

Faculty Development Day

Teaching Today for Tomorrow's Success

Student Learning • Well-Being • Career Readiness

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August 26, 2026 • 8:30 a.m.-Noon • Guerrieri Academic Commons

ABOUT THE DAY:

How can we best prepare students for success in a rapidly changing world?

Salisbury University's Faculty Development Day brings together faculty, staff, and graduate students to examine approaches that support student learning, academic achievement, well-being, and career and professional success. Aligned with the University's strategic priorities of transformational learning, academic excellence, student success, and a thriving campus community, FDD highlights effective teaching and assessment practices, emerging student needs, workforce expectations, wellness, and strategies that help students and faculty flourish personally and professionally.

Keynote presentations and interactive breakout sessions give participants room to examine who our students are, what employers expect, and how we can strengthen learning inside and outside the classroom while advancing student success at every stage.

The program concludes with pathways for continuing the conversation through FLCs, CAFE, ID&D, and ACUE Commons initiatives.

THE DAY AT A GLANCE

TIME	SESSION
8-9 a.m.	Sammy's Supplies Open House (AC 165)
8:30-9 a.m.	Breakfast and Registration Assembly Hall (AC 462)
9-9:10 a.m.	Welcome Interim Provost & Vice President of Academic Affairs Jessica Clark: SU Strategic Plan Pillars
9:10-10:10 a.m.	Opening Keynote Melissa Granger, Sandy Pope, and Kim Fabbri-Greener
10:20-10:45 a.m.	Breakout Round 1 Choose one session
10:50-11:15 a.m.	Breakout Round 2 Choose one session
11:20-11:45 a.m.	Breakout Round 3 Choose one session
11:50 a.m.-Noon	Final Thoughts Sharing of future programming and other resources to support topics discussed during today's event.
Noon-1:15 p.m.	Lunch in the Commons Dining Hall (courtesy of the Office of the Provost)

OPENING KEYNOTE — THREE VOICES ON STUDENT SUCCESS

9:10-10:10 a.m. A shared session built around three short presentations

- : **Melissa Granger | The Students We Serve**
A snapshot of today’s SU students: who they are, what they are experiencing inside and outside the classroom, and what faculty and staff should know about supporting them.
- : **Sandy Pope | From High School to Higher Ed**
Lessons from previous work with high school students and teachers, with examples of how SU teaching and assessment practices have been adjusted in response.
- : **Kim Fabbri-Greener | What Employers Want**
Highlights from national and regional employer surveys on the attributes and skills sought in new graduates, and how we can help students meet those expectations using current data.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Round 1: 10:20-10:45 a.m. | Round 2: 10:50-11:15 a.m. | Round 3: 11:20-11:45 a.m.

Session topics repeat, choose one session per round

SESSION TITLE	SESSION DESCRIPTION
Bridging High School and College Learning Sandy Pope with Pat Dittrich, Retired Educator Faculty Lounge (AC 230)	A conversation across the transition point: what students arrive with, where expectations diverge, and how SU classrooms can meet students where they are.
Knowing Our Students Melissa Granger, Jake Alspaugh, and Jeff Dean Assembly Hall (AC 462)	A closer look at current student needs, the first-year experience, and General Education student learning outcomes, with practical takeaways for courses at every level.
Ask Me Anything SU Instructional Designers and Librarians Assembly Hall (AC 462)	Have questions about intentional course design, student engagement, or preparing learners for what’s next? Ask away. This informal roundtable invites participants to discuss their ideas, challenges, and goals while exploring how instructional designers and librarians can support effective learning experiences in this challenging educational environment.
The Employer Panel Kim Fabbri-Greener with Madison Adams, Wicomico County; Erin Houlihan, TidalHealth; Sidnee McGee, Virginia Spaceport Authority; and Samantha Steinhoff, Enterprise Mobility AC 220H (within Instructional Design & Delivery)	Regional employers discuss the skills and attributes they look for in SU graduates, and how classroom and co-curricular experiences can build them.
Panel Discussion: Developing Student Communication and Teamwork Competencies Leslie Swift, Greg Chown, Kevin Glover, Rachel Burton, Ron Siers, and Kelly Cowger AC 280 (near Center for Student Achievement)	A hands-on look at structuring, guiding, and assessing collaborative student work, including graduate courses. Group projects as an alternative to individual assignments, with examples and strategies for building teams that work. The facilitators lead with examples, and participants come ready to share their own.
Wellness as a Foundation for Success Lisa Marquette, Terry Passano, Dawn Keter, Lindsey Parker, Vinita Agarwal, and Helen Polak Nabb Center Classroom (within the Nabb Center, AC 430K)	Caring for faculty and staff well-being as a wellness model for our students and colleagues. How wellness shapes learning for students, faculty, and staff, and where campus resources can remove barriers to success. Come with your questions and ideas.



BREAKOUT SESSIONS
<https://tinyurl.com/5cfdd89v>

Sponsored by SU Faculty Development Committee, CAFE, and ID&D