Community College of Allegheny County
8701 Perry Highway
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I am pleased to have the opportunity to review the digital teaching portfolio of **Coral Sheldon-Hess**, my colleague at CCAC's North campus. As Coral's extensive CV reveals, we are lucky to have them with us at CCAC: Coral's intersection of expertise in engineering, information science, technology, business, and research is truly a gift to students, faculty, and administrators alike.

Upon reviewing sample syllabi and course assignments, I notice a clear alignment to leaning outcomes, as well as real-world application (completely crucial in the field of data analytics, obviously). I appreciate that Coral builds on this real-world application by offering project-based work in lieu of tests, drawing upon positive experience as a student and making those connections to our students here at CCAC North. Additionally, Coral gives students both "voice and choice" in assessment, offering them options to complete either projects or tests. With inclusivity at the forefront of CCAC's mission, we need faculty like Coral who are consistently modeling best practices in meeting learner needs and preferences.

In particular, the "Equity" section of Coral's portfolio is an impressive overview of their research on redistributive justice, recognitive justice, and representational justice. Coral's practices, clearly outlined here, are beautifully aligned with CCAC's Five Commitments. As someone who also cares deeply about issues of equity, I learn from Coral all the time and found this section of the portfolio especially compelling.

I am wholly unsurprised to see Coral's students reference instructor kindness and patience in listing course strengths: as a colleague, Coral is warm, empathetic, and witty, someone who truly embraces the opportunity to help peers as well as students. In the "before times," when we could convene freely on campus, I would very frequently walk to Coral's office to "think out loud" through a pedagogical issue, and because we teach in very different departments, I find Coral's perspective and insight invaluable. Now that we have been teaching remotely for a full year, I am grateful to have remained in close contact with Coral despite not having seen them in person since March 2020!

As evidenced in this portfolio, Coral cares deeply about contributing to a positive environment and ensuring that everyone thrives; for example, Coral administers a first-day-of-class survey ensuring that students' preferred names and pronouns are recorded and honored. From this example to service at Open Houses, OER Training days, the new College Seminar initiative, and the Achieving the Dream Steering Committee, Coral is already leaving an indelible mark on campus initiatives that ultimately serve students.

Overall, I am excited to witness Coral's growth as a colleague—I look forward to debriefing with them about future conferences, pedagogical moves, and class observations. I find this portfolio to nicely reflect these future initiatives, as well as all of the good work Coral has already contributed!

Best,

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