored overlay covers the right side of the page, featuring a faint network diagram with nodes and lines.

HONOREES

Distinguished Educators

The Distinguished Educator designation is awarded to a faculty member who consistently demonstrates excellence in teaching and peer mentoring to promote the development of the next generation of effective and innovative teachers.



Teresa M. Cochran, PhD, DPT

Associate Professor
Associate Dean
College of Allied Health Professions
Douglas A. Kristensen Rural Health Education Complex, Kearney

Teresa M. Cochran, PhD, DPT, is associate dean for the College of Allied Health Professions (CAHP) at the Douglas A. Kristensen Rural Health Education Complex in Kearney.

An associate professor and board-certified clinical specialist emerita in geriatric physical therapy, Dr. Cochran's teaching philosophy centers on developing moral agents in health care who are equipped to meet the complex needs of patients and populations today, while possessing adaptability and vision to guide the future of care. She emphasizes that learners must recognize the foundational role of societal trust, and the trust placed in them by patients to facilitate health care decisions during times of uncertainty and vulnerability.

Her 23-year teaching career is deeply influenced by Dr. Lee Shulman's concept of signature pedagogies (discipline-specific teaching methods that shape professional identity), and she echoes Dr. Parker Palmer's view that teaching involves risk, courage and relational engagement among students and colleagues.

Dr. Cochran's approach reflects a commitment to principled, student-centered education in development of a collaboration-ready workforce. She was awarded the 2024 Impact in Education Interprofessional Education Scholar Award and holds the CQuence Distinguished Professorship for Innovation in Health Care, recognizing her work within CAHP, UNMC and at the national forefront of interprofessional education.

Kristen M. Cook, PharmD, BCACP

Clinical Associate Professor, UNMC Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science
Director of Campus Culture

Kristen Cook's career began in Veterans Affairs and community health settings, where she cared for patients from diverse backgrounds and addressed both pharmacotherapy and social determinants of health. These experiences shaped her teaching philosophy, inspiring her to prepare students to become compassionate, adaptable providers.

At UNMC, Dr. Cook is known for her innovative simulation-based teaching, which challenges students to stretch beyond their comfort zones and collaborate under pressure. She believes teaching thrives through shared experience and she actively engages in peer observation, faculty development and co-teaching to foster growth among colleagues and learners alike.

Her creative spirit—rooted in her early passion for writing—drives her to continuously reimagine educational practices. A powerful example of her impact came when a former student credited her suicide prevention lab with giving them the confidence to intervene during a clinical rotation.

Dr. Cook's philosophy is simple yet profound: "Teaching takes courage... and a back up plan." Her dedication to student-centered, collaborative education continues to shape the culture of pharmacy education at UNMC.



KEYNOTE

Three Ways to Take Work Off Your Plate

This interactive keynote address introduces three neuroscience-backed teaching principles that reduce student anxiety and instructor burnout—without adding to your workload. Learn practical strategies to improve access, assessment and engagement across didactic, clinical and placement settings. Discover how to streamline grading, foster connection and support a wide range of learners with low-effort, high-impact techniques.

Join us to explore flexible, compassionate approaches that honor real-life demands and make teaching more effective, manageable and rewarding.

PRESENTER

Thomas J. Tobin, PhD, MSLS, PMP, MOT, CPACC

Founding Member

Center for Teaching, Learning and Mentoring

University of Wisconsin-Madison

Thomas J. Tobin helped found the University of Wisconsin-Madison Center for Teaching, Learning and Mentoring, and he is an internationally recognized scholar, author and speaker on technology-mediated education—especially copyright, evaluation of teaching practices, academic integrity, accessibility and universal design for learning.

He holds a master's and PhD in English literature, an information science master's and certifications in project management (PMP), online teaching (MOT), Quality Matters (QM), accessibility (CPACC) and academic leadership (Penn State).

On *Ed Tech Magazine's* 2020 Influencers "Dean's List," honored with the 2022 Wagner Award for Leadership in Distance Learning Administration, and one of Eduflow's 2023 global Top 100 Learning Influencers, Dr. Tobin serves on the boards of *Advances in Online Education*, *InSight: A Journal of Scholarly Teaching*, *the Online Journal of Distance Learning Administration* and the *Oklahoma University Press Teaching, Engaging, and Thriving in Higher Ed series*.

