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Blair Mackenzie, Managing Editor

EdD, MFA, MBA, BA

Arts & Sciences Professor

bmackenzie@galencollege.edu

Dara Lanman, Editor-in-chief

MSN, RN, CNE

Senior Director of Curriculum and Instruction

Associate Professor

dlanman@galencollege.edu

Student Experience Department Announces Exciting Updates

Anouncing an exciting reorganization of Galen's student advising support services! New updates are the result of an in-depth review of Galen's current model and are designed to address the evolving needs of our students. Additionally, this advising model is designed to scale and meet the needs of our growth strategy. We have built a true academic advising model by focusing on relationships, student persistence monitoring, advisor access, and targeted interventions. The objectives of the reorganization are to:

- Improve the quality of student advising across the College
- Initiate the advising relationship early on
- Provide students with on-demand student advising for frequently asked questions and referrals
- Leverage faculty insight to focus student support efforts
- Track, measure, and adapt the model based on future data
- Create a scalable and sustainable model for future growth

ASSIGNED ADVISING

Every Galen student will be assigned an Academic Advisor from the moment they enroll in the College. A student's advisor will follow them from enrollment to graduation, helping with success planning and monitoring progress along the way.

ON-DEMAND ADVISING CHAT

The flagship feature of the new academic advising model is an on-demand, online chat for students. Driven by the power of Zoom, the chat feature will be in All Access and include real-time chat, audio, video, screensharing, and file share capabilities.

Available from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm Monday-Thursday and 8:00 am to 4:00 pm Friday, [On-Demand Advisors will be able to:](#)

- Quickly answer frequently asked questions
- Conference in subject matter experts from various departments through our existing Zoom ecosystem
- Provide on-demand student assistance with Canvas and Zoom
- Refer and schedule appointments for various academic support services
- And more!

This is just the beginning of Galen's new Academic Advising model. The Student Experience department is highly focused on elevating our advising services. If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact [Laura White](#), Director of Student Experience.

Galen's Alpha Beta Zeta Sigma Chapter: What You Need to Know

Elizabeth Brown, DNP, RN, CNE, ABZ
Graduate Program Counselor
Pamela Carver, DNO, ANP-BC, CNE, COI
ABZ Governance Committee Chair

Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing was founded in 1922 by six nurses at what is now known as Indiana University Nursing School, in Indianapolis Indiana, where the organization's headquarters continue to be located. Sigma's vision is to connect and empower nurses across the globe to achieve the mission of developing nurse leaders who can improve healthcare everywhere. Sigma has grown to be a prestigious honor society, with more than 100,000 members in over 600 chapters in 100 countries worldwide. Sigma collaborates and advocates globally to improve the health of the world's people, including representation at the United Nations.

Member benefits include:

Continuing Nursing Education (CNE)

- More than 95 FREE online continuing education courses.
- Partner with the Sigma Marketplace to adopt online continuing education or nursing books for course content.
- Receive discounts on Sigma nursing books.



Get published and present at a Sigma event

- Are you looking to publish or present? Sigma online journals (*Journal of Nursing Scholarship* and *Worldviews of Evidence-Based Nursing*) or one of the many Sigma events offer many opportunities to hone your skills.
- Sigma's journals provide the latest on nursing research and trends. Use your access to find case studies and articles relevant to your work in the classroom.



The Circle — Join the conversation

- Join the nurse Educator Community of Interest on The Circle, Sigma's member-only online community and professional networking site. Connect with nursing educators from around the world to collaborate, share resources and ask questions.



Leadership Development — Become a mentor or career advisor

- Use your expertise and educational background to become a Career advisor or Mentor and help other Sigma members advance their nursing career.
- Take advantage of Sigma's leadership institutes and academies – Center of Excellent in Nursing Education and The International Leadership Institute – to advance your career and further develop your leadership skills.



Community Connections with the Circle and Your Chapter

- Meet your nursing students where they are and continue their professional development outside of the classroom. As an educator, involvement with your local Sigma chapter and student members will help further hone the professional and personal skills of the next generation of nurses.



Sigma's Eligibility Criteria

- ◇ BSN
 - Completed at least 50% of the required nursing credits
 - At least 3.0 out of a 4.0 GPA
 - Rank in top 35% of the campus cohort
 - Meet expectations of academic integrity
- ◇ MSN
 - Completed at least 25% of the credit hours in the MSN program tracks
 - At least 3.5 out of 4.0 GPA
- ◇ Nurse Leader Criteria
 - Minimum of baccalaureate or equivalent in any field
 - Demonstrate achievement in nursing excellence
 - Legally recognized to practice nursing

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In the spring of 2022, Sigma chartered Galen's Alpha Beta Zeta chapter. Since our chartering, we have grown to a proud chapter of nearly 350 members. We hold biannual induction ceremonies (April and October) and offer two annual continuing education events. In November of 2022, Dr. Lori Brodie presented "*The Multidimensional Role of Acceptance in Nursing.*" In May of 2023, we held our inaugural Scholars Day event, "*Nursing Scholarship in Action: Making a Difference,*" which showcased scholarship, research and innovation of Galen's faculty, graduates and students. Both events were widely attended and received extremely positive feedback with excitement about future events. In addition to these local events, there are many opportunities to become involved in the ABZ chapter to grow your leadership through serving on committees or as a chapter officer.

Members are invited to join biannually based on the achievement of professional and academic standards. BSN, RN-BSN and Graduate students are selected based on current academic standards and program progression (see eligibility criteria). Invitations are sent approximately 6 weeks in advance of the annual April and October inductions and the electronic invitation comes directly from Sigma to join Galen's ABZ chapter. Faculty who are not Sigma members can apply for membership as a nurse leader any time throughout the year. If you or a student has received an invitation in the past, the invitation to join can still be accepted. Visit [Sigma Membership](#) to join or renew your membership.

For additional information about Sigma, contact the authors of this article or visit [Sigma Home Page](#).

