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Adjunct Faculty Academy Orientation Reflection/ Sept 15th 2012

I recently was accepted to be in the Adjunct Faculty Academy and today I attended the Academy's Orientation. I am already very excited to be a part of this program, and know that being involved in it will help me to become a better educator. A few months ago when I applied, I thought it might be a "long shot" to be chosen (since the candidates are chosen in a random selection), so when I heard the news I was excited to say the least! Since starting my employment here at SLCC, I've been learning and improving each semester, but still did not feel like I had a network of colleagues to bounce ideas off of, or a solid understanding of how the college (and specifically the math department), runs their courses. I feel lucky that SLCC has this Academy in place and want to get all that I can out of it.

One specific part of this Academy I am happy to be a part of is the mentoring program. I found out today that the faculty member who is paired up with me is somebody that I trust and already get along with. It will be nice to be able to use him as a resource for the questions I have. He is a very experienced faculty member here at Salt Lake Community College and has a lot to offer me, in terms of advice, tips, help on teaching and understanding the Math Department's policies and procedures.

I am also excited to be a part of the "Essential of College Teaching" FTLC 1000 course. I feel I will be able to learn a lot from the modules in the course on my own while also discussing my ideas with fellow adjunct faculty members. It is nice that this course is all online, while also set up with due dates to keep us on task and focused. One specific outcome I would love to leave with is more ideas on how to engage my students in classroom discussion and learning activities.

All in all, this orientation was a great way to start the Academy. It explained the requirements well, allowed us to meet fellow Academy members and mentors and got us eager to start the program!