Find him on various social media and at thomasjtobin.com.



Dr. Tobin's books include:

- *Evaluating Online Teaching* (2015)
- *The Copyright Ninja* (2017)
- *Reach Everyone, Teach Everyone: UDL in Higher Education* (2018)
- *Going Alt-Ac: A Guide to Alternative Academic Careers* (2020)
- *Implementing UDL in Irish Further Education and Training* (2021)
- *UDL at Scale* (forthcoming 2025)
- *Evaluating Teaching in the Digital Era* (forthcoming 2026)

Morning Sessions

SESSION 1 10:15 – 11:05 A.M. (50-MINUTE SESSIONS)

The Heart of the Matter: Integrating Health Humanities in the Health Sciences Classrooms [Main Event Hall](#)

Erin J. Torell, MA

Rare Books Librarian
Associate Professor
Leon S. McGoogan Health Sciences Library

Emily Glenn, MSLS

Dean
Leon S. McGoogan Health Sciences Library

Integrating visual art, history, literature and music into health education can enrich clinical practice. McGoogan Health Sciences library staff will share practical strategies for incorporating health humanities into curricula. Faculty will learn how experiences like Visual Thinking Strategies and historical artifacts can enhance students' observation, empathy and tolerance for ambiguity. This session empowers educators to help future healthcare professionals build resilience and form stronger patient connections through meaningful engagement with the humanities.

Collaborative Learning in Online Environments: Strategies for Designing, Supporting and Assessing Group Projects [Room B](#)

Tanya Custer, PhD, MS, RT(R)(T)ARRT

Director, Interprofessional Academy of Educators
Director of Distance Education and Associate Professor, College of Allied Health Professions

Analisa McMillan, PhD, MSED

Director, Distance Education
Associate Director, Interprofessional Academy of Educators
Director, Office of Teaching and Learning, College of Public Health
Assistant Professor, College of Public Health

Kim Michael, EdD, MA, RT(R), RDMS, RVT, FSDMS

Program Director, Diagnostic Medical Sonography
Anderson Distinguished Professor
Professor, College of Allied Health Professions

Peggy Moore, MSED

Director, E-Learning and Noncredit Learning
Assistant Professor, College of Allied Health Professions

Group work fosters engagement, critical thinking and collaboration—but online formats pose unique challenges. This session equips faculty with practical tools to design and facilitate effective online group work. Attendees will explore strategies for helping students stay organized, meet deadlines and manage shared responsibilities. The session also highlights fair and transparent assessment practices. Faculty will leave with a toolkit of actionable strategies to support meaningful, equitable group work in virtual learning environments.

Exploring Nursing Students' Perceptions of Advanced Experiential Technology in Enhancing Clinical Decision-Making Skills [Room C](#)

Missy Ofe Fleck, PhD, MSN, RN

Assistant Professor
College of Nursing

Paul Dye, MSED

Director, Advanced Educational Design & Delivery
iEXCEL

Emily Coffey, PhD, MSN, RN, MHA

Nurse Specialist
College of Nursing

Elizabeth Bockoven, MSN, RN

Instructor
College of Nursing

Simulation-based education (SBE) enhances technical skills, communication and interprofessional collaboration in health care training. This session explores how SBE fosters critical thinking and knowledge transfer in undergraduate nursing, especially for students without hospital-based clinicals. Using a large-scale, multitouch video wall, students practiced obstetrical skills in labor, postpartum care, newborn assessment and infant respiratory distress. This innovative, immersive approach demonstrates how technology can enrich nursing education and better prepare students for real-world clinical practice.