Logo/pics for use in Faculty Focus (I would suggest putting the logo at the top by the article title):



Attention all Galen Employees

As we continue to grow, we look for more opportunities to improve our processes. Our next improvement is moving the employee password reset function to the cloud. This service is called Microsoft Self-Service Password Reset or SSPR for short. You might remember this change was made for students back in February.

What is happening?

We are moving the employee password reset app to the cloud.

Who will this change affect?

All Galen Employees

When is this happening?

August 29, 2023

Do I need to do anything ahead of time?

You can check to make sure you have already registered your desired authentication methods in the [SSPR Portal](#). This is probably already set with your cell phone number when you setup your MFA. *There is nothing else for you to do at this time.*

Why is this happening?

The current process, known as Self-Help Password Reset, consists of enrolling into a service that must be updated, configured, and maintained on a regular basis. Ten years ago, it was relevant. Now it's old technology and we have an opportunity to move this service to the cloud.

What if I have questions?

If you have any questions or issues, please direct them to your local IT Technician or go [here to open a support ticket](#).

Second Job, Business Ownership, or Side Hustle

Blair Mackenzie, EdD, MFA, MBA, BA
Arts & Sciences Professor

If you are considering taking a second job (a gig), starting a business, or pursuing a side hustle (freelancer) in addition to your full-time employment at Galen College of Nursing, there are important policies to consider that can be found in the Employee Handbook on the ERC under Policies and Procedures. Before you make any decision to pursue additional income, review these pertinent parts of the Employee Handbook.



Intellectual Property

Galen owns or licenses the rights in and to various materials, software, and other content. This includes information published on Galen websites (such as data and reports), as well as curriculum content and materials associated with that curriculum content (such as lectures, handouts, examinations and examination results, and presentations), collectively referred to here as Galen Materials or Materials.

Galen Materials are considered the property of Galen (or its licensor(s)), who retain all rights, title, and interest in and to such Materials. While Galen employees, including faculty, staff, and/or student employees may be able to access the Galen Materials and/or use them to perform their job duties, the Materials are considered confidential and are not for public consumption. Employees may not share the Materials with persons, entities, or agencies outside of Galen unless such sharing is required by law or has been approved in writing by the Compliance Department. All requests to share Galen Materials outside of the College must be approved in advance by Galen's Institutional Review Board (IRB) or Compliance Department.

During the course of their employment with the College, faculty and staff may create within the scope of their employment various works, documents, techniques, or other content, such as instructional devices or techniques, software, and developments or improvements to online courses (collectively referred to here as Content). All such Content is considered "works for hire" and is the property of Galen, who shall retain all rights, title, and

interest in and to such Content unless expressly agreed to in writing by Galen and the employee. Such Content will be considered Galen Materials. Galen employees who create Content will promptly disclose and describe to the Curriculum Department each item of Content. Exemptions to this policy shall be considered on a case-by-case basis and may be submitted to the Curriculum Department.

Ownership rights to traditional products of scholarly activity such as articles for publication and the review or development of textbooks shall be retained by the creator of such products, which shall not be considered Content under this policy.

If an employee has Galen Materials in his or her possession when his or her employment with the College ends, he or she must immediately return the Materials to the College.

Outside Employment/Non-compete

Outside employment is permitted provided it does not divide or appear to divide an employee's business loyalty or reduce his/her ability to perform assigned duties, including attendance and participating in staff, faculty, committee and town hall meetings. Outside employment must be discontinued if it has an adverse effect on an employee's work performance, is competitive with Galen, or is a conflict of interest. Immediate supervisors must be informed if an employee is employed outside Galen as soon as employment is accepted.

Faculty members agree not to enter the employment of or otherwise perform services for a "Competing Institution," nor solicit, induce or attempt to entice an employee to leave Galen. Signing an offer letter is an implicit acknowledgement of agreement. A "Competing Institution" shall mean a for-profit post-secondary school (other than Galen) offering nursing or other allied health program(s).



If you do read and understand these policies to which all employees must adhere, you may want to next consider the pros and cons of any endeavor to earn a second income stream. No choice will come with benefits only. There will be many considerations to take into account, and no decision should be made without reflection and consultation with others.

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Second Job

Some second jobs or gigs may help you acquire new skills and broaden your experience that can reinforce and enhance your career at Galen. A second job can help you pay debts, build savings, and fund specific goals for you and your family. One advantage of a second job comes from new networking opportunities that can provide valuable connections. A second job (even if it is part-time) can be demanding on your time, but it can also help you hone your time management skills and make you more efficient at your Galen job as well.



Before taking that second job, weigh the demands that will be part of a second job, especially when added to your full-time Galen position. While extra income may seem appealing, you do not want to jeopardize your mental and physical health. In addition to the time and energy a second job will demand, working more will take away from rest, relaxation, personal life, and social activities.

Starting a Business

While starting a business can be gratifying, it can also be intensely time consuming. With your own business, you can decide when you will engage in your business activities, but you also undertake financial risk and the uncertainty of market fluctuations.

A business can be as grand or as manageable as you decide. For example, a woman makes soap in her basement because all soaps she tried make her itch. She makes the soap to alleviate a personal problem. Another woman makes soap in her basement and sells it on Etsy and Amazon.



Side Hustle

The term side hustle has been trending on newsfeeds and social media since the Covid-19 pandemic. A side hustle can be so many activities from trying apps online to dog walking. The side hustle offers the most flexibility for someone working full-time.

Side hustles do not require a huge investment; rather, a side hustle typically grows out of a hobby or personal interest. Side hustles may not provide a tremendous amount of money but can be more easily managed than a second job or business.



Whatever extra income source you think is best for you, remember that there are costs to you in investment of time and money. Remember that transparency is best, so make your supervisor aware of what you are doing outside your Galen job and stay within the Galen policies listed above.



