

# **APS**Virtual Summit



Creating a Department Chair Training Program



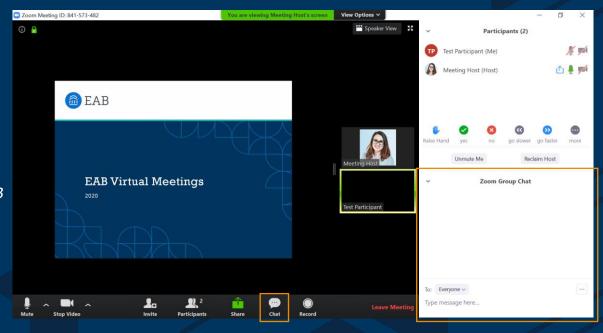




### In Zoom Chat, share:

- > Name
- > Institution
- > Role
- If you are or formerly were a Department Chair

Example: Kurtis Hagans, EAB Univ, Dean, Former Chair







**Kurtis Hagans** APS Strategic Leader khagans@eab.com



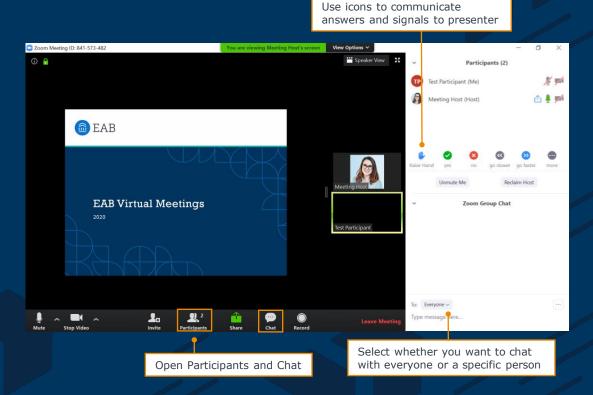
**David Bevevino** Senior Director, Technology Partner Experience

dbevevino@eab.com

- 2 Zoom Features and Participation
- 2 Discussion
- 3 Considerations for Your Department Chair Training Program
- Worksheet Activity: Designing a Department Chair Training Program

## **Zoom Features**

Leverage the **Chat** and **Raise Hand** features to submit questions/comments or volunteer to speak.



# Department Chairs on Your Campuses

- What new challenges have arisen in the face of COVID-19 for your institution's department chairs?
- Have chairs been asked to take on new roles or responsibilities?
- What kind of trainings do chairs receive on campus (if any)?

Department Chairs Best-Positioned, but Least Prepared to Lead Change



Chairs receive little training or data on performance...

Receive no formal training

40% Of existing trainings last < 5 hours

Say training didn't prepare them for the job

### Departmental Leaders



...but influence innumerable departmental decisions

- Faculty recruitment
- · Promotion and tenure
- · Workload and releases
- Course scheduling
- Student advising
- Program design
- · Faculty evaluation
- Pedagogical support

# The Cost of the 'Musical Chair' Model

Inevitably, after a year or two, [chairs] finally learn enough about budgeting, resource management and development, personnel development, and curriculum and course scheduling to do their jobs effectively—but then it was time to give up the job to someone else... who also felt unknowledgeable and uncomfortable, unprepared to actively lead their units."

Chu and Veregge, 2002

# Frustrations Abound for Department Chairs

Examples of Pain Points in a Strategically and Financially Critical Role



### Too Many Reports, Not Enough Purpose

Requests for reports on students, faculty, and other departmental priorities can overwhelm even skilled department chairs







### **Disconnect Between Departmental** and Institutional Goals

Strategic goals rarely cascade to the department level, creating confusion about the department's role in the institution's most important priorities



**Temporary Role** 

### Minimal Time with Leadership

Some chairs report seeing their dean only once per year for a very short time, further reinforcing the focus on their discipline and not institutional strategy

Professional and Personal Tensions in a

Department chairs oversee and influence the careers of colleagues who may have authority

over them when the chair's term expires

Keep These Potential Sessions in Mind as You Develop a Curriculum

### **Data Literacy and Usage**

- Data 101 session(s) to discuss how to read, interpret, and use data
  - May include sessions on baseline concepts such as percentiles, mean, median and modes, refreshers on how to read graphs, and how to use Excel
- APS training to provide chairs with the data that they need to make data-informed decisions

### **Course Planning and Capacity Management**

- Training on policies regarding maximum capacities and expected faculty workloads
- Discussions on how to use data for the purpose of matching student demand to course and section offerings to avoid underfilled courses or overfilled courses with excessive waitlists



### **Budgeting**

- Overview of the budgeting process for your institution, including the chairs' place in that process
- Training on how to make compelling, data-informed requests for additional resources in line with your institution's processes



### **Personnel Management**

- Training on how to craft compelling promotion and tenure cases
- Training on how to promote professional growth among chairs' faculty and staff
- Baseline training on HR policies and procedures
- Discussions on teaching workload among instructor types and how best to create an equitable environment

# What Would a Dept. Chair Training Program Look Like on Your Campus? In

Washington State University's Training Program



Washington State University's Office of the Provost collaborates with Human Resources Services to provide an annual series of eleven workshops for department chairs.

