Letter from the Editors

We always know midterms are coming, but we are never prepared. As we gear into midterms, remember to take some time to yourself. Although grading (or studying!) late into the night often seems like a good idea, it is usually a better idea to decompress. We know, it’s harder than it sounds! Try hitting the gym, going for a walk, or catching up with a friend. It’s not only good for you to be in a good headspace, but good for your students, too!

“Small Teaching Tips”

In one of our PIE workshops this semester, we discussed: “Small Teaching: Everyday Lessons from the Science of Learning” by James M. Lang. Here are some tips you can implement:

- **How Are You?** Spend a few minutes before class getting to know your students. Ask how they’re doing or about their major. Instructors who make these connections notice students engage more in discussions.

- **Create Wonder.** Display an image, quote, or newspaper headline relevant to the course material. Ask your students: “What do you think?” This will activate your students’ prior knowledge, help them make connections to the current material, and stimulate informal conversation in your classroom.

“DIRECTO Book Club”

We’ve been discussing “Transforming Understandings of Diversity in Higher Education: Demography, Democracy & Discourse” by Ting et al. Topics ranged from examining the Color-Blind Ideology, and Advancing the Definition of Diversity in Higher Education. We’d like to invite you to be a part of the discussion on **Friday, Nov. 1st**!

Ömer Arslan, a doctoral student in the Instructional Systems and Learning Technologies (ISLT) program, is an Instructor of Record for EME2040: Introduction to Educational Technology. In his first semester teaching at FSU, Ömer strives to create a learning community where learners feel like they belong. Thank you, Ömer, for all you do for our students at FSU!

Wanna nominate someone? Email PIE-info@fsu.edu

UPCOMING DATES

- **PIE Coffee Hour: “Accessibility, Universal Design, and Canvas”**
  - When: Tuesday, Oct. 22nd // 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM
  - Where: Great Hall, 4th Floor @ Honors, Scholars and Fellows House (HSF)
- **DIRECTO Book Club/Discussion Series**
  - When: Friday, Nov. 1st // 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM
  - Where: Room 3009, 3rd Floor @ Honors, Scholars and Fellows House (HSF)
- **PIE Coffee Hour: “Promoting Active Student Engagement”**
  - When: Thursday, Nov. 7th // 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM
  - Where: Great Hall, 4th Floor @ Honors, Scholars and Fellows House (HSF)
- **Panel Luncheon: “Careers Outside of Academia”**
  - When: Friday, Nov. 15th // 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM
  - Where: Great Hall, 4th Floor @ HSF