

WILLIAM & MARY
**STUDIO FOR
TEACHING &
LEARNING
INNOVATION**



ANNUAL REPORT **2020 - 2021**

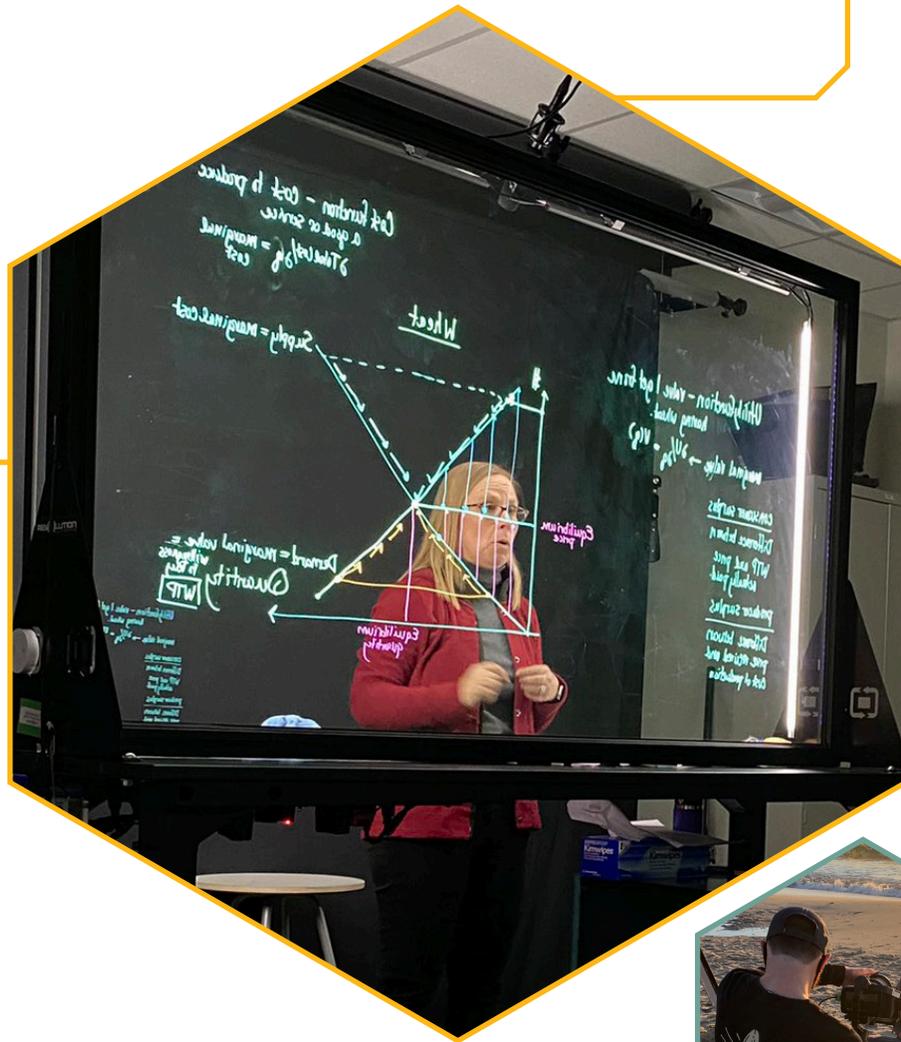


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Engage.
Connect.
Teach.
Incubate.
Learn.
Empower.
Explore.
Lead.

The Studio for Teaching & Learning Innovation inspires and advances teaching and learning across William & Mary.

We catalyze community and collaboration at the intersection of innovation, learning, and discovery.



Mark Hofer, Ph.D.

