

**Report to President's Cabinet**  
**STLR Progress Report, Q2 Calendar 2018**  
**July 31, 2018**  
**Jeff King, STLR Grant P.I.**

**STLR's Dramatic Growth:**

- Growth in Assessed STLR Student Learning Artifacts: There was a dramatic rise in the number of student learning artifacts that were assessed for STLR badge-level achievement during the 2017-2018 academic year. End-of-spring-semester results show UCO faculty and staff (mostly faculty) have assessed over 16,000 artifacts.
- Growth in Student Affairs (mostly) card-swipe STLR-tagged events to now be 50-ish/semester, with card-swipe STLR engagements on a similar growth pattern: as of end of spring 2018, UCO students had card-swiped into STLR-tagged events over 25,000 times.
- Implications/Strategies:
  - Growing positive retention impact among more students
  - Maintaining exponential growth curve will require greater number of faculty to STLR-tag assignments beyond their first few STLR classes and/or outside-of-class STLR student projects
  - STLR Cording Ceremony challenges: venue size, no good solution for lead-time reporting for graduation ceremony program; managing the Cording Ceremony program length as the number of student recipients attending grows
  - STLR in the DNA of UCO: continued STLR branding and recognitions are marrying STLR to UCO for prospective students, higher ed professional organizations, funders, advocacy groups (e.g., AASCU, AAC&U, Gates, Lumina, Quality Assurance Commons, WCET, Educause, etc.); people hear "STLR," they think, "UCO"
  - STLR growth beyond UCO thus far has been random, accidental, serendipitous, not borne of planned outreach beyond minimal levels (e.g., conference presentations) — next-step planning is still preliminary for managing beyond-UCO STLRizations & increasing Transformative Learning International Collaborative activity
  - Research will launch Q3 designed to 1) engage more faculty to STLRize more classes, 2) find, more specifically, why STLR associates so strongly to improved retention and academic achievement

## **STLR at NCUR:**

- Successful STLR integration yielded 150+ student narratives associated with an assignment connected to one or more STLR-tagged NCUR presentations
- Successful STLR-tagging and advertising on campus such that UCO students knew which presentations were STLR-tagged and visiting students/faculty/administrators were repeatedly exposed to STLR
- NCUR STLR data analyzed and output to graphical format for sharing with CUR and elsewhere
- Strong positive reaction from CUR and others — Provost D.C. presentation(s)

## **TL Endowment Donation Activity**

- *Critically* important for continuance of student TL projects (at least, regarding payment to students of \$10/hr)
- Three \$1000 or more donations have been received and matched by Dept of Ed: \$5000 donations in both 2017 & 2018 from Anschutz Fdn (*The Oklahoman*), 2018 donation from NCHEMS for UCO/STLR's Essential Employability Qualities Certification project participation
- Current TL Endowment balance \$30,000-ish; at 4%/yr return, that would generate \$1200/yr to fund student TL projects compared to the grant's current \$384,000/yr funding — and project applications are extremely competitive now, with lots of applications unfunded because those applications were juried at a score below the cut-off

## **Q2 2018 STLR Conference Presentations:**

- HLC Annual Conference, Chicago, IL, April 2018
- Distance Learning Administration Conference, Jekyll Island, GA, June 2018

## **Quality Assurance Commons Project Wrap-up**

Successful conclusion to the project, with STLR again put forth as an exemplar. Summary report video from the Lumina Foundation is at: <https://medium.com/todays-students-tomorrow-s-talent/defining-and-delivering-on-quality-inhigher-education-b0d374edf3b0>

Lumina Foundation's support for the QACommons Certification project included, in addition to travel and other support and resources, a \$1000 gift to each institution participating in recognition of work put forward. STLR directed that gift to the TL Endowment, thereby turning it into a \$2,000 gift with the Dept of Ed match for TL Endowment donations.

**Lumina Foundation Meeting / Potential STLR Ecosphere** (summary slide)

Jeff met with Lumina Strategy Director Amber Garrison Duncan along with the managing director and the impact investment officer for Lumina Impact Ventures at Lumina HQ in Indianapolis in advance of the final QACommons convening. Purpose of the meeting was preliminary exploration of STLR next-step support. All three Lumina personnel were clearly impressed with STLR's accomplishments, and Amber asked for follow-up contact after the meeting.

Regarding next-stage STLR/TL growth, Amber mentioned several aspects of what UCO has accomplished with STLR as worthy of scaling, especially, and obviously, the association to improved retention, incl retention lift among priority populations. All three Lumina personnel saw great implications regarding the STLR narrative scanning research project with Exaptive.

Amber has since followed up asking if we would be interested in co-authoring a blog about STLR and its student outcomes for the Lumina blogosphere.

Conversations continue with Lumina.