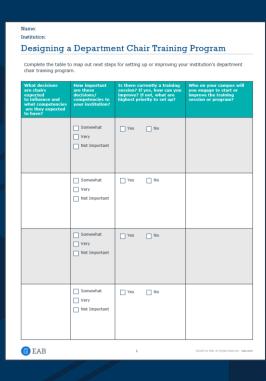
### Goals of the Training Program



- Provide chairs and directors with tools that will help them in executing their jobs
- Introduce chairs to other people at the University who can assist in their work
- Identify and build a peer group of other chairs and directors who can be consulted as problems arise

All sessions will have AMS videoconferencing.				
DATE \$	TIME ÷	LOCATION \$	COURSE	LINK TO ENROLL
Friday, Sept. 13	9:30-11 a.m.	Lighty 405	Advancing Faculty at WSU	http://ihr.hrs.wsu.edu/skillsoft/default.aspx c=ilt_wsu_CHAIR_681
Wednesday, Sept. 25	9-11 a.m.	CUE 512	Fresh in Their Minds	http://ihr.hrs.wsu.edu/skillsoft/default.aspx c=ilt_wsu_CHAIR_1249
Friday, Oct. 4	9:30- 11:30 a.m.	Lighty 405	We're all Data Nerds: What information is out there, where, and how to use it	http://ihr.hrs.wsu.edu/skillsoft/default.aspx c=ilt_wsu_CHAIR_1190
Tuesday, Oct. 15	9:30-11 a.m.	Lighty 405	Making the Hard Decisions (Part 1): Ethics, Academic Freedom, and Free Speech	http://ihr.hrs.wsu.edu/skillsoft/default.aspx c=llt_wsu_CHAIR_1191
Thursday, Oct. 24	3-4:30 p.m.	CUE 512	Fostering an Inclusive University	http://ihr.hrs.wsu.edu/skillsoft/default.aspx c=ilt_wsu_CHAIR_1108
Tuesday, Nov. 5	1:30-3 p.m.	Lighty 405	Making the Hard Decisions (Part 2): Dealing with Difficult Personnel Issues	http://ihr.hrs.wsu.edu/skillsoft/default.aspx c=ilt_wsu_CHAIR_772
Tuesday, Nov. 19	1-3 p.m.	CUE 512	From Colleague to "Boss"	http://ihr.hrs.wsu.edu/skillsoft/default.aspx c=ilt_wsu_CHAIR_1250
Friday, Dec. 6	9-10:30 a.m.	Lighty 405	Faculty Annual Review Process	http://ihr.hrs.wsu.edu/skillsoft/default.aspx c=ilt_wsu_CHAIR_365
Tuesday, Jan. 14	9-10:30 a.m.	Lighty 405	Faculty Development	http://ihr.hrs.wsu.edu/skillsoft/default.aspx c=ilt_wsu_CHAIR_1251
Thursday,	1:30-3	Lighty 405	Promoting Effective Teaching	http://ihr.hrs.wsu.edu/skillsoft/default.aspx

## Worksheet



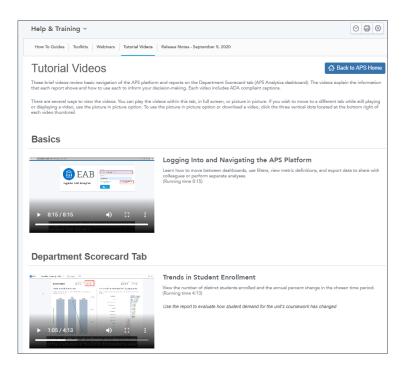
Please take 5 minutes to complete the **Designing a Department Chair Training Program** worksheet.

Download the worksheet in the Chat.

We'll convene as a group for an opportunity to share out using either the "Raise Hand" or Chat feature.

# APS Help & Training Resources at the Ready

### Help & Training Dashboard



The **Help & Training dashboard**, located within your APS platform, houses various resources to support your department chairs' use of the data.

- > How-to Guides: Step-by-step guides that walk users through specific uses cases, such as measuring student demand for courses
- > Toolkits: Comprehensive resources about selecting and finding relevant data in APS for specific planning processes, as well as tips and templates for communicating goals
- > Webinars: On-demand webinars on how to use APS and embed data-informed decision making at your institution, as well as information on upcoming webinars
  - Featuring: Boot Camp for Department Chair webinar series
    - Embedding APS on Campus as a Department Chair A
       Discussion with Matthew Costello from Saint Xavier University
- > Tutorial Videos: Brief videos that review basic navigation of the platform, as well as how to use reports on the Department Scorecard tab in the APS Analytics dashboard



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