REGISTRATION FORM
Make check payable to EPCC (or include PO#) and mail to:
El Paso Community College
ATTN: Faculty Development Office
P.O. Box 20500
El Paso, TX 79998-0500
Fax: 915-831-2738
Email: anar@epcc.edu

Name of Participant: ________________
Teaching Area: ____________________

Please Reserve Place(s) for __________ (number of participants).

College: ___________________________
College Address: ___________________
City: __________________ State: _______
Zip: ______________________________
Telephone: _________________________
Email: _____________________________
Fax: _______________________________

Accommodations: __________________
[ ] Disabled access room
[ ] Pets: fee of $25 per night (please inform if you will be bringing more than one pet)
Roommate/Guest (if known): _________

Enclosed: (check as applicable)
____$50 deposit for Seminar
____$420 S.W. Seminar (shared room)
____$530 S.W. Seminar with private room
____Purchase Order # ________

Requests for early arrival/late departure:
Each additional night will be billed at $110 per night.

EARLY ARRIVALS
List date which you plan to arrive

LATE DEPARTURES
List date which you plan to depart

SPECIAL REQUESTS:

PARKING: The Inn at Loretto charges a fee of $10 per day per vehicle for parking. This amount is not included in the registration fees.

OCTOBER 29 - OCTOBER 31, 2015
The seminar will open with an orientation session and dinner on the evening of the 29th. On Friday, October 30th, breakfast will be provided followed by morning sessions and a luncheon at 12:15 p.m. Participants will have the afternoon off as free time to explore the Santa Fe area. At 7 p.m., we will reconvene to finalize the Saturday morning participant created sessions followed by dinner. On Saturday, October 31st, breakfast will be provided followed by morning sessions until noon.

REGISTRATION
In order to make the seminar accessible to all college teachers, we have endeavored to keep costs low. The total registration fee for the seminar is $420. This amount covers all registration fees, plus five delicious meals and two nights lodging at double occupancy. Private rooms are available for those who desire single occupancy and/or wish to bring a guest. A private room for the entire Seminar (two nights) is available for an additional $110. Participants who wish to arrive early or extend their stay should make a note on the registration form. Rates for each additional night will be $110 per night. Included in the room rates are all taxes, free Wi-Fi, and resort fees (use of exercise room, business center, pool, etc.). Requests for a disabled access room should be noted on the registration form. Please do not contact the hotel regarding lodging. We will add your name to the room block we have reserved for this Seminar.

Due to the unique nature of this Seminar, the total number of participants will be limited. Thus, colleges/individuals are encouraged to apply early, if at all possible. Individuals/colleges can reserve a place by including a $50 deposit with their registration form. To guarantee a place, we should receive your registration plus a $50 deposit or full payment by October 9, 2015. Unless prior arrangements have been made, all fees should be paid prior to the start of the Seminar. Refunds may be subject to a $10 handling fee. No refunds after October 10th. However, with prior notice, we can transfer your registration to another participant. Space permitting, registration applications will be accepted until seven days prior to the start of the Seminar.

INFORMATION
For more information on the Seminar, contact:
El Paso Community College
ATTN: Faculty Development Office
P.O. Box 20500
El Paso, Texas 79998-0500
(915) 831-2201
Fax: (915) 831-2738
Email: anar@epcc.edu
Or visit us at our website at:
www.epcc.edu/facultydevelopment

The El Paso County Community College District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, gender, age, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, or gender identity.

27th ANNUAL SOUTHWEST SEMINAR FOR GREAT TEACHING
EXPLORING TODAY’S TEACHING CHALLENGES

October 29-October 31, 2015
The Inn and Spa at Loretto
Santa Fe, NM

Sponsored by

The Best Place to Start!
PHILOSOPHY
This Southwest Seminar for Great Teaching is based on the premise that college faculty are a rich resource that needs to be tapped via a format which encourages learning from each other. The Southwest Seminar for Great Teaching takes a participant-centered focus that allows those in attendance to determine much of the content. Thus, unlike traditional conferences, there are few presenter-led sessions. Instead, the participants are actively involved in each session in that they are asked to reflect upon their experiences and contribute their ideas to the topic at hand.

THEME SESSIONS
This year’s theme session will begin with Thursday evening “home” groups, wherein participants will get acquainted and in-line with our theme of exploring teaching challenges, develop a listing of those things one should and should not say on the first day of class, and discuss their expectations of the conference. Later, the participants will return to their original/home groups and report back on how their expert group addressed the topic at hand. Thus, all participants will eventually share in the knowledge generated by each expert group.