Clinical News

Rebekah Randall, MSN, RN
Director of Clinical Learning

Clinical Packets:

NUR 155 Clinical Packets have been revised and will launch October 2023. The Canvas blueprint course has been updated.

The following Clinical Packets are currently under review. These are the dates and times of the workgroup meetings via zoom. All are welcome to come and share input into the new packets!

<https://galen.zoom.us/j/4341439764>

Meeting ID: 434 143 9764

Course	Date	Time
NUR 170	9/7/2023	11:00-12:00 ET
NUR 242	9/8/2023	1:00-2:00 ET
NSG 3500	9/8/2023	2:30-3:30 ET
NUR 283	9/13/2023	2:00-3:00 ET
NSG 3130	9/14/2023	11:00-12:00 ET
NSG 3250	9/19/2023	2:00-3:00 ET
NUR 254, 230, 231	9/21/2023	11:00-12:00 ET
NUR 265	9/26/2023	2:00-3:00 ET

Clinical Teaching Resources:

Please visit the Faculty Companion Courses on Canvas for clinical teaching resources. New resources launched this quarter:

Clinical Skills Decision Tree

Common Clinical Experience Planner

Clinical Competencies by Course: ADN

Clinical Competencies by Course: Bridge

Clinical Competencies by Course: BSN



Incivility in Nursing Education: Addressing Challenges and Fostering a Supportive Learning Environment

Mary Alice Tolbert, MSN, RN, CNE
Associate Director of Faculty Development

Nursing education is pivotal in shaping the next generation of healthcare professionals. However, a concerning issue that has gained attention recently is the prevalence of incivility within nursing education (Incivility, bullying and workplace violence, 2015). Incivility refers to rude, disrespectful, or disruptive behavior that can negatively impact the learning environment and the overall educational experience for nursing students (Altmiller, 2012). This article delves into the various aspects of incivility in nursing education, its consequences, contributing factors, and potential strategies to address this challenge.

Understanding Incivility in Nursing Education

Incivility within nursing education encompasses a range of behaviors, including verbal abuse, belittling comments, exclusion, intimidation, and more. These behaviors can be exhibited by nursing faculty, staff, and even fellow students. Such actions can create a toxic learning environment, hinder knowledge acquisition, and ultimately affect the students' preparation for real-world nursing practice (Altmiller, 2012; Rawlins, 2017).

Consequences of Incivility

The consequences of incivility in nursing education are far-reaching. Research indicates that students who experience incivility are more likely to experience heightened stress, anxiety, and decreased self-esteem. This emotional distress can negatively impact academic performance and the overall well-being of nursing students (Altmiller, 2012; Rawlins, 2017). Moreover, exposure to incivility during education can perpetuate these behaviors in professional nursing practice, which could ultimately compromise patient care (Incivility, bullying and workplace violence, 2015).

Contributing Factors

Several factors contribute to the prevalence of incivility in nursing education. High-stress environments, such as clinical settings and intense coursework, can increase tensions among students and faculty. The hierarchical nature of healthcare, where power dynamics are prominent, can contribute to a culture where incivility is tolerated. Additionally, inadequate communication skills training and a lack of emphasis on conflict resolution

within the curriculum can exacerbate the problem (Altmiller, 2012; Rawlins, 2017).

Addressing Incivility

Addressing incivility in nursing education requires a multi-faceted approach involving all stakeholders.

- **Curricular Changes:** Integrating communication and conflict resolution skills into the nursing curriculum can equip students with the tools to navigate challenging interactions effectively.
- **Faculty Development:** Providing faculty members with training in effective teaching methods, communication, and conflict resolution can help them model appropriate behavior and promote a positive learning environment.
- **Clear Policies:** Establishing clear and comprehensive policies against incivility and outlining the consequences can serve as a deterrent and guide for behavior.
- **Support Systems:** Implementing support systems such as mentoring programs, counseling services, and peer support groups can offer students a safe space to discuss their experiences and seek guidance.
- **Promoting Professionalism:** Instilling the values of professionalism and respect within the nursing culture can help create an environment where incivility is not tolerated.

Incivility in nursing education is a serious issue that requires attention and action. By addressing the root causes, implementing effective strategies, and fostering a culture of respect and professionalism, nursing schools can create a learning environment where students can thrive academically and emotionally. Ultimately, this will contribute to the preparation of skilled and compassionate nursing professionals who can provide high-quality care to patients while upholding the values of their profession.

References

- Altmiller, G. (2012). Student perceptions of incivility in nursing education: Implications for educators. *Nursing Education Perspectives*, 33(1), 15–20. <https://doi.org/10.5480/1536-5026-33.1.15>
- Incivility, bullying, and workplace violence. (2015). American Nurses Association. [Position statement]. <https://www.nursingworld.org/practice-policy/nursing-excellence/official-position-statements/id/incivility-bullying-and-workplace-violence/>
- Rawlins, L. (2017). Faculty and student incivility in undergraduate nursing education: An integrative review. *Journal of Nursing Education*, 56(12), 709-716. <https://doi.org/10.3928/01484834-20171120-02>

Galen Writing Collaborative

Jennifer Reyes, EdD, MSN/Ed, RN, CPN, CNE, CHSE
Assistant Professor, Online RN-BSN

Have you heard about the Galen Writing Collaborative? Are you interested in writing and publishing but not sure how to get started? Do you have some ideas for publication but need help or want to collaborate with others who might share your interests or ideas? Are you just curious about what this is? Well, let's find out more about it!

The Galen Writing Collaborative initiative (GWC) was created as an opportunity for multiple individuals to work together to create written content. This can encompass various forms of writing, such as books, articles, reports, and more. The goal of this initiative is to leverage the diverse skills, perspectives, and expertise of our Galen faculty and staff to produce high-quality and comprehensive content for those interested. It is also an opportunity to work with individuals with various levels of experience with publishing in a variety of formats, such as the above-mentioned articles, textbooks, research reports, etc. Some advantages of collaborative writing initiatives such as this one include opportunities to consider and include diverse perspectives in your writing, the ability to work more efficiently as tasks can be divided among collaborators, speeding up the writing process. There are also chances to cover a wider range of topics or aspects related to the subject with multiple contributors, and writers can learn from each other's writing techniques, styles, and improve their own skills.

