



SUNY CHANCELLOR'S AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Meghan E. B. Pereira, M.Ed.

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Meghan Pereira, director of instructional design and distance learning, has exuded the tenets and transcended the normal definition of excellence at all levels during her nearly 15-year tenure at Buffalo State College.

Pereira is responsible for supporting the academic community on campus through development of trainings on educational technologies, supervising staff members to implement those trainings, and aligning all efforts with SUNY standards and initiatives. From 2012 to 2014, she led Buffalo State through a migration of learning management systems (LMS) from ANGEL to Blackboard. In 2016, she designed and implemented an innovative program called the Fostering Innovation in Teaching and Technology (FITT) Academy for faculty and staff members on campus. This program was well received by the campus community and has been touted as one of the most transformational professional development experiences available.

In response to COVID-19, Pereira was asked to serve on the Incident Management Team as well as the Presidential Advance Planning Team. In addition, she developed the college's Keep Teaching website and mobilized a team that provided 350 faculty development sessions over a six-month period, reaching more than 530 distinct full- and part-time faculty members. She provided stellar leadership in the face of an unprecedented challenge.

Because of her expertise during the LMS migration process at Buffalo State, she was selected to review LMS products at the SUNY level. Additional service outside the job description includes several leadership roles and spearheading numerous initiatives, participation on nine SUNY-wide committees, and service as the vice chair of SUNY's Directors of Online Learning and Distance Learning Environments, as well as the foundation of the Western New York Blackboard User Group, a consortium of more than 300 members from 47 institutions in the region. Additionally, Pereira has received Innovative Instructional Technology grants totaling \$100,000, has developed and implemented an AccessMOOC that has nearly 2,500 participants, and is the designer for one of the key pillars of the college's \$2.2 million Title III grant.

Nominator: John D. Draeger, Ph.D., Professor, Philosophy; Director, Teaching and Learning Center