**ACTIVE LEARNING, INQUIRY TEACHING CERTIFICATE (ALIT)**

**FOR STEM FACULTY**

The College of Natural and Mathematical Sciences (CNMS), the College of Engineering and Information Technology (COEIT), and the Faculty Development Center (FDC) are pleased to invite you to participate in the Active Learning, Inquiry Teaching Certificate for STEM Faculty (ALIT). This certificate program, now beginning its fifth cohort, is designed to support faculty in adopting teaching approaches that foster the retention of students in STEM majors and support the development of their students as STEM professionals. These approaches, informed by the extensive body of research on learning, help faculty provide all students with deliberate practice in the skills and habits of mind necessary for learning, inquiry, and research. This program is open to all instructional faculty––tenured/tenure-track, lecturers, and adjunct––who teach courses in the College of Natural and Mathematical Sciences or the College of Engineering and Information Technology and is funded by the Colleges, the FDC, and the NIH-funded STEM BUILD at UMBC initiative. The official kickoff for both new and returning participants is scheduled for **Friday, August 30, from 12-1:30 p.m. (with lunch) in Engineering 102**. Interested faculty are invited to apply (see link at the end) and are strongly encouraged to **register** and attend the kickoff. The requirements for the two-year certificate program consist of:

* Attendance at a minimum of 8 programs during the first year and 4 programs during the second year, including a kickoff. Programs may be chosen from designated FDC sessions, designated programs offered through Instructional Technology, and teaching circles offered through specific departments, i.e., Biological Sciences and the Mathematics and Statistics departments*. No more than 4 such programs outside of those offered through the FDC (e.g., teaching circles; DoIT) may count for the certificate*.
* Participation in the first year in the FDC’s CATALyst program for gathering course midterm feedback from students.
* Participation in the second year in a class observation cycle to gather feedback on your teaching from FDC staff.
* Completion of a survey provided by the FDC at the beginning and end of the program that fosters participants’ reflection on the effect of the program on their teaching choices.

Faculty in their first three years of teaching may choose to participate in the *new faculty cohort track*. Requirements are the same, except that in the first year, 3 of the 8 required programs are fulfilled by participating in a discussion of the book, *Teaching and Learning STEM: A Practical Guide*, by Felder and Brent, Jossey-Bass, 2016 (provided to participants).

Faculty in CNMS or COEIT who complete the program will receive the Active Learning, Inquiry Teaching Certificate, and a letter will be sent to the department chair and Dean documenting their accomplishment for purposes of promotion or tenure. In addition, each participant who successfully completes the program will receive a professional development award of $500.

We welcome and encourage your participation in this exciting initiative. To register as a new participant, please use this [link](https://umbc.co1.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_74Au0VxV4gA3ki1) **BY AUGUST 21st.**