DIRECTOR

Letter from the Director

The 2020 - 2021 academic year was like no other. As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, William & Mary made an unprecedented shift to in-person, blended, and remote learning. Prior to the pandemic, less than 12% of faculty had taught in either blended or online modalities. Through two online courses, 1,000+ consultations, more than 50 events, and a myriad of partnerships, our team of staff, fellows, and student partners provided training and worked closely with faculty to advance teaching and learning. Across the university, we learned how to leverage the unique capabilities of digital tools to support learning while recognizing the importance of maintaining the deep human connections that are a hallmark of the W&M experience. We have heard numerous examples of creative ways faculty have leveraged virtual labs and simulations, organized Zoom guest lectures from experts from around the world, and engaged with the community in powerful ways.

At the same time, we have learned how important relationships and connections are to learning. Faculty have held Zoom office hours, students have collaborated using Google tools to create projects, and we all have a new appreciation for empathy and grace during this challenging time. We all must commit to continuing to foreground this relational element of teaching, even as we return to a more normal context.

While this past year was a struggle, we are more resilient, more capable, and more innovative than we were. We look forward to stepping into this exciting future together.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Hofer".

4 | OUR TEAM



Adam Barger
Associate Director for
Academic Innovation



Mike Blum
Program Manager



Amber Donnelly
Communications &
Creative Design Strategist



Nataki Hill
Office Manager &
Administrative Coordinator



Mark Hofer
Director



Amanda Morris
Instructional Design
Specialist



Roy Petersen
Senior Educational Media
Design & Production
Specialist



Sabrina Schaeffer
Educational Media
Assistant



Katalin Wargo
Instructional Design
Manager



Pablo Yañez
Program Manager

ADVISORY COUNCIL



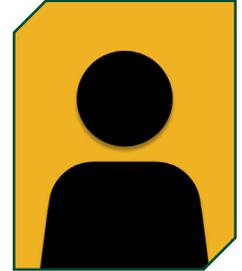
Roxane Adler Hickey
Washington Center



Stephanie Blackmon
School of Education



Grace Chiu
Virginia Institute of
Marine Science



Kelly Crace
Center for Mindfulness
& Authentic Excellence



Dawn Edmiston
Raymond A. Mason
