

**ESTABLISHING A CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AND
LEARNING BASED ON THE USA MODEL IN UZBEKISTAN**

*A. Musoeva*¹

Abstract:

This article provides a thorough analysis of the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, a vital institutional resource that supports university students, faculty, researchers, and staff. It suggests that implementing the center in Uzbekistan would be advantageous. Besides, this article thoroughly examines the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, providing insights into its administrative systems, current procedures, and pedagogical approaches. It is recommended that universities in Uzbekistan should create a center to help, support, and meet the needs of students within the university community. It delves into the various academic opportunities that could be offered by a Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning to enhance the quality of education.

Key words: center for excellence in teaching and learning, pedagogical approaches, academic establishments, collaborative education, transition

doi: <https://doi.org/10.2024/mOfk6575>

Introduction

The concepts presented in this article were formed during my tenure as a visiting scholar at the University of Wisconsin Eau Claire in the United States of America. My objective as a visiting scholar and FEP finalist was to acquire invaluable insights through practical experiences in the United States. Throughout the academic year of 2024, I accumulated a multitude of experiences and reflections that served as the impetus for this paper, which emphasizes the importance of the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, specifically within Uzbekistan universities.

Education is essential for a country's advancement as it helps in nurturing skilled individuals. In today's era of globalization, competition in various industries is becoming more intense, highlighting the importance of education in preparing the younger generation with the necessary skills and knowledge. Improving the quality of education in Uzbekistan is primarily focused on educational reform. Establishing the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning in universities in Uzbekistan is a vital reform that needs to be implemented without delay.

A focus on the past 20 years has shown an evolution in International Higher Education from the concept of teaching to the concept of learning. As universities in developing nations make the transition to become regional and international in quality it is important to the university administrators and the ministries of education to develop strategies to support this evolution from teaching to

¹ *Musoeva Aziza Botirovna, Samarkand State Institute of Foreign Languages*

learning. This paper argues that an integral piece of this transition is the presence of a center for teaching and learning excellence.

Over the past two decades, International Higher Education has shifted its focus from teaching to learning. Universities in developing countries are striving to enhance their standards on both regional and global levels. To facilitate this transition, the higher education system in Uzbekistan should prepare accordingly, with university administrators and education ministries working together to develop strategies. This paper asserts that a crucial element of this transition is the establishment of a center focused on improving teaching and learning.

According to research, universities in developing countries should consider setting up a center for teaching and learning excellence on their campuses [1]. This center focuses on providing ongoing training for graduate students to excel as university professors, as well as improving the teaching and curriculum development abilities of current instructors at the host university and other institutions. These skills are closely tied to curriculum development, making it essential for a center like this to be part of the Chief Academic Officer's office. An experienced professor or senior lecturer should lead the coordination, with assistance from an instructional design expert [2].

The University of Wisconsin Eau Claire has established its CETL Mission. The Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL) offers programs and support to help teachers and staff improve their skills as educators. They provide a comprehensive environment for professors and staff to convene for personal and professional development, with a particular emphasis on teaching, learning, and instructional technology.

They do this by encouraging discussions on teaching and learning on campus and offering chances to enhance evidence-based teaching and learning via seminars, group sessions, and individual consultations. They assist education by adapting to changes at local, state, and national levels and working with educators to implement and assess instructional methods. The CETL personnel has a unique blend of higher education backgrounds and expertise, which provide UW-Eau Claire teachers effective teaching strategies to support our unit's objective. CETL has a tight affiliation with LTS members who support CETL's objectives [3].

The study identifies seven criteria for establishing the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning at universities. Good practice promotes student-faculty communication, and Centers for teaching and learning excellence may facilitate this relationship. Furthermore, promoting collaboration among students is a key aspect of effective practice, allowing for the training and encouragement of strategies to enhance collaborative education in centers dedicated to teaching and learning excellence. Furthermore, promoting active learning via effective teaching and learning centers may assist educators in enhancing student engagement. This is particularly crucial in institutions under development, where students may have often been passive recipients of instruction. In addition, offering timely and continual feedback to students is beneficial for growing schools. Moreover, dedicating sufficient time to tasks is essential for enhancing the performance of both the student and the growing institution. Furthermore, excellent practice conveys high expectations and values varied skills and learning styles [2].

Many institutions in less developed countries are shifting from a traditional lecture-based method to a student-centered, outcome-focused classroom

International Conference

HUMANISTIC ROLE OF LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE IN THE CONTEMPORARY GLOBALIZATION

structure. These institutions may utilize the research conducted in affluent countries to support this new teaching approach in Uzbekistan universities.

With the shift towards outcome-based education, the significance of meaningful evaluation has grown. A center for teaching and learning excellence should not only facilitate learning but also enable advanced assessment to effectively record such learning.

The center for teaching and learning excellence may enhance university instructors' pedagogical thoughts and abilities. Research shows a recognized need to enhance these abilities, leading to a broad trend of educating lecturers in many nations. Formal training for new and current university professors has been shown to significantly enhance the quality of teaching at the institution [4].

The center for teaching and learning excellence will serve as a hub for professors seeking assistance in creating and disseminating their research. At the very least, it should provide support for revising articles and advice for submitting papers. Research design support, including statistical analysis, may be provided by the Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence.

The study shows that establishing a center for teaching and learning excellence is crucial for enhancing teaching and learning skills, as well as for fostering research abilities in prospective foreign language educators [5].

In summary, this article explores the rationale for creating a similar center in Uzbekistan and outlines the steps to construct it, inspired by successful university programs focused on teaching and learning excellence. The main goal of promoting this institution is to improve and enrich education in Uzbekistan across all academic disciplines. This planned center at universities in Uzbekistan aims to address the lack of teaching and learning excellence centers focused on teachers' academic growth. It seeks to provide instructors with essential competences and experiences.

References:

- [1]. Roberts, Keith (2009) *Capacity Building for New Model Universities*. Hanoi, Vietnam.
- [2]. Roberts, Keith (2013) "A Model for a Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence: A Catalyst for Program Improvement in Developing Institutions", *Excellence in Higher Education* 4, pp. 108-118. ISSN: 2153-9669 (print), 2153-9677 (online) | doi: 10.5195/ehe.2013.98 | <http://ehe.pitt.edu>
- [3]. Information about the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning at University of Wisconsin Eau Claire from website. [Online]. Available: <https://www.uwec.edu/center-excellence-teaching-learning/>
- [4]. Postareff, Liisa, Sari Lindblom-Ylänne, and Anne Nevgi. (2007). "The Effect of Pedagogical Training on Teaching in Higher Education." *Teaching and Teacher Education* 23 (5): 557-571.
- [5]. Musoeva, A. The importance of developing research competence of future foreign language teachers // *Journal of Science Sources – Vol 1, No. 1. – Uzbekistan. – 102-105 pp.*