Keynote Address and Workshop with
Michelle Miller Ph.D.
March 16, 2020

KEYNOTE

3:00-4:30 p.m.
Kennedy Auditorium

Design for the Mind: Strategies from the Psychology of Learning

Educators are all in the business of changing minds: We build new memories, guide students in developing new skills, and promote the development of values and mindsets. Attention, memory, and higher thought processes are three aspects of the mind that are particularly critical to learning. They also align particularly well with the capabilities of instructional technology, whether within the context of fully online or traditional face to face courses. In this keynote address, Dr. Miller will present principles connected to these three aspects of the mind, with an emphasis on the unique advantages that technology offers.

WORKSHOP

12:00-1:30 p.m.
Conaton Board Room

Taking Online Courses from Good to Great with Evidence-Based Practices from the Learning Sciences

Expert and novice online instructors alike may wonder: How can I take a good online course and make it truly outstanding? How can I teach in a way that fosters deep learning and engages students as much or more than in a face to face course?

One way to begin taking our online courses to the next level is to identify core challenges that arise in these courses – points where students tend to struggle, underperform, or where students could be doing more to advance their own learning. Then, we can break down these challenges by mapping them on to concepts drawn from learning sciences.

This workshop will provide examples of how evidence-based principles can be applied to online teaching, and invite peer-to-peer sharing of additional ideas for innovation. Lastly, participants will develop brief, specific plans to apply these ideas to areas that they have identified as opportunities for enhancement within their own online courses.

More about Michelle Miller—Michelle D. Miller is Director of the First Year Learning Initiative, Professor of Psychological Sciences, and President’s Distinguished Teaching Fellow at Northern Arizona University. Dr. Miller’s academic background is in cognitive psychology; her research interests include memory, attention, and student success in the early college career. She co-created the First Year Learning Initiative at Northern Arizona University and is active in course redesign, serving as a Redesign Scholar for the National Center for Academic Transformation. She is the author of Minds Online: Teaching Effectively with Technology (Harvard University Press, 2014), and has written about evidence-based pedagogy in scholarly as well as general-interest publications, including College Teaching, Change: The Magazine of Higher Learning, and The Conversation. Dr. Miller’s current work focuses on using psychological principles to help instructors create more effective and engaging learning experiences, and to help students become more effective learners.