Feedback and Artificial Intelligence: A Novel Approach to Creating Objective "360 Eval" Feedback for Clinician Educators [Room D](#)

Evan Symons, DO

Chief Resident, Internal Medicine-Pediatrics
College of Medicine

Cory Rohlfen, MD

Assistant Professor, Internal Medicine
College of Medicine

Artificial intelligence-generated feedback offers a scalable way to enhance clinical education by addressing the limits of direct observation. This session shares how the Health Educators and Academic Leaders (HEAL) program piloted AI to evaluate video-recorded teaching encounters with custom rubrics. Comparisons with traditional feedback methods reveal key lessons, highlighting how AI can provide consistent, actionable insights and practical strategies for integrating this approach into simulation-based faculty development initiatives.

SESSION 2 | 11:15 A.M. – 12:05 P.M. (50-MINUTE SESSIONS)

AI Accessibility Assistants: Finding the “Easier Button” for Faculty and Student-Focused Workflows Main Event Hall

Kristin Bradley, MS

Instructional Designer
College of Public Health

Erin King, MA

Associate Director, Accessibility Services Center
University of Nebraska Omaha

This session empowers attendees to approach accessibility with confidence using generative AI and built-in tools. Presenters will demonstrate how Microsoft’s Accessibility Assistant addresses common challenges like alt text, content summarization and visual contrast. The second half explores how institutions are leveraging AI to support faculty and staff accessibility efforts. Leave with ready-to-use strategies and a reframed perspective on accessibility, emphasizing practical, scalable solutions for inclusive communication and course design.

Understanding Auditory Hallucinations: An Empathy-Based Simulation Experience Room B

Nathan Chen, MPH, NREMT

Advanced Simulation Specialist
iEXCEL

Auditory hallucinations are common in psychiatric conditions and often misunderstood. This session explores how immersive simulation methodology can help future clinicians experience the challenges faced by patients with these symptoms. Through experiential learning and structured debriefing, students build empathy and understanding, leading to improved patient care. Attendees will gain practical tools to implement this training across patient-facing roles, making it a valuable addition to clinical education and a step toward more compassionate healthcare.

Findings From Surveys Across the Atlantic Ocean Room C

Ally Dering-Anderson, PharmD, RP, FAPhA

College of Pharmacy

Daniel Kresock, BS P-4

College of Pharmacy

Tanner Cromer, BS P-4

College of Pharmacy

Paige DeWeese, BS P-4

College of Pharmacy

Shelby Butts, BS P-4

College of Pharmacy

Spanning 10,310 kilometers, the LiveWell initiative in Lagos, Nigeria, and the University of Nebraska Medical Center College of Pharmacy foster cross-cultural mentorship in pharmacy education. This session presents findings from a qualitative study exploring shared passions for patient care and challenges such as language and time zones. Attendees will learn how this ongoing collaboration is shaping globally minded pharmacy leaders and discover strategies to implement similar international mentorship models in their own institutions.

Enhancing Pre-Health Student Preparation through Competency-Based Learning in Bioinformatics Room D

Harnoor Dhaliwal, PhD

Executive Director, Walter Scott, Jr. Scholarship Program
University of Nebraska Medical Center
University of Nebraska Omaha

Matt Muellner, BS

Co-Founder, White Coats Write Code
University of Nebraska Medical Center

Ryan Chapman BS

Co-Founder, White Coats Write Code
College of Medicine, University of Nebraska Medical Center

As demand grows for research-ready health science students—especially in bioinformatics—traditional coursework often falls short. This session introduces competency-based education (CBE) as a flexible, focused approach to building real-world analytical and computational skills. Attendees will explore how CBE can accelerate learning, support individualized progress and better prepare students for biomedical research and clinical programs. Learn how this innovative model can bridge the gap between academic preparation and the evolving needs of the health sciences workforce.

