



# A GEM of an Idea: Microlearning and Faculty Development

GEMS TEAM

Purdue Global Village 2019

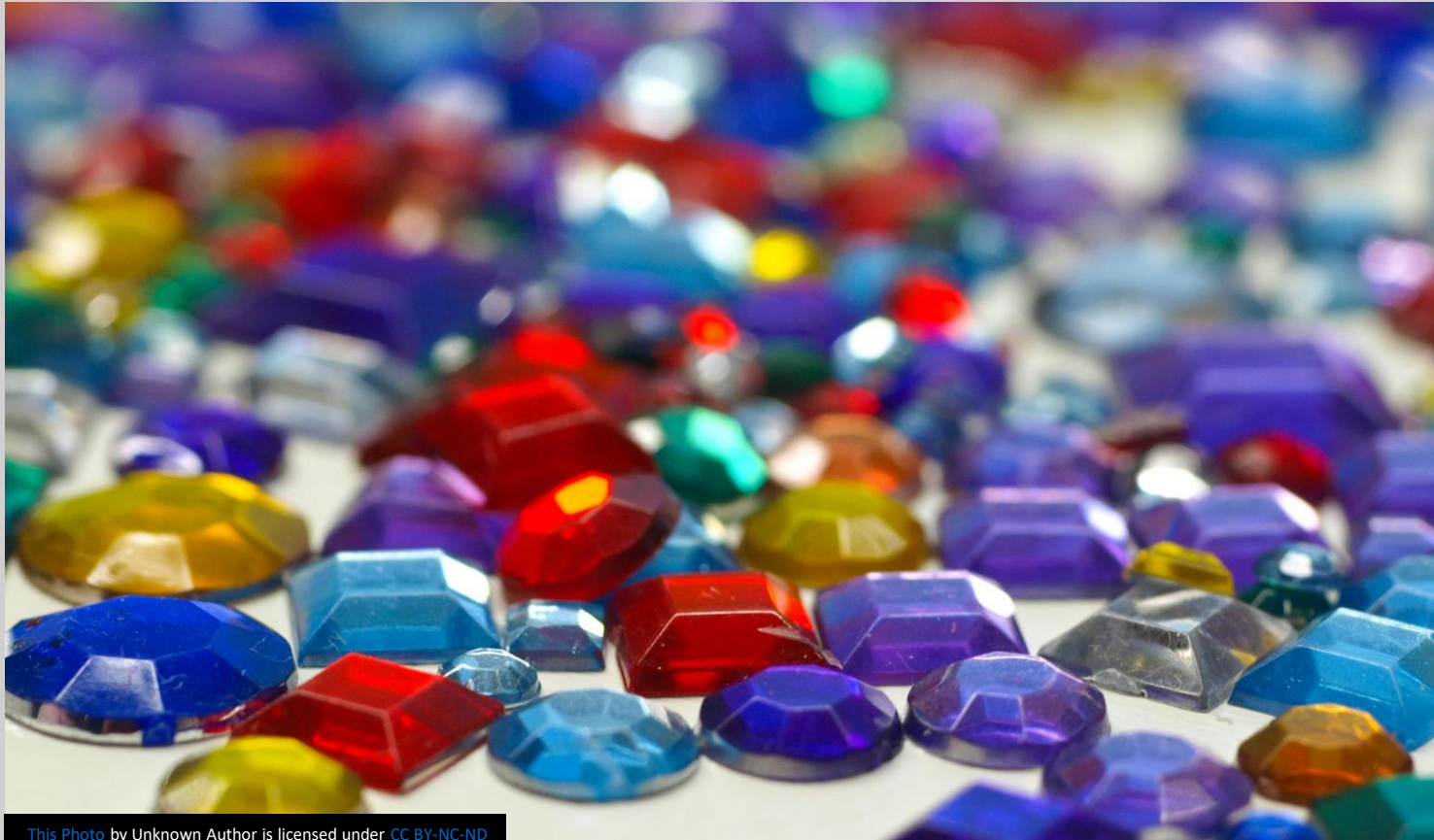


# Background

Like students and learning, online faculty require flexibility in development. Micro-learning is a very flexible development tool. One microlearning program that PG faculty consistently find useful is Great Emerging Methods (GEMS).







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# Session Description

This presentation explores the history of GEMs, how sessions work, and how they exemplify the concept of microlearning.

# Learning Outcomes

This session will:

- Define microlearning concepts and best practices
- Examine how GEMs exemplifies micro-learning; and
- Discuss GEMs' impact on faculty development at PG





# The GEMs Team



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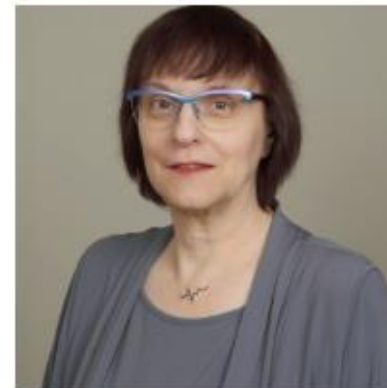
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# What is Microlearning?



# Definition of Microlearning

- Microlearning is a way of teaching and delivering content to learners in small, very specific bursts. The learners are in control of what and when they're learning (Eades, 2014).

