



TOP

Teaching Observation Partners



Overview

TOP is a peer review program that fosters professional learning, teaching observations and discussions of teaching practices and aims to build the mentoring capacity of emerging teacher leaders, facilitate peer partnerships and support schools to build shared communities of practice to enhance pedagogical excellence at ECU in the blended, on-campus and online spaces.

Program Description

There are 3 streams in the Teaching Observation Partnerships Program that can be selected:

- Participants select a Peer-Review Pathway between Mutual Mentoring or Mentor – Mentee(s)
- Open Door Teachers are identified/ observed/ mentored and participate in Teaching Week
- Teaching Supervision development and Remediation / Performance Management of staff



Peer-Review Pathway

Mutual Mentoring

A pair or small group where each person has an opportunity to focus on an aspect of their teaching, identify and set goals, be observed and receive feedback. This partnership also has the capacity to evolve in to a forum where teachers can observe each other, share ideas, discuss improvements and work together to develop future educational innovations. Documenting this can be evidence for teaching portfolios for promotion or applying for awards.

Mentor - Mentee(s)

Partnerships where one person is highly competent in a specific teaching and learning aspect that a mentee or small group of mentees want to develop. Mentors will be given support to develop their mentoring capabilities and guidance with the format and processes in the mentoring partnership.



Open Door Teachers and Teaching Week

Open Door Teachers

Teaching staff with extensive, successful experience in an aspect of teaching will be invited to participate in the Open Door Initiative. These staff will be observed and given feedback on why a certain aspect of their teaching is successful and supported to develop their ability to articulate their decision making and process practices. A case-study resource will be built, including video and unpacking their teaching to align with current scholarship and best practices. This can be evidence for teaching portfolios for promotion or applying for awards.

Teaching Week

Each semester, CLT will designate a week as Teaching Week. During that time, several Open Door Teachers across schools will open up their classes for observation by their ECU colleagues. Participants are encouraged to engage in conversation afterward, where both teachers and observers can reflect on what they experienced.



Teaching Supervision

Developing Teaching Supervision Capability

Support for Course and Unit Coordinators to develop the ability to mentor staff they supervise and direct them to professional development and program initiatives that support teaching in their discipline area course or unit.

Remediation/Performance Management

CLT can assist in identifying individual and systemic issues in quality teaching, diagnosing problems and providing remediation/support. Part of the support provided can be to observe the teaching staff member and provide diagnostic feedback, direct them to observe an Open Door Teacher, have a Mentor or participate in targeted PD.