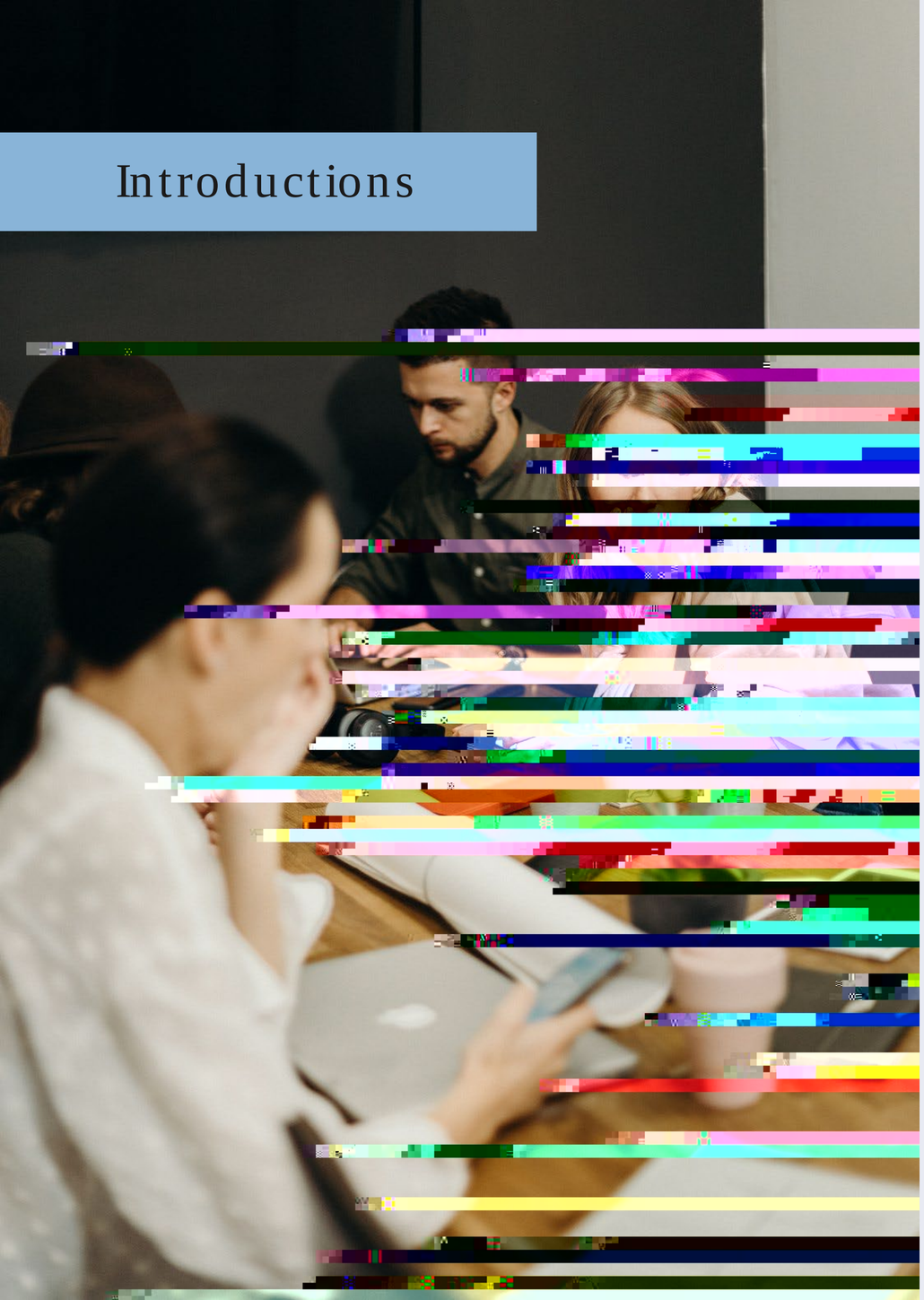
Texas Commission on Virtual Education
Dr. Allison Powell
Evergreen Education Group
July 27, 2022