However, there can also be challenges, such as maintaining a consistent tone and style, managing conflicting viewpoints, coordinating schedules, and ensuring proper credit for each contributor's work, as well as navigating the changing landscape of research and writing in academia.

Throughout the next few months, we hope to continue to provide information and host learning sessions to overcome some of these barriers. Overall, the GWC offers a powerful way to harness our collective creativity and knowledge to produce impactful and well-rounded written content.

Our collaborative writing initiative takes place online, using the Microsoft TEAMS channel. Within the TEAMS channel you will find various calls for publication that members find and share with the group, current opportunities to join

writing ideas/topics and network to find others who may be able to support and participate in the writing about your idea. There is also information related to the publication process no matter what level of experience. Your level of participation is up to you, joining the TEAM channel or attending an event does not mean you have to join a group and start publishing.

Since the spring, the GWC has worked to produce information and opportunities that would benefit those interested in publication. We are excited to invite you all to our Fall events to continue the conversation and networking.

Save the Dates for these exiting events:

- On September 13th, 2023, 12-1pm EST, join us for a journal discussion about publishing in academia. The link to the journal article can be found in the TEAMS channel.
- On October 3rd, 2023, from 12-1pm EST, in partnership with Alpha Beta Zeta, Galen's Sigma Chapter, we present a Lunch and Learn Roundtable discussion with several Galen employees who have experience with publishing in journals, for textbooks, and corporate/professional projects. These individuals will share their stories about how they got started and advice for those no matter where they are in their writing journeys.
- On November 2nd, 2023, from 12-1pm EST, join us for a book club discussion as we dive into the American Psychological Associations recommendations for publications. We will discuss Chapter 12 of the APA 7th edition publication manual. More information about what we are reading can be found in the TEAMS channel.

REASONS TO JOIN A WRITING COLLABORATIVE GROUP

DIVERSE PERSPECTIVES
Collaborating with others exposes you to a range of viewpoints, ideas, and writing styles that you might not encounter on your own. This diversity can enrich your own writing and broaden your creative horizons.

FEEDBACK AND CRITIQUE
Writing groups provide a platform to receive constructive feedback and critique from fellow writers. This feedback can help you identify areas for improvement, strengthen your writing, and refine your ideas.

MOTIVATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY
Group members often set writing goals and deadlines, which can help you stay motivated and committed to your writing projects. The sense of accountability to the group can encourage you to consistently produce work.

SKILL DEVELOPMENT
Interacting with other writers allows you to learn from their strengths and experiences. You can pick up new writing techniques, approaches, and strategies that can enhance your own skills.

BRAINSTORMING AND IDEA GENERATION
Engaging in discussions with other writers can help you overcome creative blocks, brainstorm new ideas, and refine existing ones. The collective brainstorming process can lead to innovative and original concepts.

CONFIDENCE BUILDING
Receiving positive feedback and seeing the impact of your writing on others can boost your confidence as a writer. Writing groups can provide a supportive environment where you feel comfortable experimenting with different genres, styles, or subject matters.

EXPOSURE TO OPPORTUNITIES
Within a writing group, members might share information about writing contests, publishing opportunities, workshops, and other relevant events or topics that you might not have come across otherwise.

Zoom Features: Whiteboard Templates

Lisa Sehanie, MS

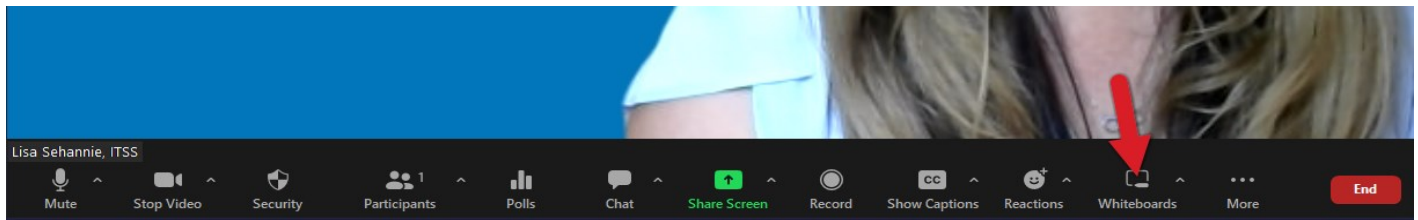
Instructional Technology Support Specialist

Zoom has many features that can be used to enhance your meetings and lessons. One useful tool is the Zoom Whiteboard. This feature provides you with a set of easy-to-use tools to collaborate together to capture ideas, processes, and concepts. With features focused on fostering innovation, Zoom Whiteboard makes it simple for hybrid teams to interact in new ways for seamless collaboration.

