



Western Technical College

In 2007 I began taking online professional development courses to meet teaching certification requirements. In 2013 I became the Associate Dean of Western's Academic Excellence and Development Center with job responsibilities focused on distance learning and training for the delivery of distance education. Over the course of the next three years, I completed the OLC Teaching Certificate program and the Advanced Online Teaching Certificate Program. In 2016 I became the Dean of Western's Flexible Learning Division leading college-wide initiatives to develop plans, policy, and the organizational systems necessary to support the non-traditional adult learner through advancement of online and other flexible program offerings.

Top 5 Reasons You Joined OLC:

1. Learn from experts
2. Discounts on professional development
3. Networking
4. OLC customer service
5. OLC Quality Scorecard

To learn more about OLC membership, visit onlinelearning-c.org/join



Brandee J. Ortery
Dean, Flexible Learning Western Technical College - La Crosse, WI



What was your reason for becoming an OLC Professional Member? Keeping current on trends in distance teaching and learning.

What aspect(s) of the OLC Professional Membership do you use most and why? Professional development courses to inform the work we are doing locally at our institution.

How has your OLC Membership helped you personally? The knowledge and skills I have gained through OLC has allowed us to improve teaching and learning to the extent that our faculty feel more prepared and confident in delivering online and blended content. In turn, our students are successful as indicated by course completion rates that are nearly identical across modes of delivery.

How has your OLC Membership helped your organization? The professional development taken online through OLC as well as conferences has been a springboard for our own initiatives to expand professional development related to distance teaching and learning.

I would recommend OLC Membership to faculty, teaching & learning coordinators, professional development managers, administrators.

“The professional development that I have received from OLC has not only been a catalyst for improvement in distance teaching and learning at our institution but has also been the foundation from which I have been able to grow as a leader.”