Providing Support and Professional Development for Online Teachers



Introductions

Digital Learning Collaborative (DLC)

Dr. Allison Powell

- COO, Evergreen Education Group
- Clark County School District (NV)
- VP of iNACOL
- BloomBoard

A bit about us:

- The DLC is educators, providers, and supporters seeking to improve opportunities and outcomes for students
- Resources, collaboration, networking
- Digital Learning Annual Conference (DLAC) - https://www.deelac.com/
  - February 13-15, 2023 in Austin, TX

Myths and Misconceptions About Online Teachers

Role of Online Teacher

- Facilitate and build an online community of learners
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- 73% - 6+ years teaching
- 22% - New w/ no training
- 22% - > 10 hours training
- 46% > 45 hours training
- 54% Locally received
- 30% HE delivered
- 94% School/Org delivered

- Most common type of training
  - Ongoing training sessions (81%)
  - Workshops (77%)
- Most preferred
  - 53% Fully facilitated online
  - 49% Workshop format
- 0-10 years experience - Graduate Courses
- > 10 years experience – Graduate Courses least preferred

PD Topics Most Wanted/Covered

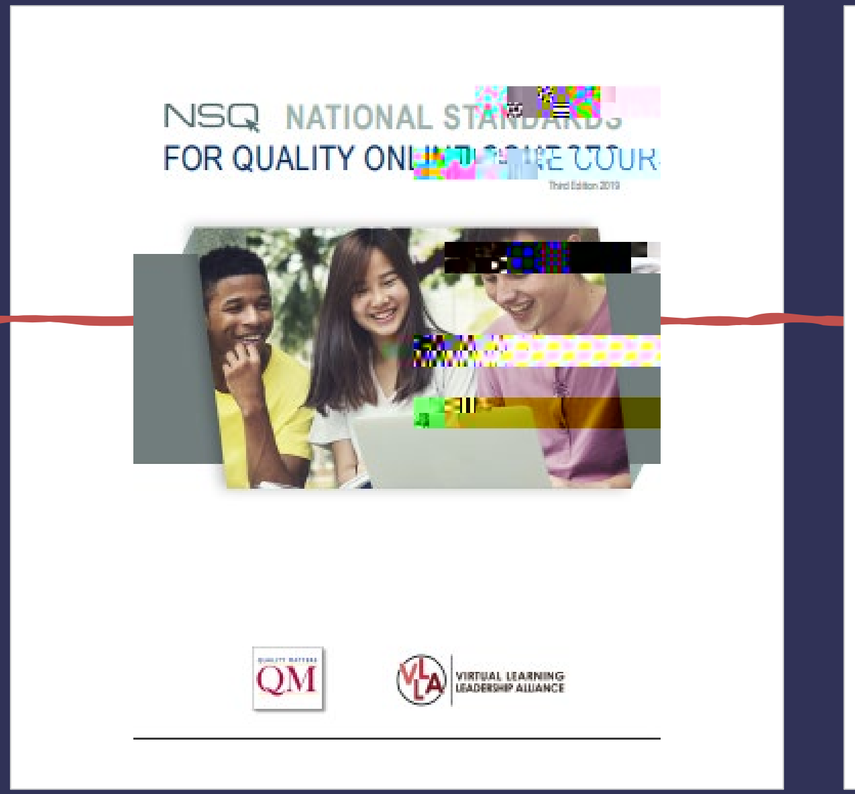
Most Wanted

- General Online Teaching and Learning
- Cyberbullying
- Addressing Accessibility Needs
- Design Principles
- Social Emotional Learning
- Social Networking
- Digital Etiquette
- Assessment
- Using Data to Personalize Learning

Most Covered

- Over 90% have received technology training (LMS and Communication technologies)
- 85% have received training in various aspects of digital etiquette, behavior and assessment concepts

- How to provide appropriate communications
- Providing appropriate and timely feedback
- How to facilitate discussions
- Facilitation of teamwork and multimedia projects
- Adaption of curriculum and materials
- Adaptation of online tools to support effective instruction