School of Business



Sarah Glosson
Arts & Sciences
Graduate Center



Anna Hoskins
Undergraduate Student
Representative



Stacy Kern-Scheerer
Law School



Oliver Kerscher
Biology



Michael Luchs
Raymond A. Mason
School of Business



Heather Macdonald
Geology



Sylvia Mitterdorfer
Reves Center for
International Studies



Mike Murphy
Information Technology



Chris Nemacheck
Center for the Liberal
Arts



Lisa Nickel
University Libraries



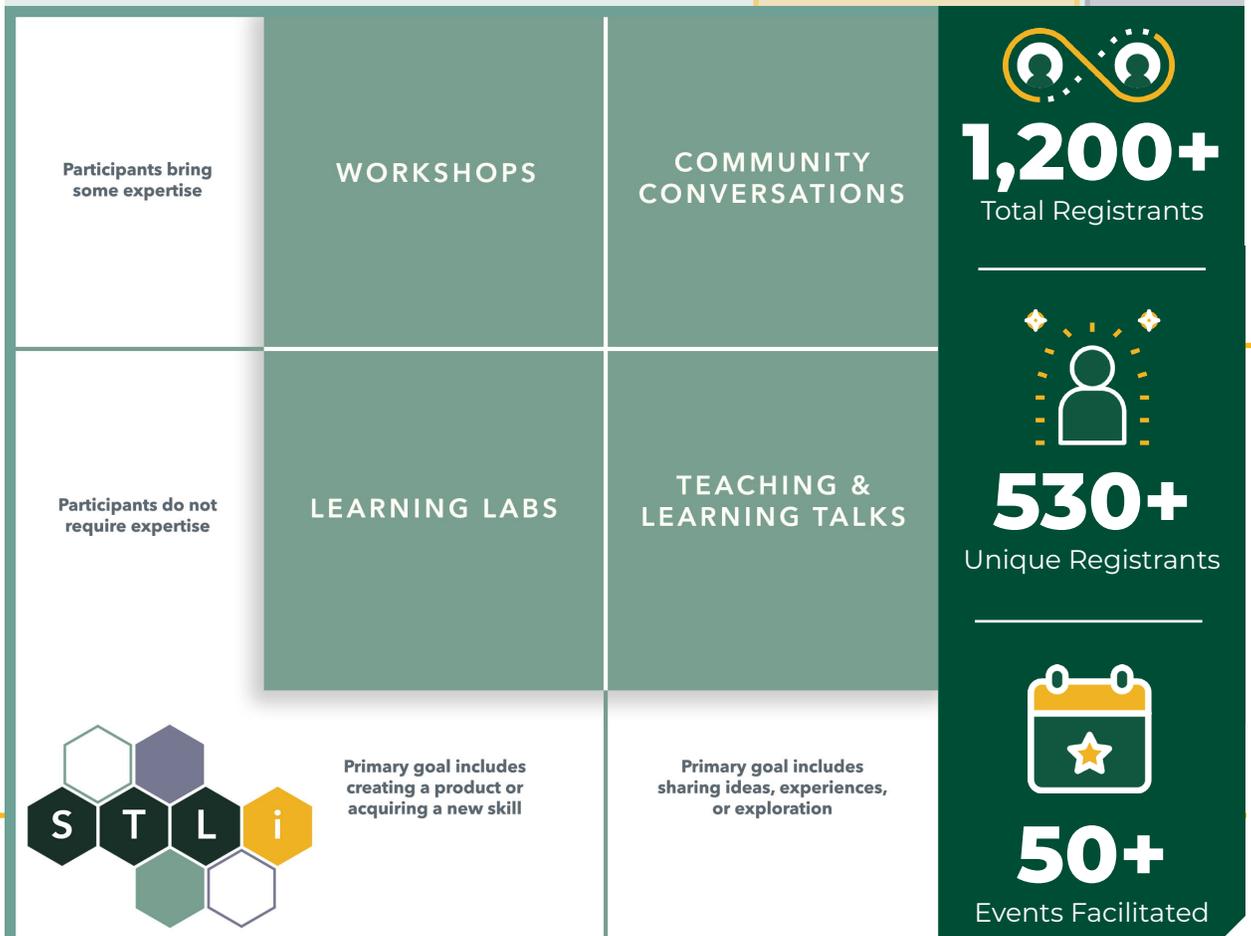
Kasey Sease
Graduate Student
Representative

Events & Programming

During Fall 2020, William & Mary faculty continued to face many challenges in adapting their courses to remote, hybrid, or modified in-person formats, creating a need for focused training. The studio also recognized a demand to continue signature programming and began offering a mix of traditional programming and sessions that focused on topics and skill sets aimed at supporting pandemic-specific needs.

By Spring 2021, anecdotal and survey feedback indicated most faculty felt more confident about teaching in new modalities, allowing STLI to reduce the amount of pandemic-related programming. STLI also developed a new framework to better structure programming. This new framework ensures participants are attending events that optimize their time and efforts while providing useful information to advance their knowledge and skillset.

STLI hosted “Inspiring Teaching & Learning (Even in a Pandemic!)” as part of the W&M sponsored 2021 One Tribe One Day event line-up. During the virtual event, parents, students, faculty, staff, and alumni shared ideas and discussed new opportunities for 2021 - 2022.



Teaching Innovation Fellows

In 2020, the studio established the STLI Fellowship Program to develop programming in collaboration with nine fellows from different units and departments. Funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation's New President's grant that supports institutional priorities identified by President Katherine Rowe, STLI fellows serve as pedagogical leaders and collaborators to support instructors across the university.

Fellows had a variety of responsibilities including moderating discussions during the Blended Learning @ W&M Course to facilitating their own workshops. During the '20 - 21 academic year, fellows hosted 11 virtual events and series with more than 200 asynchronous and synchronous registrants.