SESSION 3 | 1:00 – 1:50 P.M. (50-MINUTE SESSIONS)

Enhancing Education: Uncovering the Potential of Microcredentialing for Higher Learning

Main Event Hall

Peggy Moore, MEd

Director, E-Learning and Noncredit Learning
Assistant Professor, College of Allied Health Professions

Analisa McMillan, PhD, MSED

Director, Distance Education
Associate Director, Interprofessional Academy of Educators
Director, Office of Teaching and Learning, College of Public Health
Assistant Professor, College of Public Health

Karen A. Gould, PhD, MEd

Interim Dean, Graduate Studies
Deputy Research Integrity Officer, Academic Affairs
Professor, Vice Chair for Faculty Development,
Department of Genetics, Cell Biology, and Anatomy

Devin Nickol, MD

Professor, Associate Dean for Interprofessional Education
Department of Internal Medicine

Nicole Kolm-Valdivia, PhD, CHES, MPH

Assistant Dean of Academic Affairs, College of Public Health
Assistant Professor, UNMC Department of Epidemiology

Tuggen Even, MEd

Instructional Technologist
Interactive E-Learning and Noncredit Learning

In 2022, UNMC Academic Affairs launched a microcredentialing initiative using NU Advance and Canvas Credentials to support workforce and professional development. This panel features UNMC innovators sharing their journeys in noncredit learning and digital badging for external audiences. Attendees will explore course design, badging criteria and lessons learned—from grant-funded credentialing to fee structures and revenue-sharing models. Gain practical insights and strategies to implement microcredentials that support lifelong learning and alternative revenue generation.

ADA Title II Compliance Made Easy Room B

Michael Kozak, MEd

Instructional Designer
IT Academic Technologies

Julie Gregg, MEd

Instructional Designer
IT Academic Technologies

This session explores updated ADA Title II guidelines and their impact on digital course accessibility. Presenters will share strategies for evaluating and revising course materials to meet compliance, improve usability for all learners and support institutional efforts toward equitable digital education.

Learning Scenarios Using Standardized Patients and Innovations in Technology Including AI and Telehealth Technologies: Structure, Process, and Outcome Steps for Getting Started Room C

Lynne Buchanan, PhD, APRN-NP, BC

Associate Professor
College of Nursing, Adult Gerontology Primary Care Specialty Track

Renee Sullivan, DNP, RN, APRN, GNP-BC

Clinical Assistant Professor
College of Nursing, Adult Gerontology Primary Care Specialty Track

Katie Messner, DNP, RN, APRN-FNP, AGACNP-BC

Clinical Assistant Professor
College of Nursing, Family Nurse Practitioner Specialty Track

As telehealth reshapes clinical practice, nurse practitioner students must build skills in virtual care and communication. This session highlights how faculty-developed, simulation-based scenarios help students navigate telehealth platforms, conduct virtual assessments and manage remote patient interactions. Pre- and post-course evaluations showed increased confidence and competency in telehealth delivery. Attendees will explore how experiential learning prepares students for evolving digital health care environments and supports the development of future-ready clinical professionals.



IAE Special Session

(Two 25-min sessions in same 50-minute timeslot)

Fostering Belonging in Global and Interprofessional Classrooms: A Two-Tiered Engagement Approach Room D**Maha Farid, PhD, MBBCH, MS**

Education Researcher, Interprofessional Academy of Educators

As health science education becomes more global, educators must foster inclusive, engaging spaces for diverse learners. This session introduces a two-tiered approach to student engagement: fostering collaboration across disciplines locally and through global partnerships. Drawing from a recent course and workshop in Egypt, presenters will share practical strategies to enhance communication, teamwork and cultural understanding. Attendees will leave with a toolkit of global case studies and collaborative tools to support cross-cultural, cross-disciplinary learning.

Disseminating Your Educational Innovations**Elizabeth Beam, PhD, RN**Education Researcher, Interprofessional Academy of Educators
Associate Professor, College of Nursing**Maha Farid, MBBCH, PhD, MBBCH, MS**

Education Researcher, Interprofessional Academy of Educators

Jana Wardian, PhD, MSWAssociate Director, Interprofessional Academy of Educators
Associate Professor, Internal Medicine, College of Medicine

Are you transforming your teaching methods to be more engaging and innovative? Discover how you can share your newfound insights with others in this informal session focused on transforming your innovative teaching into scholarship. Hear stories from local experts before breaking into small groups to brainstorm and connect. Get ready to leave inspired and equipped with new ideas and strategies to jump start your scholarly projects. All experience levels welcome.