The National Standards for Quality Online Learning

www.nsqol.org

Support For Online Teachers

- Networks and bandwidth
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Administrator Development

Supporting and Evaluating Online Teachers

- Monitor, evaluate and support online teaching

- Admin need to learn how to:
  - review online course delivery looking for and evaluating teachers' skills in:
    - developing online communities of learners
    - fostering online discussions
    - using online course delivery tools
    - creating an effective online voice and presence
    - providing adequate and frequent feedback
    - modifying online course content to meet individual student needs
    - selecting and using appropriate online tools to support online instruction

Trends in Pre-Service Teacher Training

United States

- 1.3% of US Universities prepare teachers of Next Gen Learning Models (Partnering for Success 2013)
- UCF, FLVS partnership for student teaching
- Michigan State University and Michigan Virtual School
- SUNY, and Univ. of MT pre-service programs

Mexico

- all pre-service teachers trained to use digital content, given laptops, all content is digitized

Singapore

- teachers trained to teach in blended environments (since 2005, SARS virus pandemic)

China

- Training teachers to teach online to reach 100 million more students

India

- Training teachers, digitizing content, see education as export opportunity

International Baccalaureate (IB) program

- Master teachers to teach online and offering “gold standard” IB courses online

Trends in Online Teacher PD

Certificate programs in US

- Boise State University
- New Mexico State University

State Departments of Education

- Georgia and Idaho - endorsements

Non-profit organizations

- Quality Matters
- Virtual High School, Inc.

Regional Service Centers

- Offering courses

For-profit Companies

- Focused mostly on product rather than pedagogy

Online Schools

- Still main provider of teacher PD, must develop on their own
- Inconsistencies in training outcomes, must expend additional resources

Micro-credentials

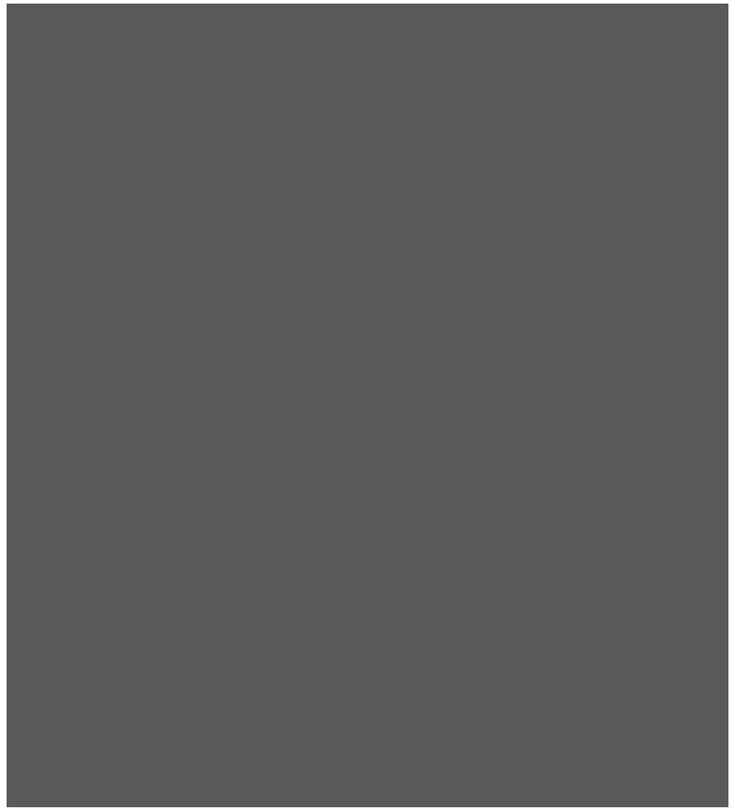
- Hands on
- Demonstrate competency
- Non-biased reviewers/feedback

