

AE3 Collins Scholar Program 2025-2026

Friday Lunch Sessions, 2320 DCL



AE3 STAFF

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Web: http://ae3.engineering.illinois.edu/

PHILOSOPHY

The Collins Scholar Program for new engineering faculty and instructors exists to help you get your career off to an efficient and productive start. The program provides a culture of support for teaching, research, and service in a relaxing and collegial environment.

GOALS

- 1. Plan, implement, and manage effective in-class and out-of-class instruction
- 2. Develop and use instructional materials
- 3. Apply research-based techniques of effective instruction
- 4. Plan and implement assessments of learning and instruction
- 5. Become an active member of the engr community of practice to support teaching and research
- 6. Make effective use of departmental, college, and campus instructional resources

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

- Participate in weekly lunch seminars
- Classroom observation (of you)
- Observe an excellent engineering teacher
- Collect early feedback and ICES
- Read Canvas posts and handouts

COLLINS GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

- Regularly attend Friday seminars
- Observe an excellent teacher
- Be observed in your class
- Collect and review early feedback

Two good books about college teaching centered on the engineering classroom.

Teaching and Learning STEM: A Practical Guide (2016)
Richard Felder and Rebecca Brent

Teaching Engineering, 2nd ed. (2015) Philip Wankat & Frank Oreovicz

Weekly Lunch Seminars: Fridays, Noon-1:00pm

Fall 2025 (Lunch provided, 2320 DCL)	
Aug 21	Collins Scholar Kick-Off Event (Noon-3pm, 1038 CIF)
Aug 29	Classroom Management (2320 DCL for regular lunch seminars)
Sept 5	Student Panel of Undergraduates from ENGR
Sept 12	Learning Objectives/Bloom's Taxonomy
Sept 19	Formative Assessments
Sept 26	Learning Plans
Oct 3	Questioning Strategies
Oct 10	Active Learning: What, Why, How?
Oct 17	Active Learning in Practice (3 faculty: Stelzer, Silva, Halloran?)
Oct 24	Grading Rubrics (Lucas Anderson)
Oct 31	Student Teams (Katie Ansell, Chris Schmitz)
Nov 7	Interleaving Instruction: Practice & Feedback
Nov 14	AI: Teaching and Faculty Productivity (Ornik and Alawini)
Nov 21	Growth Mindset (Rebecca Reck)
Nov 28	Thanksgiving break = no classes!
Dec 5	Reflective Session with key principles
Dec 12	No classCollect Collins Feedback (online)
Spring 2026 (tentative)	
Jan 16	Collins Scholar Kick-Off Event (location TBA)
Jan 23	Faculty Panel (EIFs)
Jan 30	*Entrepreneurial Mindset (EM)
Feb 6	SIIP carousel (3-4 teams)
Feb 13	*EM and Curiosity I
Feb 20	Inclusive Teaching (Luther Tychonievich)
Feb 27	*EM and Curiosity II
Mar 6	Managing TAs (Blake Johnson & Mattox Beckman)
Mar 13	*EM and Connections I
Mar 20	Spring break = no classes
Mar 27	*EM and Connections II
Apr 3	Promotion and tenure panel (Philippe Geubelle & Tony Jacobi)
Apr 10	*EM and Creating Value I
Apr 17	Teaching Philosophy Statements (Tim Bretl)
Apr 24	AE3 Celebration of Teaching (Collins graduation+, 1-3pm)
May 1	Jeopardy Review game with prizes (end of Collins Scholar program)
May 8	*EM and Creating Value II
May 15	*EM "Wrap-up" session and awards!

WHAT DO PAST COLLINS SCHOLARS SAY ABOUT THE PROGRAM?

"It was really great and very informative. It's very surprising how many instructors don't apply many of the ideas we learned about. I'm looking forward to positive changes in my future classrooms."

"I really learned a lot. As a result, my teaching is much better and richer."

"The program has made me a better instructor. I'm more confident, more efficient, and connect with my students better as a direct result of practices and lessons learned in the Collins Scholar program."

QUICK RESOURCES

Center for Innovation in Teaching & Learning (CITL)

http://citl.illinois.edu/

Engineering IT

https://it.engineering.illinois.edu/

CONSIDER JOINING ASEE http://www.asee.org/

^{*}Entrepreneurial Mindset (EM) sessions are optional for Collins Scholar program