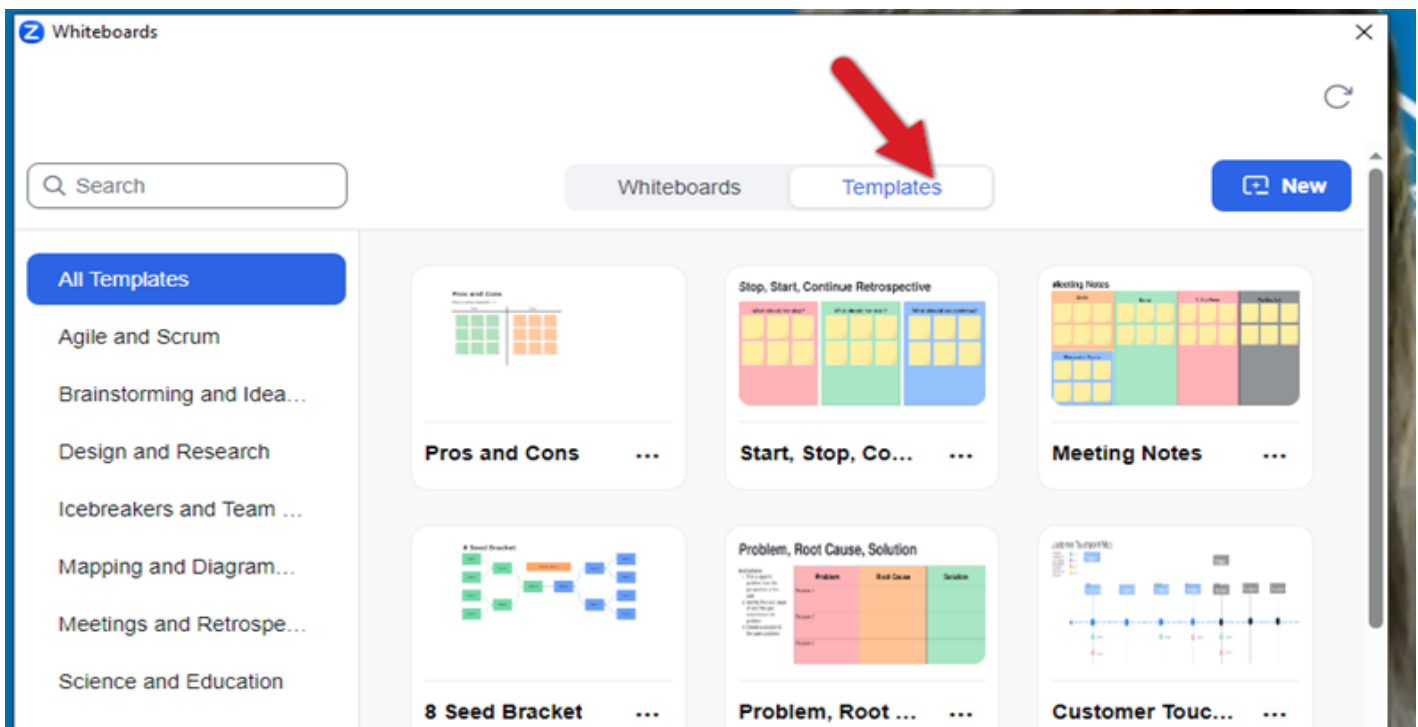
The whiteboard feature in ZOOM offers users different templates. Using a template can simplify the creation of whiteboards. The template dashboard allows users to preview and select a template to use for their whiteboard. Users can quickly identify templates based on common categories and search for specific templates. Whiteboard templates can be browsed by title or category, and users can pick a template and then create a new whiteboard from it. In addition to the steps presented below, please feel free to watch [this video](#) as well.

How to access Zoom Whiteboard templates

1. When you are in your Zoom Room meeting space, click on Whiteboards on the bottom panel of your screen.



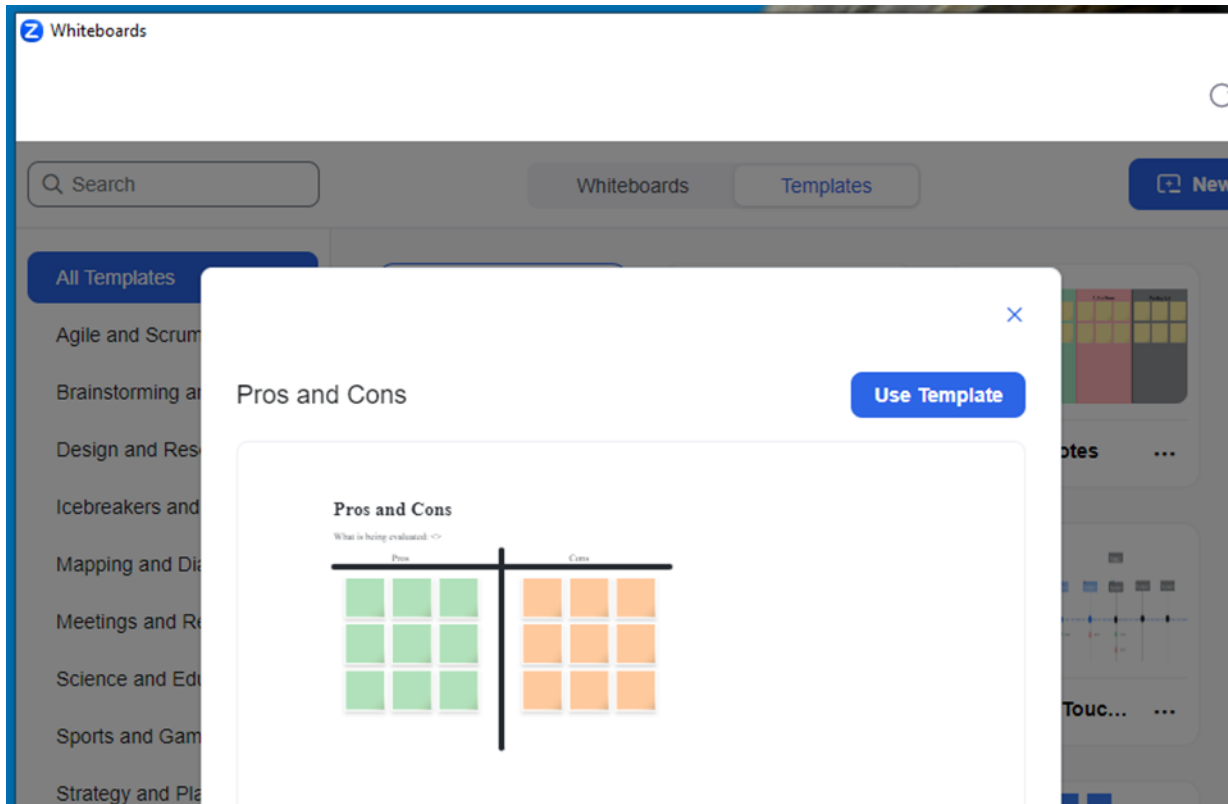
2. A new box will appear, with two options: Whiteboards and Templates. Select Templates.