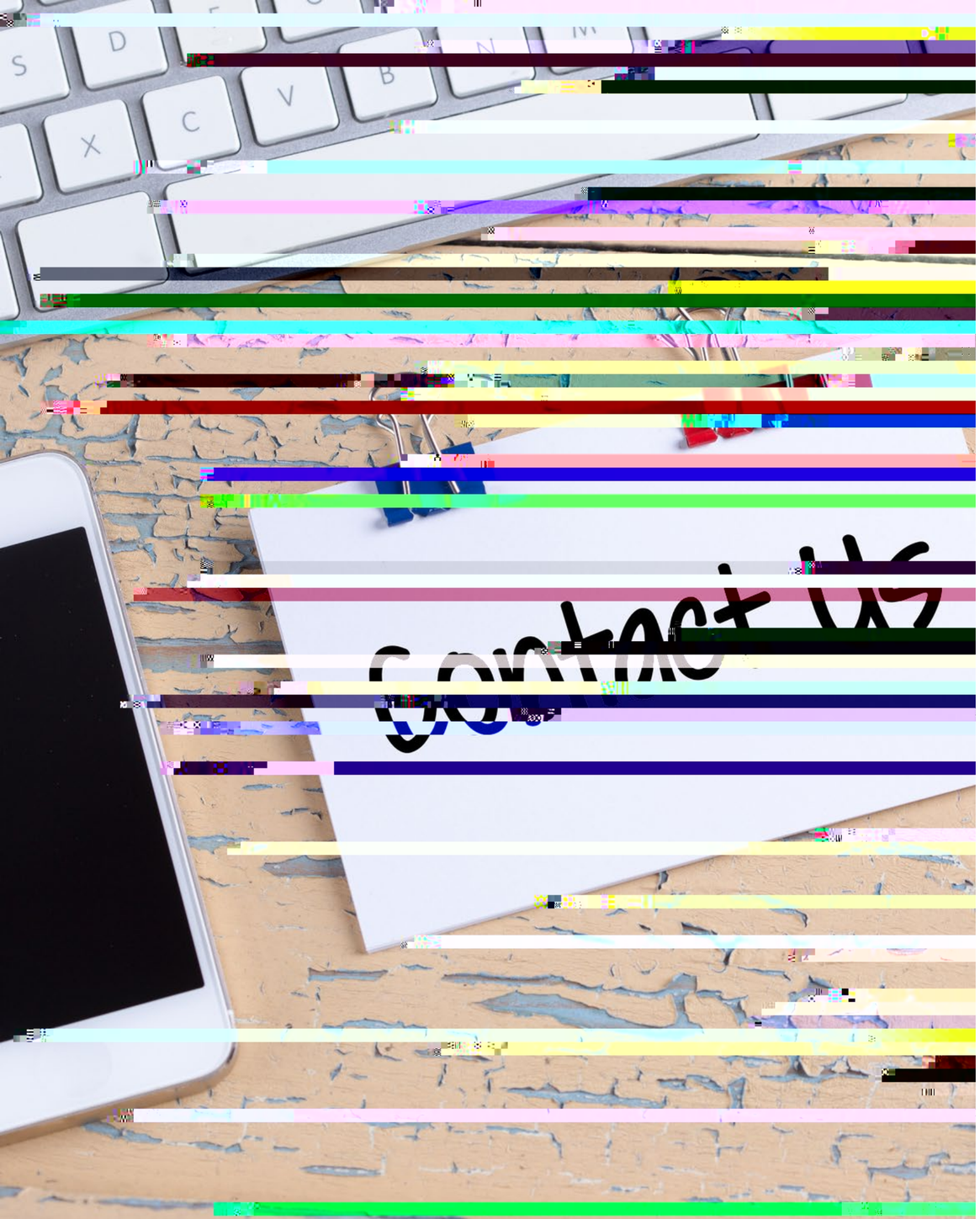
New Focus

- More hybrid, including courses, less FT online
- Hybrid in many forms: alt ed, independent study, early college, etc.
- More synchronous
- Elementary growth and confusion
- Assisting with teacher shortages
- Special Student Populations – ELL, Special Education, Gifted
- SEL and relationships
- Funding Models

Connect and learn from virtual learning leaders, providers, and educators

www.deelac.com

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