View the Fellows portfolio at stli.wm.edu/2021fellowsportfolio

2020 - 2021
FELLOWS

- Candice Benjes-Small
- Kristin Conradi Smith
- Paul Heideman
- Dana Lashley
- Sara Mattavelli
- Anne Rasmussen
- Meghan Sinton Miller
- Dana Willner
- Peiyu Yang



Consultations & Connections

As a critical service offered by the studio, consultations provide insight and help to identify trends resulting in a proactive approach to programming, resource allocation, and supports. To better track and identify needs, STLI program managers divide consultations into four main categories: **online course design seminar, noteworthy projects, classroom visits, and general teaching and learning help.** This method allows program managers to follow up on individual faculty projects, strengthen partnerships, and improve the support model.

1,000+

Total Consultations

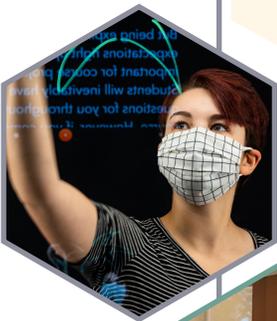
Consultations by Category

3%	6%	1%	90%
Online Course Design	Noteworthy Projects	Classroom Visits	General T&L Help

Student Partner Program

The Student Partner Program (SPP) pilot was launched in Spring 2020 with a focus on faculty-directed classroom observations. In Fall 2020, the program was expanded to support synchronous and asynchronous teaching and media production during the COVID-19 pandemic. The SPP was coordinated by two graduate fellows and approximately 25 student partners participated. During the 2020 - 2021 academic year, 37 William & Mary faculty members received either synchronous or asynchronous student partner support. An additional 12 faculty members were supported by Educational Media Student Partners for various projects. Student and faculty feedback has been overwhelmingly positive. Based on what we learned in '20 - 21, STLI is planning to expand the kinds of supports and student partnerships offered to faculty for the 2021 - 2022 academic year.

Learn more about SPP at stli.wm.edu/studentpartnerprogram



Graduate Partners

- Denise Lewis
- Kimberly Rodriguez

Undergraduate Partners

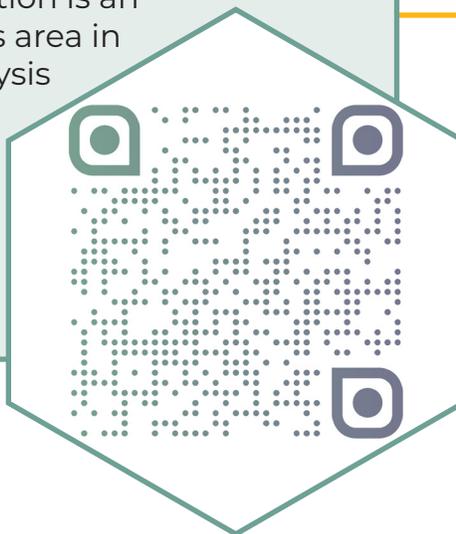
- Sydney Andes
- Cristal Badu
- Ruth Bekele
- Edward Clarke
- Jorge Conda
- Maxwell Fonss
- Guia Garcia
- Emmy Giacoia
- Abigail Gutleben
- Jacob Hall
- Sophia Hamilton
- Atiya Haque
- Madeline Helfer
- Grace Helmick
- Claire Hogan
- Katie Kasperson
- Kelsey Mcalister
- Shayna Midnick-Fizz
- Kylara Mundy
- Madeline Pudelka
- Tristan Ramage
- Madeleine Schuyler
- Katy Shinas
- Helen Tariku
- Emma Toner
- Rebecca Topness
- Solange Umuhoza
- Sam Vido
- Margaret Wells

2020 - 2021 STUDENT PARTNERS

STLI Sponsored Research

STLI Associate Director for Academic Innovation Adam Barger, graduate student Kelly Govain Leffel, and undergraduate student Mia Lott recently published a content analysis of 20 university academic innovation websites exploring the varied approaches, programming, and communication pathways of academic innovation as revealed through publicly available website content. The article discusses how academic innovation is an increasingly integrated effort and focus area in higher education institutions. The analysis also delves into the lack of consensus on what defines successful academic innovation and how best to contextualize efforts within a particular university environment.

