



4 keys to effective, practical professional development

The shift to a borderless campus opens a world of possibilities for how we view professional development.

Short, interactive, personalized learning sessions can empower your faculty on campus, giving them the ideas and tools needed to be more productive and engaged.

If you're brainstorming where to start, Lenovo can help. With a focus on providing educators more solutions and ways to use them more efficiently, Lenovo helps ensure your faculty is set up to lead a thriving hybrid learning environment. In these environments, effective professional development regarding technology use can be effective.

Reimagine what professional development looks like for faculty and staff who are stretched for time and resources.

Here are four ways to engage educators in effective and practical professional development.

01. Share bite-sized learning tips

Professional development doesn't always have to mean attending a conference or participating in a webinar, and finding the time and funding to send faculty members to a seminar isn't always feasible. Sometimes learning a quick and easy tip for how to better use technology or repurposing clever tricks and shortcuts can spark ideas for productivity and innovation.

For example, Windows 11 (available with any Lenovo workstation or laptop) allows educators to customize their desktop widgets to offer short tips on how to incorporate technology into lessons and assignments.



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Do it with DaaS.

Lenovo Device as a Service gives your IT team the power to add or remove devices and applications campus-wide, enabling the sharing of the same learning tools with all faculty members.

Lenovo DaaS solutions feature the latest devices like the ThinkPad® X1 Carbon running Windows 11 on the Intel® Evo™ vPro™ platform. DaaS can include laptops, tablets, monitors, videoconferencing solutions, and other accessories that power your borderless campus.

02. Microlearning is easy to fit in

On the topic of keeping learning tidbits small and digestible, microlearning sessions — short, targeted learning moments — are a trend taking hold across borderless campuses. A microlearning session might be a 15-minute lesson on how to create an interactive PDF, or a session sharing three tips for making PowerPoint lectures more engaging.

Microlearning is also an opportunity to let your faculty take the lead in their development. Your campus is filled with experts. Encourage faculty to share what they know with their peers. Collaboration tools like Microsoft Teams (native to Windows 11) make it easy to share, chat, and work together — enabling you to tap into your own network of professional development leaders from within your team.

Consider hosting virtual seminars or lunch and learns where a faculty member shares knowledge and encourages collaboration on a particular topic relevant to his or her peers. Learning is more powerful when it comes from those we know.



Tech tips and tricks make ideal PD topics.

Focus on helping your faculty master the tools needed to create an enriching hybrid environment. Lenovo can help educators leverage technology more effectively.

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03. Make learning interactive

To unlock limitless learning, make it interactive. Microsoft SharePoint offers online collaboration and interactivity across a suite of Microsoft tools, and it's available on Lenovo workstations and laptops including the ThinkPad® T Series (ideal for faculty).

Multiple users can work together in the same files simultaneously. SharePoint can be a great learning sandbox. It's an ideal tool not only to demonstrate a new tip or trick, but also to get participants involved and engaged by trying their hand at new skills within one environment.

Interactivity makes it personal.

91% of employees reported a desire to have access to personalized training relevant to them.¹ By using the tools your campus uses, you can tailor an experience to your faculty.

04. Create more time for learning and development

If time is an obstacle to faculty members learning new skills, automation tools can help. Microsoft Power Automate is available on Windows 11 with Microsoft 365 (available with any Lenovo workstation or laptop). This powerful application can help take tasks off your faculty's plates and free up time to focus on other areas. Data entry, report generation, and scheduling are just some of the tasks that can be completed by Power Automate in the background while you work.

Source

¹ ClearCompany, "5 Surprising Employee Development Statistics You Should Know," September 2021



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Foster a professional development-friendly campus

Here are six points to consider.

What are the learning needs of your faculty?

Take a survey. What are the pain points for your teams? Is there confusion over how to use a particular platform? Are they looking for ways to do certain tasks faster?

How can you personalize it?

Personalized learning experiences are more memorable and effective. Small-group chats or tapping a faculty member to lead a collaborative learning session are just a few ways that allow for personalization.

Where will your faculty learn best?

Platforms such as Microsoft Teams or Microsoft SharePoint allow learning to happen virtually anywhere, but don't forget about the tools available to you on campus. Be sure to equip your faculty with the right training and resources to effectively use tools for hybrid environments. Factor in time, convenience, and topic when selecting a spot to host a learning session.

Does it need to be live?

Consider ways of recording short sharing sessions or uploading walkthroughs to your cloud storage platform. This way, you allow your faculty to access notes and learn at their own pace at a time that works best for them.

Who can lead it?

Look for leaders on your faculty teams. Can you empower someone to plan and host a short development seminar or lunch and learn? There are likely experts all around you. Consider leveraging the expertise of your vendors, too. The goal should be to create an environment where sharing knowledge is the norm.

What can you automate?

Look for opportunities to automate time-heavy tasks to help free up your faculty's time — giving them more flexibility to focus on growth and development.

Lenovo is here to help.

We deliver technology to support faculty, staff, and students, no matter where learning happens. Learn more at www.lenovo.com/Education.



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