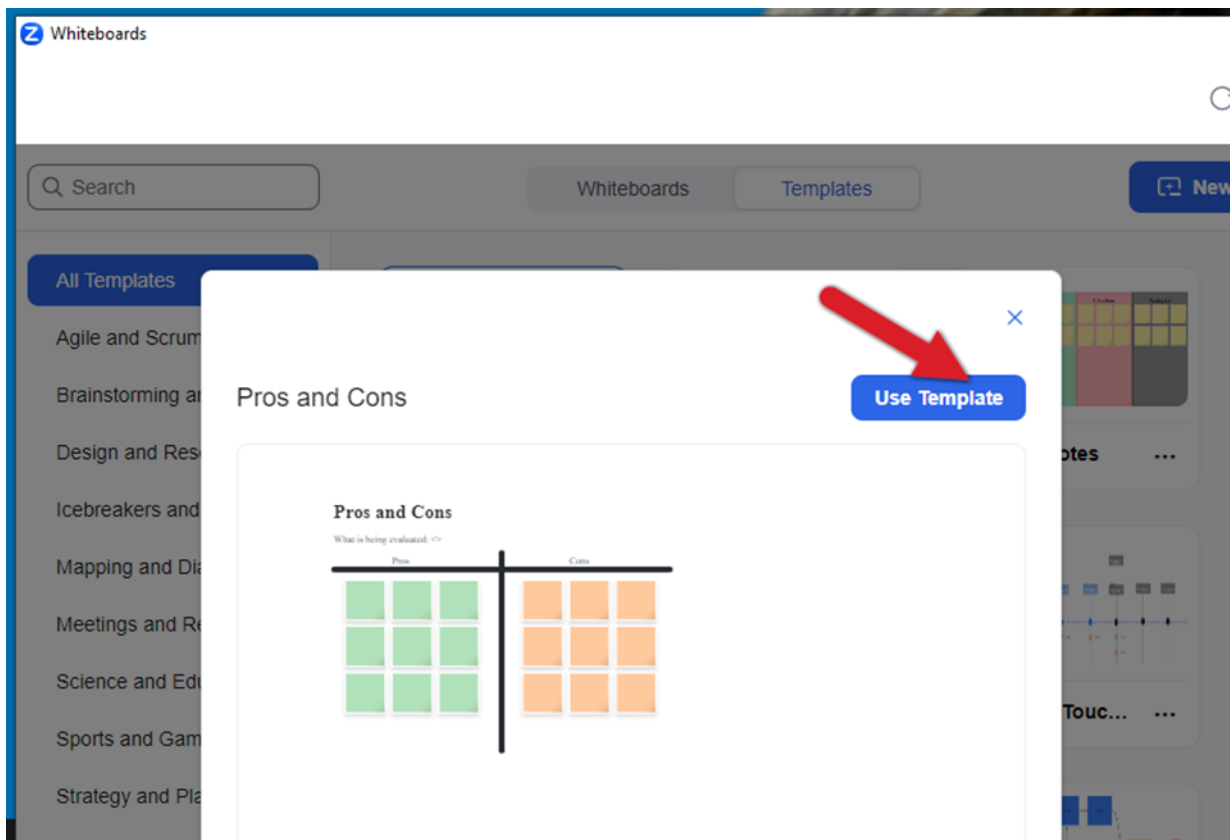
3. This will open a new page where the Whiteboard Templates are housed.

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4. Simply click on the template of your choice. This template will open, where you will be given a preview of the template, as well as a description of the template design.

