



## **Wishing You a Wonderful Start to the New Year!**

As 2025 comes to a close, we extend warm holiday greetings and heartfelt appreciation for your continued engagement in our community. This season invites reflection, gratitude, and anticipation—and we are delighted to share highlights from the past few months along with exciting updates about our Spring 2026 Webinar Series.

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## **Year in Review**

### **Learning, Listening, and Looking Ahead**

In 2025, we offered **28 free webinars**, reinforcing the strength of our learning community and the value of creating spaces where ideas, tools, and experiences can be shared meaningfully. Participant feedback reflected strong appreciation for the quality, organization, and continuity of our offerings, affirming our commitment to accessible, community-centered professional learning.

Across the year, the webinars addressed several interconnected themes reflecting the evolving needs of educators, scholars, and professionals. Sessions focused on adult learning theory, instructional design, and inclusive teaching practices; the ethical and practical use of artificial intelligence and digital tools; research methodologies, scholarly writing, and academic productivity; and coaching, career pathways, and professional growth. Participants consistently highlighted the high informational value of these sessions and shared that the content supported their professional and scholarly work.

Feedback also revealed a constructive desire for more applied learning. Participants expressed interest in seeing theories, tools, and frameworks enacted through concrete examples and live demonstrations, signaling readiness to move from conceptual understanding to practical implementation.

Time and pacing emerged as important considerations. While the concise format was valued, many participants wanted additional opportunities for discussion, interaction, and deeper exploration—pointing to interest in extended sessions, multi-part offerings, or modular learning experiences.

Looking ahead, these insights are directly shaping future programming. High-priority areas include ethical and practical uses of AI in education, applying adult learning theory to instructional practice, research and writing productivity, research methodologies, and global and culturally situated perspectives in adult learning.

Overall, this year's feedback confirms what matters most to our community: strong facilitation, intellectually rigorous content, practical application, and opportunities for continued learning. We look forward to building on these insights as we continue learning alongside you.

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## Event Attendance

**AAACE Conference**, Cincinnati, Ohio,  
October 2025

At the AAACE 2025 Conference, Dr.



Simone Conceição had the honor of serving as the keynote speaker for the Virtual Conference, delivering **“Shaping the Future: Artificial Intelligence, Technology, and the Transformation of Adult Distance Learning.”** Her keynote highlighted emerging trends in AI, innovative uses of technology in adult education, and the evolving landscape of distance learning. The conference offered a valuable platform to share insights, engage with scholars and practitioners, and contribute to national conversations shaping the next era of adult and continuing education.

Drs. Lilian Hill and Simone Conceição also presented the session **“Strategies for Assisting Adult Learners to Detect AI-Generated Disinformation.”**



*IACE Hall of Fame Board Members*

### **International Adult and Continuing Education Hall of Fame Induction Norman, Oklahoma, November 2025**

At the International Adult and Continuing Education Hall of Fame events in Norman, both Dr. Simone Conceição and Dr. Lilian

Hill represented the community through their leadership roles on the HOF Board. Simone serves as Chair of the Communications Committee, promoting visibility, outreach, and engagement across the Hall of Fame community. Lilian serves as Chair of the Scholarship Committee, overseeing scholarship initiatives that support students and emerging leaders in the field. The induction ceremony and related meetings provided important opportunities to welcome new inductees, advance committee work, and collaborate with colleagues dedicated to strengthening the future of adult and continuing education.

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### **Dissertation Coaching**

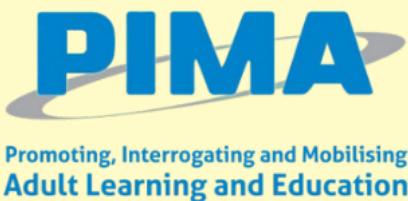
This fall, Dr. Simone Conceição and Dr. Lilian Hill served as dissertation coaches for doctoral students in the Department of Educational Leadership – Adult Learning and Leadership Program at Kansas State University. This partnership supported students in refining research ideas,

managing writing milestones, and strengthening scholarly identity.