SESSION 4 | 2:00 – 2:50 P.M. (50-MINUTE SESSIONS)**Blending the Best of Technology and Professional Development** Main Event Hall**Heidi Keeler, PhD, MSN/MBA, RN**

Assistant Vice Chancellor, UNMC Office of Community Engagement

Executive Director, Continuing interProfessional Development and Innovation

Associate Professor, College of Nursing

Renee Paulin, DNP, MSN, RN, CWOCN

Assistant Director & WTA Course Coordinator, Continuing interprofessional Development and Innovation

College of Nursing

Backed by a \$4 million HRSA grant, the UNMC College of Nursing is advancing preceptor training through innovative, multimodal learning. This session showcases how faculty use microlearning content—developed with EZStudio, iEXCEL and other campus resources—to bridge the academic-practice gap. Attendees will explore strategies for creating engaging, practice-relevant training that meets the evolving needs of today's health care learners and supports professional development in a dynamic clinical education landscape.

Advancing Scholarly Writing Through Collaborative Practices Room B**Kim Michael, EdD, MA, RT(R), RDMS, RVT, FSDMS**

Program Director, Diagnostic Medical Sonography

Anderson Distinguished Professor

Professor, College of Allied Health Professions

Tanya Custer, PhD, MS, RT(R)(T)ARRT

Director, Interprofessional Academy of Educators

Director of Distance Education and Associate Professor,
College of Allied Health Professions**Analisa McMillan, PhD, MSED**

Director, Distance Education

Associate Director, Interprofessional Academy of Educators

Director, Office of Teaching and Learning, College of Public Health

Assistant Professor, College of Public Health

Peggy Moore, MSED

Director, E-Learning and Noncredit Learning

Assistant Professor, College of Allied Health Professions

If you've ever found yourself struggling to navigate a collaborative approach to academic writing, this session is for you. Led by experienced scholars, the session invites you to explore collaborative strategies, share insights and build confidence. Attendees will leave with practical tools to engage in shared authorship and contribute meaningfully to academic scholarship.

3:00 – 3:50 p.m. | **SHORT STACK SESSIONS**
(5-MINUTE SESSIONS) Main Event Hall

Enhancing Course Development with Generative AI: Practical Tools for Health Professions Educators [Room C](#)

Nishank Varshney, PhD

Assistant Professor, Department of Education & Child Development
Munroe-Meyer Institute

Generative AI is transforming instructional design, offering new ways to streamline course development and boost learner engagement. In this hands-on workshop, you'll explore a practical framework for integrating free tools—ChatGPT, Gemini, CoPilot, Canva, Adobe Firefly and Napkin AI—into curriculum design. With a focus on innovative pedagogy and student-centered learning, you'll leave with a ready-to-use toolkit to create dynamic, responsive and engaging educational experiences for future health professionals.

Teaching the Vast Body of Evidence: Bolstering Evidence-based Practice Classes with Innovations Relevant Across Professions [Room D](#)

Molly Whitlow, PhD, MPH

Assistant Professor
College of Allied Health Professions, Department of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences Occupational Therapy Program

Education about evidence-based practice (EBP) is essential to a wide range of health professions programs. Barriers to teaching EBP courses include anxiety among students about research and statistics, perceptions that EBP is time-consuming and intensive, the lack of clarity about the connection to clinical practice, and the sheer quantity of available literature. This session explores how UNMC's Occupational Therapy Program redesigned its EBP curriculum to overcome these challenges, with an emphasis on approaches relevant across professions. Participants will engage in small group discussions to identify their programs' EBP-related strengths, pinch points and ideas.

Leveraging AI for Clinical Reasoning Assessment and Coaching: Multi-Institutional Implementation of a Novel Large Language Model

Alexandra Sorrick, MD

Assistant Professor
College of Medicine

Cory Rohlfen, MD

Assistant Professor
College of Medicine

Assessing clinical reasoning doesn't have to be resource-heavy. In this session, explore an AI-powered chatbot that simulates patient encounters and delivers automated, personalized feedback on accuracy, efficiency and thoroughness. Piloted at UNMC in June 2025, this tool—developed by a multi-institutional team—presents a scalable solution to enhance clinical reasoning education and standardize formative assessments.