1. Effective Use of Course Tools and Teaching Online Classes - Come prepared to share your strategies for teaching online classes. Participants will share their own experience/knowledge. Trained facilitators will guide the expert groups in the development of teaching tips, practical suggestions, and examples that address each of the topics. Afterwards, the participants will return to their original/home groups and report back on how your expert group addressed the topic at hand. Thus, all participants will eventually share in the knowledge generated by each expert group.

2. Getting My Students to Participate: Successes and Challenges - This group will involve a sharing of techniques for promoting critical thinking, testing techniques, structuring of discussions and reports. These workshops are often on topics that are overlooked by traditional conferences.

3. How I Use Games and Role Playing in My Classes - This group will share examples of games/role playing exercises that one uses in their classes and their purpose.

4. How I Reduce Student Anxiety - This group will involve a sharing of techniques for reducing anxiety in the following areas: test taking, class discussions, class participation, and report writing. Facilitators for the seminar are drawn from the faculty at El Paso Community College and from New Mexico State University.

5. Assessing the Effectiveness of the Community as a Classroom - Come prepared to share your best student success practices in the following areas: time management, textbook reading strategies, note taking, getting students to seek help from the teacher or tutoring labs.

6. Diffusing the Confrontational Student - Sometimes instructors encounter students who challenge the teacher’s knowledge, perspective, or classroom rules. For example, the student may engage in continuous open disagreement with the instructor involving facts or continually present opposing viewpoints. Participants are asked to come with examples of confrontational students and share your strategies for dealing with the situation. The group will offer feedback on positive ways to handle these situations.

PARTICIPANT SESSIONS
A second set of breakout sessions will be based on issues that arose during the opening theme session. Seminar facilitators will be focusing for recruiting theme/issues that arose during the theme session. These issues, plus any others suggested by the participants, will form the basis for the closing set of workshops. These workshops are often on topics that are overlooked by traditional conferences.

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES
We believe that a seminar should provide an environment that encourages collegiality and relaxation. Thus, we have arranged for the following informal/optional activities:

1. My Critical Thinking Techniques - Participants will share their techniques for promoting critical thinking via discussions of awkward scenarios and how they were handled.

2. Getting My Students to Participate: Successes and Challenges - This group will involve a sharing of techniques for promoting critical thinking, testing techniques, structuring of discussions and reports. These workshops are often on topics that are overlooked by traditional conferences.

3. How I Use Games and Role Playing in My Classes - This group will share examples of games/role playing exercises that one uses in their classes and their purpose.

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WHAT TO EXPECT
Feedback from the participants indicates that the Seminar produces results on several levels. On a practical level, much information concerning teaching methodology, programs, etc. is shared among participants. As a regional meeting, participants are encouraged to network and education for the purposes of enabling community members to design, prototype and create manufactured works that wouldn't be possible to create with the resources available to individuals working alone.

FREE TIME - Participants will have ample time on Friday afternoon to explore the Santa Fe area.

The Inn and Spa at Loretto is a four-star facility located adjacent to the Loretto Chapel and a one block walk to the Old Town Plaza. Participants are invited to tour the Inn and Spa and to enjoy the famous Tano Pueblo. Inside the hotel one sees a blend of Pueblo, Native American, and Spanish cultures. The Inn at Loretto has consistently ranked among the top 5 hotels in the Southwest and among the top 30 in the U.S.A. by Conde Nast Traveler, Trip Advisor, and Travel and Leisure. The Spa at Loretto is ranked among the top 75 hotels in the U.S. This hotel offers updated rooms and all of the amenities one would expect from a first-class hotel. To learn more about the Inn and Spa at Loretto, visit their website at www.innloretto.com.

SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO
Santa Fe is the capital city in the United States. It is situated at the foot of the Sangre de Cristo mountains which contain lush mountain forests and alpine scenery. However, Santa Fe is most noted for its art, culture, and museums. In the old town area, one can stroll along streets lined with art galleries and fine dining. In addition, there are many museums, an array of performing arts, and historic buildings. Nearby are numerous Native American pueblos. In addition, it is a short and scenic drive to Taos and the famous Rio Grande gorge.

TRANSPORTATION
Santa Fe is located approximately one hour north of Albuquerque, New Mexico. The nearest major airport is in Albuquerque. We can provide information and rates for the several shuttle services and the Red Runner train running from the Albuquerque International Airport to Santa Fe. The Inn at Loretto charges a fee of $10 per day per vehicle for parking. Thus, participants are encouraged to carpool or use the various shuttle services. Once at the Inn participants can easily walk to the plaza, galleries, museums, etc.