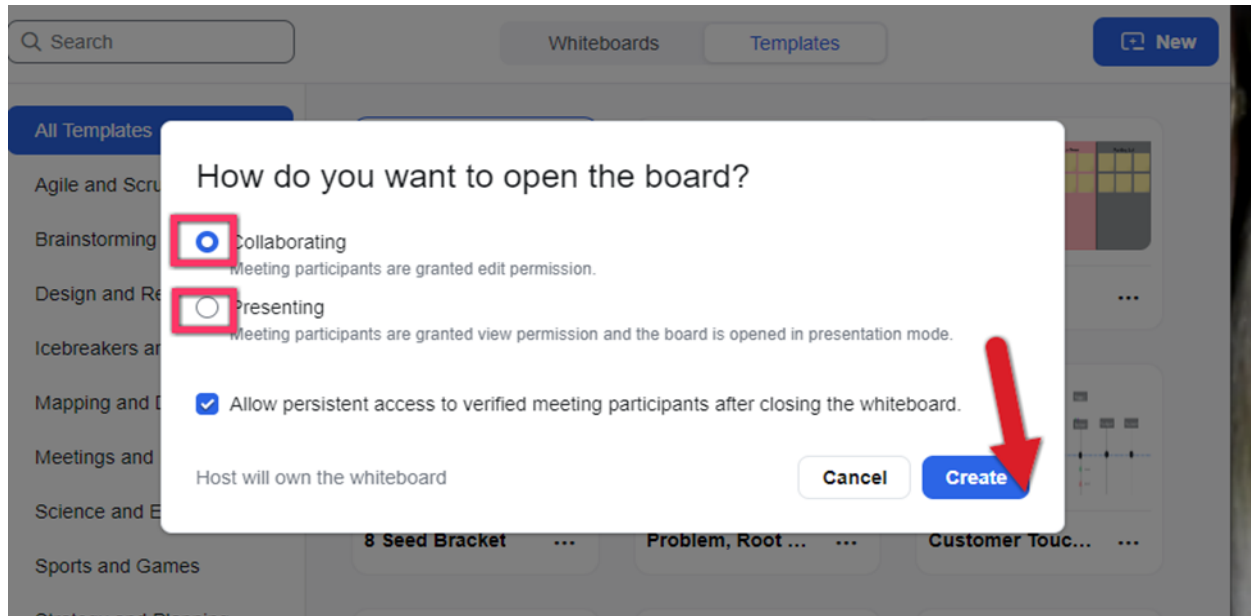


5. Once ready to choose this design, select **Use Template**.

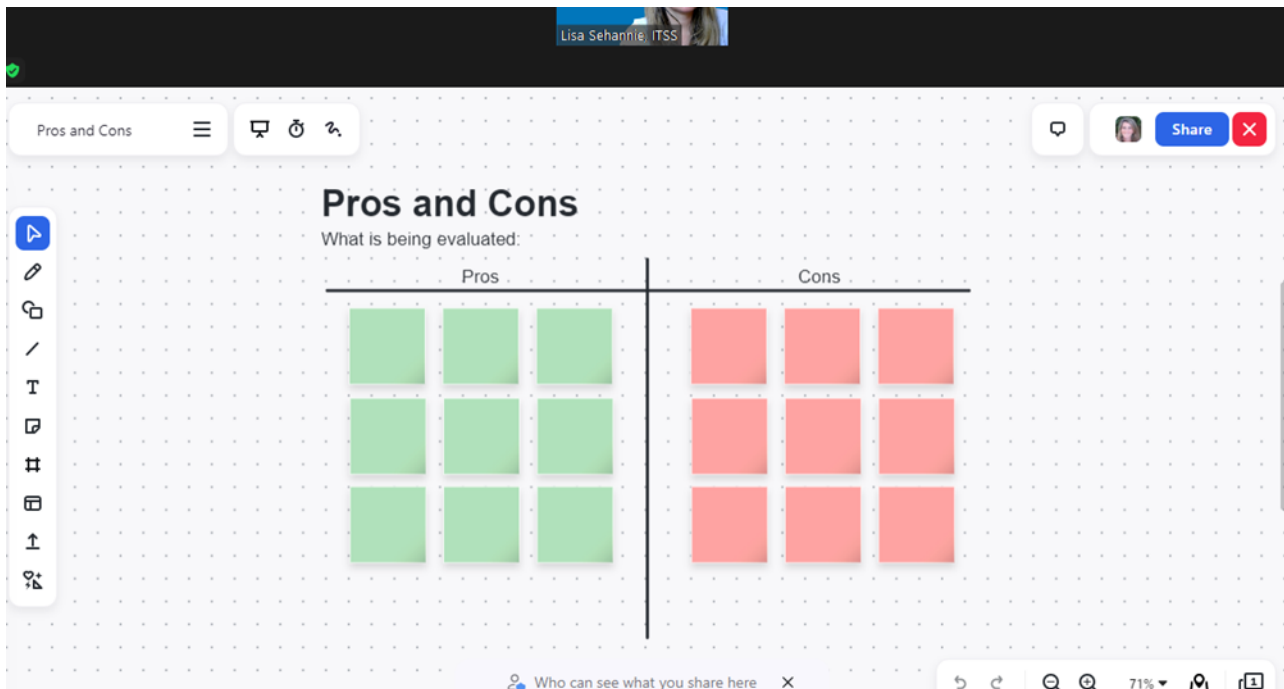


Continued from page 10

6. You will then be prompted to choose a template that you can collaborate on or simply present on. Make your selection, and then choose **Create**.



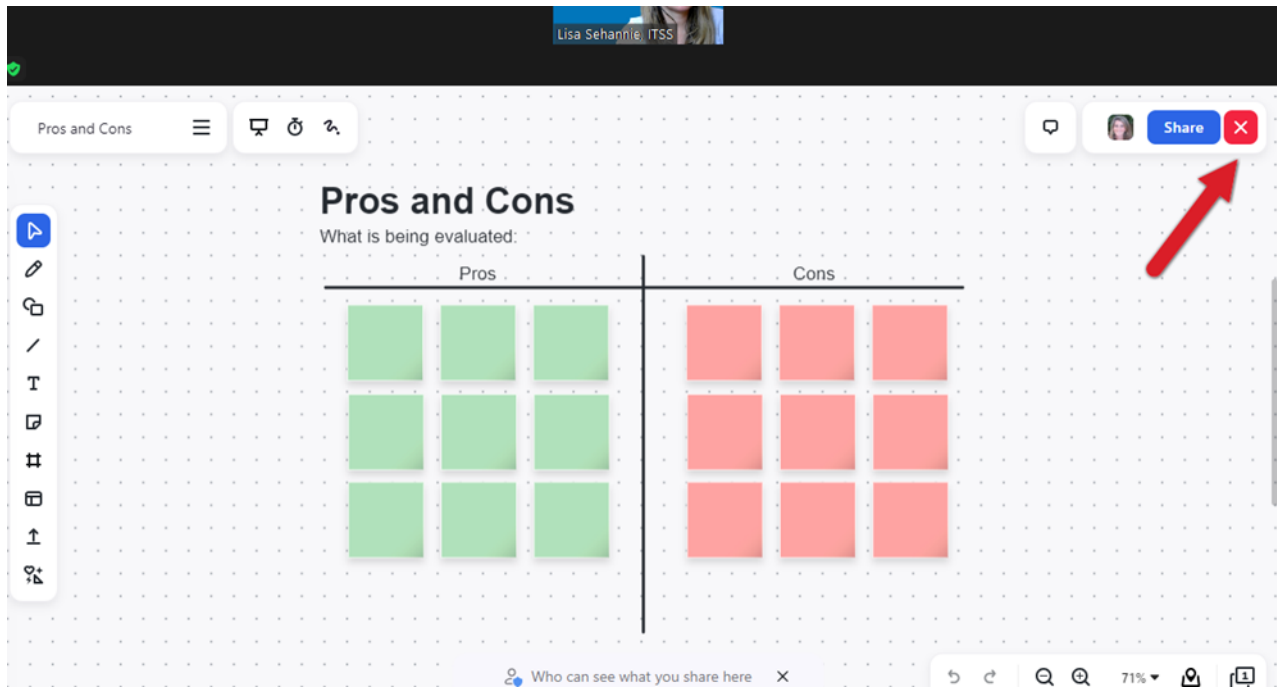
7. Your newly created Whiteboard will now be shared with your Zoom audience.