Scan the code for more >>>



Surfacing Student Feedback

STLI collaborated with Tribe Innovation, a student consultancy, to co-sponsor two design sprint sessions on teaching & learning during the pandemic. The sprints generated insight and brought students, instructors, and administrators together to reflect and work towards unified goals.



- Students, staff, and faculty were invited to brainstorm on both the needs and potential solutions for managing learning during COVID-19.
- Tribe Innovation provided data analysis and recommendations for potential solutions and further programming to help the W&M community incorporate lessons learned next year.

Gradescope Pilot

Gradescope is a web-based assessment and feedback tool for efficient grading that provides tailored feedback on different types of learning assessments. Gradescope leverages artificial intelligence and specialized student feedback approaches to enable instructors to provide timely and unbiased feedback on varied assessment items including multiple-choice, short answer, formulas, drawings, computer code, and more. For 18 months, STLI led a phased academic innovation project to evaluate Gradescope as a potential addition to the William & Mary digital learning environment. Using a stage-gate approach, STLI conducted a small-scale trial, micro-pilot, and full campus pilot to better understand the constraints and affordances of Gradescope. Upon the completion of the pilot, the studio has recommended the adoption of Gradescope as an integral tool in the teaching and learning environment at William & Mary.

Instructor & Student Gradescope Feedback



90%

of **instructors** surveyed say they found it easy to create and manage activities and access and grade student work in Gradescope

of **students** surveyed found it easy to upload work and access and review graded work in Gradescope

“I could write so much regarding the usefulness of Gradescope. I generally teach courses with anywhere between 100 and 250 students and Gradescope has revolutionized the way that I grade exams.” – Arts & Sciences Instructor

“I found it to be very useful — I’d imagine it’s easier for professors to see, and I work better on paper than online, so I liked that format. I also appreciated the feedback from professors, as some classes I’m taking are not able to provide much feedback at all.” – Sophomore | Biology

“It is a somewhat steep learning curve to figure out how to use Gradescope, but it is well worth the time and effort.” – Arts & Sciences Teaching Assistant



Innovative Approaches + Educational Media

Motivated in part by the complexities of digital teaching and learning during the COVID-19 pandemic, STLI embarked on a significant effort to expand capacity for educational and digital media during 2020 - 2021. Advancements made this past year equipped STLI to create a new forward-facing platform with educational media assets such as a blog, podcasts, tutorials, and interdisciplinary film collaborations.

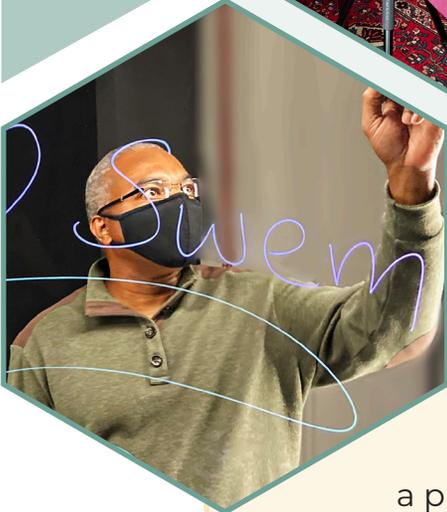
Lightboard Studio

The studio increased production capabilities by investing in a specialized lightboard studio. The lightboard expanded instructional video capacity by providing an authentic lecture and illustration format with the capability to teach synchronously.



