Jumpstart faculty expertise by enrolling in immersive, quality online teaching programs with the OLC Institute of Professional Development

While some Online Learning Consortium (OLC) members rely on OLC to supplement their internal online teaching programs, others like Baltimore's Coppin State University (CSU), a Historically Black College and University, have turned to OLC to provide their institution with an online learning jumpstart.

Dr. Dionne Curbeam, Director of Instructional Technology at Coppin State, strongly felt that if CSU was to offer online classes, its faculty needed to be ‘retrained’ so that courses taught online would match the integrity and quality of their offline counterparts.

To achieve this, in early 2012, CSU enrolled a handful of faculty in OLC’s Online Teaching Certificate (OTC) program. Fortunately, since CSU is an OLC Institutional Member, they get great volume discounts for Institute programs and OLC events, research, and a connection with a global network of like-minded academic professionals.

Dionne tells us, “There is no question the OLC Online Teaching Certificate program has improved the quality of our programs.”

Dionne says she chose the OTC program because it is based on OLC’s five pillars of quality: learning effectiveness, access, scale, faculty satisfaction, and student satisfaction. The focus on enhancing and strengthening skills to become more effective in the principles and practice of online teaching as well as the breadth of the program continues to be an important factor in making the move to support faculty development with OLC.

Three years later and 35 CSU OTC graduates later, Dionne speaks proudly of the improved quality of CSU’s online learning initiatives.

What makes her most proud? “When we started, I had to beg our faculty to take the program. Now, hearing those of us praising and employing the techniques and tools we’ve learned,” she says with a laugh, “they are clamoring to enroll.”

Five great reasons why Coppin State enrolled their faculty in the OLC Online Teaching Certificate Program.

1. Need for quality online skills to match the quality of offline programs
2. Benefited from great volume discount program as a member of OLC
3. Based on the OLC pillars of quality in online education
4. Resulted in improved quality of Coppin State University’s online programs
5. Over 35 graduates of OLC to date and more in line to attend

Interested in accelerating faculty development at your institution?
Call 617.207.4172
email sales@onlinelearning-c.org, or visit onlinelearning-c.org/OTC.