Learn more about [Coaching for Graduate Students](#).

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## Global Engagement: PIMA Network Membership



Dr. Simone Conceição recently joined the [PIMA Network](#), a distinguished global community of scholars, researchers, and practitioners committed to advancing lifelong learning, equity, and justice across all stages of life. PIMA serves as a leading international voice in research and policy development, with a strong focus on sustainability, the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and life-deep learning. Dr. Conceição's membership coincides with PIMA's 10th Anniversary, marking an important moment of growth and global collaboration for the network.

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## Recent Publications

Conceição, S. C., & Hill, L. H. (2025). **Instructor–Learner Engagement and Artificial Intelligence: Leveraging Technology without Losing the Human Touch**. In *New Directions for Adult & Continuing Education*.  
<https://doi.org/10.1002/ace.70019>

Hill, L. H., & Conceição, S. C. (2025). **Media Literacy and Faculty Responsibility: Addressing AI-Generated Disinformation in Higher Education**. In *New Directions for Adult & Continuing Education*.  
<https://doi.org/10.1002/ace.70018>

Conceição, S. C. O., & Samuel, A. (2025). **Strategic Integration of Artificial Intelligence in Faculty Development Grounded in Adult Learning Frameworks**. In *Using Adult Learning Theories to Enhance Faculty Development in Higher Education*. In *New Directions for Adult & Continuing Education*. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ace.70003>

These publications reinforce our commitment to bridging innovation with grounded pedagogical practice.

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## Spring 2026 Webinar Series

**Thursdays/Fridays • 12:30–1:00 PM CT • Via Zoom**

This spring, we are pleased to offer four interconnected webinar series designed to support teaching, research, digital literacy, and professional growth. Each 30-minute session is practical, accessible, and rooted in adult learning principles.

### **Smarter, Not Harder: Digital Tools for Learning, Work, and Life**

This series introduces simple, practical digital tools that enhance productivity, support writing and communication, strengthen digital citizenship, and help learners and professionals manage projects, set priorities, and build meaningful online connections.

### **Inclusive Online Course Design and Teaching**

Grounded in research and best practices, this series focuses on designing learning environments that are clear, engaging, and inclusive. Topics include communicating a compelling course vision, aligning assessments and materials, fostering interaction, creating supportive learning communities, and improving course navigation.

### **Research Methodologies**

Returning from fall by popular demand, this series offers accessible introductions to qualitative, quantitative, and mixed-methods research. Participants will gain clarity on methodological choices, data-collection tools, analytical strategies, and practical approaches to designing evidence-based studies.

### **A Deep Dive into Transition from Pedagogy to Andragogy**

Based on the book *Transition from Pedagogy to Andragogy: An International Perspective*, this series features chapter-based presentations by contributing authors. Sessions explore global perspectives, theoretical insights, and practical applications that illuminate how teaching practices

evolve from teacher-directed to learner-centered approaches.

We invite you to join us for this rich lineup of spring webinars. Whether you are looking to strengthen digital skills, enhance your teaching practice, deepen your research knowledge, or explore new perspectives on pedagogy and andragogy, these series offer accessible and relevant learning opportunities. Visit our [events page](#) for session details and registration information.

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## **Exploring Paid Workshops: Your Input Needed**

Based on your webinar feedback, many of you have expressed interest in longer, more applied learning experiences with concrete examples, demonstrations, and hands-on practice. While our free webinars are intentionally short, we are exploring optional paid workshops that would allow for deeper engagement and require additional planning and facilitation. Please take a few minutes to share your interest and preferences by completing this short survey: [Paid Workshop Interest Survey – take the survey](#).

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## **Closing Reflections**

As we wrap up 2025, we are grateful for your participation, collaboration, and support. Whether you joined our webinars, connected through conferences, partnered with us for coaching, or engaged with our publications, thank you for being part of our learning community. We look forward to welcoming you back in 2026 for a new season of growth, discovery, and innovation.

Wishing you a joyful holiday season and a bright, inspiring New Year!

*Adult Learning Exchange Virtual Community Team*

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