Whole of Government Center of Excellence

STLI collaborated with the Whole of Government Center of Excellence (WGC) to develop online/hybrid courses for the WGC state initiative for public policy graduate learning experiences. The studio has collaborated on four new courses, two of which were developed fully in-house through STLI's Online Course Development Seminar. STLI evaluated hybrid courses designed and developed by the U.S. Office of Personnel Management. Findings included recommendations for a more learner-centered approach, accessible design interface, and a more professional approach to educational media. In addition to consultative services, STLI explored potential web-based platforms suited for non-credit bearing professional learning.



Physics Department

STLI designed, developed, and produced a series of long-form video podcasts of student experience and a promotional film for the Physics department. STLI also recorded a lecture on the Physics of Music for a COLL 100 course.

- Office of the Provost
- Information Technology
- University Libraries
- RFP for Strategic Partners in Online Learning
- Sharing Authority: Highland and Lemon Project
- Diversity & Inclusion
- Arts & Sciences Graduate Center
- Professional Schools
- Washington Center
- Cohen Career Center
- Whole of Government Center
- Blockchain Lab
- Center for the Liberal Arts
- Writing Resource Center
- Dean of Students Office
- Student Accessibility Services
- Office of the University Registrar
- Tribe Innovation
- Digital Scholarship Lab Committee
- Raymond A. Mason School of Business Center for Online Learning

Department of Theatre, Speech, and Dance

- STLI partnered with Professor of Dance Joan Gavalier and Professor of Theatre and Africana Studies Omiyemi (Artisia) Green for a series of innovative dance films and podcasts journaling their experience.



Sharing Authority: Highland & Lemon Project

STLI collaborated with multiple units and campus leaders on several aspects of the Sharing Authority Project, an Andrew W. Mellon-funded grant. 'Sharing Authority' seeks to engage campus and community relationships to foster dialogue, learning, and ongoing partnerships with the descendant communities. In partnership with the Lemon Project and James Monroe's Highland, STLI helped design and develop two new hybrid courses with Lemon Project Postdoctoral Research Fellow Jajuan Johnson and Highland Postdoctoral Research Fellow Maria DiBenigno. Additionally, the studio has begun planning for community-based educational media assets for future offerings of non-academic learning experiences.



Teaching & Learning Technologies Committee

STLI is partnering to co-chair a new Teaching & Learning Technologies Committee consisting of faculty and learning partners. This committee will serve to determine how to provide academic technology training and support for faculty in a systematic and proactive manner. Together the group will delineate roles and responsibilities for each unit and determine appropriate ways to navigate the procurement process for technology tool pilots and resources in connection with the academic innovation program.

Washington Center

As a continued partnership, STLI and the Washington Center are collaborating to record and produce a series of monthly community information films celebrating the 20th anniversary of the Washington Center. Together STLI and the Washington Center continue to grow hybrid programming through faculty recruitment, course design, and media support.



Digital Scholarship Lab Committee

STLI is collaborating with University Libraries, Information Technology, faculty, and learning partners from across the university to design a collaborative learning space on the main floor of Swem Library focused on digital scholarship. This space is envisioned to offer training, community, and the tools and resources needed to support students as they use digital tools to support their research in areas that include data analysis and visualization, geospatial analysis, multimodal communication, and more.

New Faculty Program

In 2021 - 2022, STLI will launch the New Faculty Program to support tenure-eligible, non-tenure eligible, and other full-time instructors as they join the W&M community. The on-ramp to all new faculty offerings is the Course Design Institute (CDI), which provides opportunities for instructors across all levels of experience to enhance and build upon course design knowledge and skills. Combined with mentoring opportunities and a community devoted to coming together, the CDI provides an opportunity to build and enhance higher education course design skills and create multiple products in preparation for the upcoming semester. The series is structured so that instructors will learn key strategies, create course elements, and then revise based on peer feedback opportunities provided throughout the series. As human connection is a hallmark of the William & Mary experience, this series models strategies for cultivating connection across disciplines and courses.