AI Essentials for Health Care Educators

Michael Kozak, MEd

Instructional Designer
IT Academic Technologies

Tanya Custer, PhD, MS, RT(R)(T)ARRT

Director, Interprofessional Academy of Educators
Director of Distance Education and Associate Professor
College of Allied Health Professions

Andrew Robertson, MS

Director, Institutional Research
Academic Affairs

In response to recommendations from the Education Council's Subcommittee on Artificial Intelligence, a dynamic, self-paced online course was developed to equip health care educators with foundational AI knowledge. In this session, you'll get an inside look at the course's engaging instructional models and learn how to navigate its content effectively. You'll leave empowered with practical strategies to begin integrating AI as an instructional support tool in your own teaching.



Teaching Smarter with Khanmigo

Michael Kozak, MEd

Instructional Designer
IT Academic Technologies

Now available in Canvas, Khanmigo Teacher Tools is an AI-powered resource developed by Khan Academy in partnership with Microsoft. Designed to support educators, Khanmigo offers personalized, interactive learning experiences and streamlines planning tasks. In this session, you'll explore available training and resources through a self-paced, interactive Canvas course. Learn how to navigate the platform and begin integrating Khanmigo into your teaching toolkit.

AI Patient Bots for Formative Learning

Nicholas Guenzel, PhD, RN, APRN-NP

Assistant Professor
College of Nursing

This session introduces a powerful platform that allows educators to create AI-driven virtual patients with customizable symptoms, histories and diagnoses. Health professions students conduct interviews, submit diagnoses and receive instant, personalized feedback on clinical reasoning and documentation. Instructors can assign cases, review transcripts and export data. Leave with practical insights into how this scalable tool enhances clinical training through real-time assessment and supports deeper learning in medical decision-making.

Augmenting Medical Education with AI: Practical Applications in Clinical Training and Course Design

Jami Monico, MEd, CHSE

Instructional Designer and Non-Clinical Instructor
Dept. of Obstetrics and Gynecology, College of Medicine

This session explores how AI can enrich graduate medical education through: generating realistic patient histories for clinical training with focused prompts and an AI agent and creating "choose your adventure" discussion prompts for online learning. These tools support clinical reasoning and learner engagement, while reducing faculty workload through automated feedback. Attendees will see examples of AI-generated content and hear insights from students and faculty—leaving with practical ideas for integrating AI into their own teaching.

Blueprints, Not Band-Aids: Designing Courses for Real Impact

April Elker, MEd

Instructional Designer
College of Public Health

Too often, educators rely on quick fixes to improve courses—adding resources or tweaking assignments—without addressing deeper issues. This presentation introduces the blueprint course methodology, a proactive approach to course design that emphasizes intentional planning and structure. Attendees will learn how blueprint courses reduce student confusion, improve learning outcomes and prevent instructor burnout. Through practical examples and strategies, participants will gain tools to build more effective, sustainable and engaging learning experiences from the ground up.

Lights, Camera, Learn: Mastering the Art of Lecture Videos

Janet Skogerboe, MA

Instructional Technologist
College of Public Health

Creating engaging educational videos is a growing challenge for faculty. This session offers practical strategies to overcome common obstacles: building on-camera confidence, segmenting content into digestible parts and designing visuals that clearly communicate key concepts. Whether you're recording your first lecture or updating existing material, you'll gain actionable techniques for producing high-quality, student-centered videos that enhance learning and retention. Attendees will leave equipped to create compelling content for today's learners.

