



ST. CLOUD STATE
UNIVERSITY

PROVOST *Student-Centered Learning: Moving Forward Together* SUMMIT

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16, 2025 / Atwood Center Cascade and Voyageurs

Welcome!

Welcome to the 7th annual Provost Summit, organized by SCSU's Center for Excellence in Teaching & Learning. This non-teaching duty day for faculty is a chance for both faculty and staff to gather, recognize outstanding colleagues, engage as community, and learn together.

We look forward to this year's Keynote Speaker, Ronald J. Ferguson, Ph.D. Dr Ferguson will be presenting on achieving inclusive community via intentional leadership. Through a mixture of conversation and group activity, participants will explore the crossroads of belonging and opportunities for inclusive leadership. Faculty and staff will gain understanding in the crucial role of leadership (titled or not) in creating belonging. This includes including leading *with* our students to create sustainable progress toward a culture of belonging on campus.

Other highlights of the day include honoring recipients of the 2025 Minnesota State Board of Trustees Awards; announcing 2025-26 incoming SCSU Miller Scholars; and celebrating the scholarship of 2024-25 outgoing Miller Scholars. Five faculty and staff will share tid-bits of their student-centered work through short-form 10-minute presentations.

Please see the following pages for the complete schedule.

TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
8-8:20 a.m.	Coffee	Atwood Cascade
8:20-8:30 a.m.	Provost Katherina Pattit Welcome & Introductory Remarks Recognition of MinnState BOT Teaching & Service Honorees Join via Zoom: https://minnstate.zoom.us/j/91280222335	Atwood Cascade
8:30-9 a.m.	King Banaian SCSU's Core Values as Others See Them Join via Zoom: https://minnstate.zoom.us/j/91280222335	Atwood Cascade
9-10:30 a.m.	Keynote, Ron Ferguson, PhD Lead to Belong: Achieving Inclusive Community via Intentional Leadership Join via Zoom: https://minnstate.zoom.us/j/92294338390	Atwood Cascade

KEYNOTE SPEAKER / Ron Ferguson, PhD

Title: *Lead to Belong: Achieving Inclusive Community via Intentional Leadership*

In this keynote, Dr. Ronald Ferguson encourages attendees to take intentional approaches, as leaders in our respective circles, to empower those around us even amidst a milieu of disempowerment. Via a mixture of conversation and group activity, participants will explore the crossroads of belonging and opportunities for inclusive leadership. Ultimately, faculty and staff will gain understanding in the crucial role of leadership (titled or not) in creating belonging. This includes including leading *with* our students to create sustainable progress toward a culture of belonging on campus.



Ferguson Bio: Dr. Ronald Ferguson teaches sociology at Ridgewater College, where he offers courses in racial/ethnic studies and social problems. In addition to teaching, he served as one of Minnesota State's Equity and Inclusion Coordinators. Dr. Ferguson has published papers in: *Great Plains Sociologist*, *Sociological Imagination*, and *Educational Research: Theory and Practice*. A selection of works includes the evaluation of the college experience by Native American first year students as well as exploring the parenting process in biracial identity development. He also co-authored the book: *"What' up with the Brothers? Black Masculinity in the 21st Century."* Dr. Ferguson has a long history of pursuing positive educational change throughout Minnesota as well as ongoing participation with *The Minnesota Group Consulting*. In addition, he actively serves professional associations, including a previous position as president of the Sociologists of Minnesota. He currently resides in central Minnesota engaging in local efforts related to positive, systemic change.

TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
10:45 a.m. to Noon	<p>Short form 10-minute talks (+ discussion)</p> <p>Angela McDonnell, PhD, Assistant Professor, Biology: Biodiversity, Ecology, and Evolution program <i>Novel research in plant biology is accessible to everyone (well, everyone in BIOL306)</i></p> <p>Sarah Schaefer, EdD & Prachi Bengeri, M.S. Assistant Professors Department of Communication Sciences & Disorders <i>Fostering Reflective Practice and Collaborative Learning within Student Projects</i></p> <p>Katie Kuipers, MLIS, Affordability & Digital Initiatives Librarian, University Library <i>OER in Action: Empowering Faculty, Transforming Learning</i></p> <p>Ettien Koffe, PhD, English Professor, Department of Humanities <i>Leveraging AI in Academic Writing: The Benefits of the Centaurian Approach</i></p> <p>Sarah Sengupta, PhD Associate Professor of Operations and Supply Chain Management, Herberger Business School <i>Creating a Micro-Credential Ecosystem</i></p> <p>https://minnstate.zoom.us/j/95550988708</p>	Atwood Cascade
Noon to 1:30 p.m.	<p>Lunch, OER Showcase, & Miller Scholar Recognition</p> <p>Award recognition 2025-26 Miller Scholar</p> <p>Presentation by 2024-25 Miller Scholars Jen Atteberry and Amy Hilleren: <i>Nurturing Success: Implementing a Study Skills and Support Program for First Semester Nursing Students</i></p> <p>https://minnstate.zoom.us/j/92097026377</p>	Atwood Voyageurs

TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
1:30 to 3:00 PM	<p>AI PROMPT-A-THON. This hands-on workshop led by SCSU Online is open to all campus faculty and staff. Bring a device, a project you wish to create, and an open mind. Please register through Huskies Connect so we know how many to expect.</p> <p>Two options are offered to match your experience level</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Option 1: Introductory - Refine your AI prompting skills or get started with AI using Copilot • Option 2: Intermediate - Use Copilot Studio to create a personal AI agent with your own course data and documents. Generate quick summaries of recorded lecture transcripts; highlight key points in course documents/readings/materials/quizzes etc. <p>This is a hands-on workshop. We recommend in-person attendance. https://minnstate.zoom.us/j/98054426103</p>	Atwood Voyageurs

Student-Centered Learning: Moving Forward Together

Thank you for joining us today.

We would love your feedback on today's events. Please click on [this link](#) or the QR code below.



2025 Provost Summit Planning Committee

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Special Thanks to CETL Team: Paul Chappell; Fairouz Nawar; David Perrault

A photograph of a campus scene with trees in autumn colors and a building in the background, reflected in a body of water. A semi-transparent white box is overlaid on the image, containing the text 'PROVOST SUMMIT' in large, bold, sans-serif capital letters. The word 'PROVOST' is in a dark green color, and 'SUMMIT' is in a dark blue color. The box has a red decorative border at the bottom.

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St. Cloud State University is committed to legal affirmative action, equal opportunity, access and diversity of its campus community.
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