STLI Academy

The studio will begin offering high-quality professional learning opportunities for faculty, staff, and beyond in synchronous and asynchronous settings. STLI Academy will host a variety of online micro-courses created to engage and support professionals in cultivating new skills and knowledge that can be applied in their current roles. STLI Academy is a place to learn and grow professionally – with a focus on flourishing, creating, and developing both insight and practical skills. Courses are taught by experts from STLI, the William & Mary community, and beyond. Participants will discover short courses that are substantive, practical, purposeful, but more importantly – generative. STLI will continue to grow the course catalog.



STLI Fellowship Program

Professor of Dance Joan Gavalier and Senior Lecturer of English and Linguistics Leslie Cochrane have been selected to serve as the STLI Teaching Excellence Fellows for the 2021 – 2022 academic year. By focusing on strategic priorities for the university related to teaching and learning, the fellows will develop learning opportunities and programming for instructors across the university in collaboration with the STLI team.

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PROFESSOR COCHRANE'S FOCUS

Accessibility and universal design for learning alignment with William & Mary's values of belonging, flourishing, and respect



PROFESSOR GAVALER'S FOCUS

Performance pedagogy and discussion facilitation about the derivation of pedagogy from artistic practice influences

Student Partner Program Expansion

Since the initial launch of the Student Partner Program, STLI has restructured and expanded the program to provide focused areas of work that will best support faculty needs. As integral members of the STLI team, student partners will also participate in special projects, faculty engagement opportunities, and professional development trainings. Partners will also have the opportunity to work cross-functionally based on their interests.

Student Observation Partners

Partner with faculty for targeted classroom observations

Student Accessibility Partners

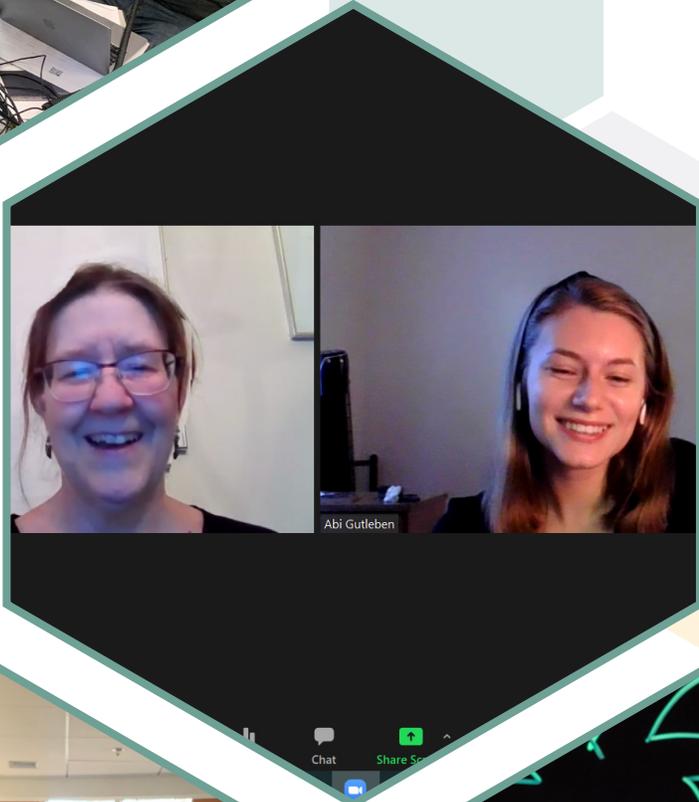
Assist students and faculty with accessibility needs

Student Feedback & Ideation Partners

Provide feedback and brainstorming for class materials

Student Media Production Partners

Design and produce educational media



THANK YOU

Our team is incredibly grateful for the continued support from our community, instructors, co-educators, donors, partners, students, and executive leaders.

We look forward to expanding our current initiatives and exploring new ones during the 2021 - 2022 academic year. For more information, visit stli.wm.edu or contact our team at stli@wm.edu.





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& LEARNING INNOVATION**