Integrating E-Learning and iEXCEL to Create Immersive Student-Centered Modules

Matt Vilburn, DC

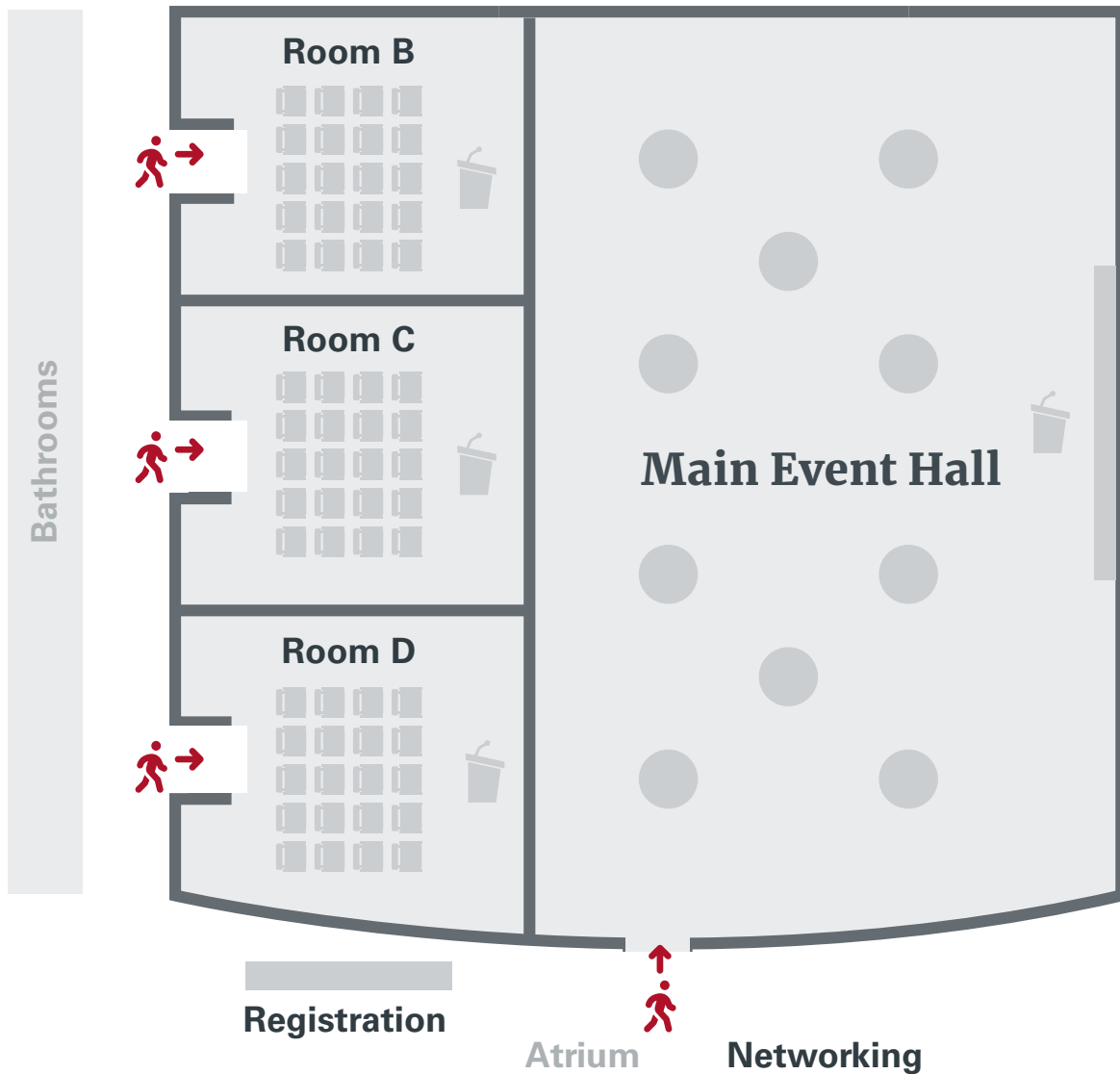
Associate Professor
College of Medicine

Innovation in health professions education thrives when technology, pedagogy and resources align. This session showcases a successful collaboration between the E-Learning Program and iEXCEL to create an interactive, self-paced module for first-year medical students. Featuring a custom 3D neuroanatomical model, the project emphasized student involvement, creative design and strategic resource use. Attendees will explore the award application process, collaboration strategies and lessons learned—leaving inspired to reimagine content delivery through immersive, high-quality learning experiences.



Map

Truhlsen Campus Events Center



This publication is produced by the Interprofessional Academy of Educators and the Office of Distance Education at the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

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Alexis S. Zgud, MA

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