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8. Once you are done using your Whiteboard, simply click on the right X at the top of your screen to exit the ZOOM Whiteboard.



If you have any questions or need assistance with a Zoom Whiteboard templates, please reach out to the Instructional Technology Support Team by emailing onlinesupport@galencollege.edu.

Soft Skills – A Balanced Diet for Sustaining Success!

Shanti Srinivas, EdD

Associate Chair, Arts & Sciences
Chair, DEI Council

Soft skills	Hard skills
Interpersonal	Technical
Quality-focused	Quantifiable
Subjective	Objective
Self-awareness	Subject-matter Expertise
Experience-based	Competency-based

Soft skills equates to buzzwords in academia, talent searches, career growth paths, and leadership circles. The term found its way into various social settings of all age groups. It is one of the new kids on the block, a new mantra for success.

What are soft skills? A simple Google search results in many sites listing several soft skills, including adaptability, communication, compassion, confidence, creativity, critical thinking, dependability, empathy, flexibility, grit, and positivity – a skill starting with every letter in the alphabet. Soft skills refer to people’s personality traits, while hard skills are related to their intellectual capabilities validated by their credentials. Another way to differentiate them is to view hard skills as a person’s Intellectual Quotient (IQ) and soft skills as their Emotional Quotient or Intelligence (EQ/EI).

Why soft skills? One answer lies in the fact that we are human beings and social animals. Since time immemorial, we have formed communities/societies to support ourselves and thrive together. They differ in size and function based on identities, interests, life situations, locations, occupations, proximity, and more. Friend groups, workplaces, and any backdrop that brings people together serve as avenues to form bonds. In current times, dominated by social media powered by computer technology, online communities replaced many traditional group settings.



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Irrespective of the environment type, a healthy community/team flourishes when members care for each other and interact effectively. In workplaces, a strong squad yields high employee engagement and satisfaction. Therefore, leaders must develop coaching strategies to facilitate their employees' knowledge of soft skills (Kim, 2020). In academic settings, faculty can incorporate soft skills into their teaching approaches for their learners' readiness to handle complex situations. These skills are especially essential for nursing students because nurses interact with diverse individuals and families throughout their careers and patients who come to them with physical and mental vulnerabilities. Hence, abilities such as empathy and self-awareness will always be in demand (Deering & Bal, 2023).



Nursing has been voted the most trusted profession for 21 straight years, and nurses are ranked as the most honest and ethical professionals (Brenan, 2023). Nurses were trailblazers of unparalleled work ethic and compassion during the COVID-19 pandemic. However, the epidemic forced everyone to pause and consider newer ways to empower this dedicated healthcare community, so they can continue to navigate high-stress situations with resilience. Developing their soft skills is a meaningful way to help them grow professionally despite challenging times (Deering & Bal, 2023; Sancho-Cantus et al., 2023).

Businesses, institutions, and organizations are adopting measures to balance their community members' hard and soft skills. The process involves a different skills gap to bridge. Today's digital natives working with information overload require soft skills to maintain meaningful relationships in and outside their groups. Every space matters, and so does every interaction. One of the best-suggested methods is to be constantly self-aware, which helps organically integrate soft skills into one's persona. Ask oneself if we engage in conversation-killing or conversation-building. Do our perspectives stifle others

from actively listening to us or promote dynamic learning (Kim, 2020)? Adjusting to unexpected changes in our physical environment or health can be difficult, and so is attuning our mindset to change situations in our social spheres, such as workplaces. Change is the unchanging reality of life. Hence, transforming the circumstances to embrace the altered conditions using soft skills that we have 24-hour access to helps with change management at personal and professional levels. They are a game-changer for success!



One cannot capture all soft skills in single words, for they also include setting up healthy physical and emotional boundaries, being rationally empathetic, seeking conflict resolution immediately after a problem arises, asking *moving* questions and insisting on receiving answers, giving and taking time to process new information, and staying strong to one's values (Kim, 2020; Rockwood, 2021). Granted, hard and soft skills make the team successful, but the top predictor of sustainable growth is attitude over aptitude, EQ before IQ!

References

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NEWSLETTER

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Our Mission

Galen College of Nursing, driven by a culture dedicated to expanding access to nursing education, prepares diverse learners to demonstrate excellence and compassion in nursing through an educational approach immersed in innovation, technology, and student support.



Fall is right around the corner, kids are returning to school, and respiratory illnesses will have an opportunity to spread in our communities. Flu, RSV and, yes, COVID-19 are some diseases starting to pop up around the country. To help keep everyone healthy and safe, it is time to review Galen's Illness reporting policy for employees and students, which continue to follow the CDC guidelines for COVID-19 isolation.

When an employee or student tests positive for COVID-19, they must email the College Health Nurse at healthnurse@galencollege.edu. A reply email will be sent with a link to illnesstracker.galencollege.edu, which must be completed. After the tracker is completed, isolation dates and instructions will be sent to the email address indicated on the form. The reply email will serve as a notification of isolation dates, and the student or employee will then forward their isolation dates to their instructor or supervisor.

As a reminder, vaccination is still the best way to protect you and the people around you from disease and severe illness. The US Food and Drug Administration and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have updated COVID-19 vaccine authorizations and recommendations.

All individuals aged six years and older should receive at least one bivalent mRNA vaccine dose if they have not already. Flu vaccines are now available in some pharmacies. So now is the time to call your healthcare provider or pharmacy to schedule your 2023-2024 Flu vaccination and COVID-19 bivalent mRNA booster dose.

Thank you for all you do to keep our campuses healthy.