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# Microlearning and Flexibility

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- Microlearning approaches especially highlight flexibility (Rimland & Raish, 2019).



# Goal-Based Learning

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Each microlearning session, event or task must have established, clear goals (Cheng, Watson, & Newby, 2018.)







# History and Structure of GEMs



# History of GEMs

- Inspired by Will deBock's Innovation Lab, **G**reat **E**merging **M**ethods (GEMS) was founded by Ellen Manning in 2008 as part of her work as an IL Fellow.
- Faculty applied as IL Fellows and applications were peer-reviewed. Fellows received a small stipend to explore new technologies.
- GEMs is and always will be her legacy. She is deeply missed and her memoriam can be found [here](#).



# Initial Concept of GEMS

“GEMs sessions were created to be a way for faculty to be able to share best practices they were using in their classrooms in an easy, low-threshold, collaborative way.”

“It was a key part of the Innovations Lab strategy to build authentic faculty culture and spread best teaching practices among Kaplan University’s [now Purdue Global] mostly adjunct faculty population.”

**Will deBock, Innovation Labs Founder**





# GEMS Structure

- Offered through CTL Live Events
- Proposed topics come from faculty and staff
- Invited speakers
- Coordinated by Liz and Laurie of the CTL
- Hosted by team of faculty “gemologists” who brainstorm ideas, plan sessions, create the slides, and present
  - 2-4 learning outcomes per session
  - Emphasis on improving teaching, using new technologies, achieving wellness—immediately applicable ideas



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# GEMS Live Session Description



Please join faculty Stephanie Thompson, Debora Aubuchon, Deborah Adelman, Bonnie Fuller, Carol Edwards-Walcott, Ritu Sharma, Kimberly Pate, and Teresa (TK) Kelly as they invite you to share best teacher practices.



GEM meetings usually begin with a more formal presentation and then enable participants to present their own small “gem” of a technique, method, or activity that has been effective in their classrooms.



**No idea is too small to share! You do not have to bring a "gem" to attend.**

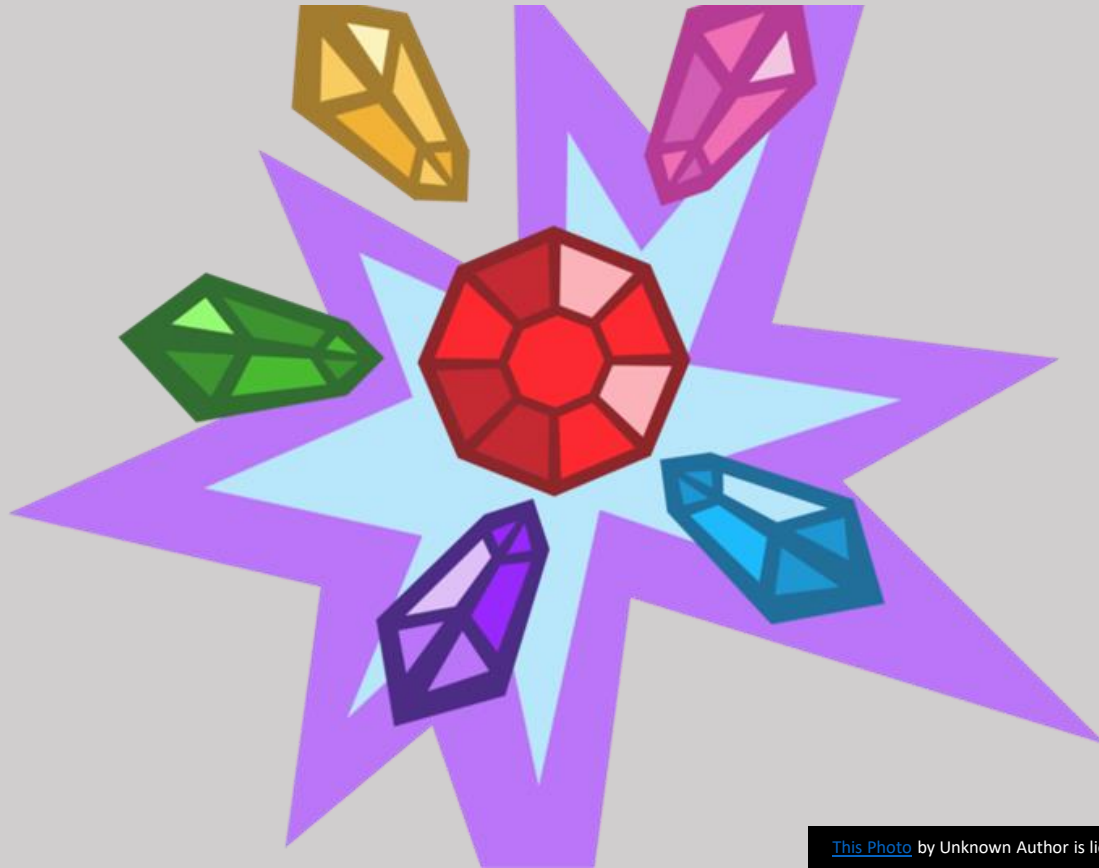


**Bring a GEM, take a GEM!**





# GEMs at PG Today

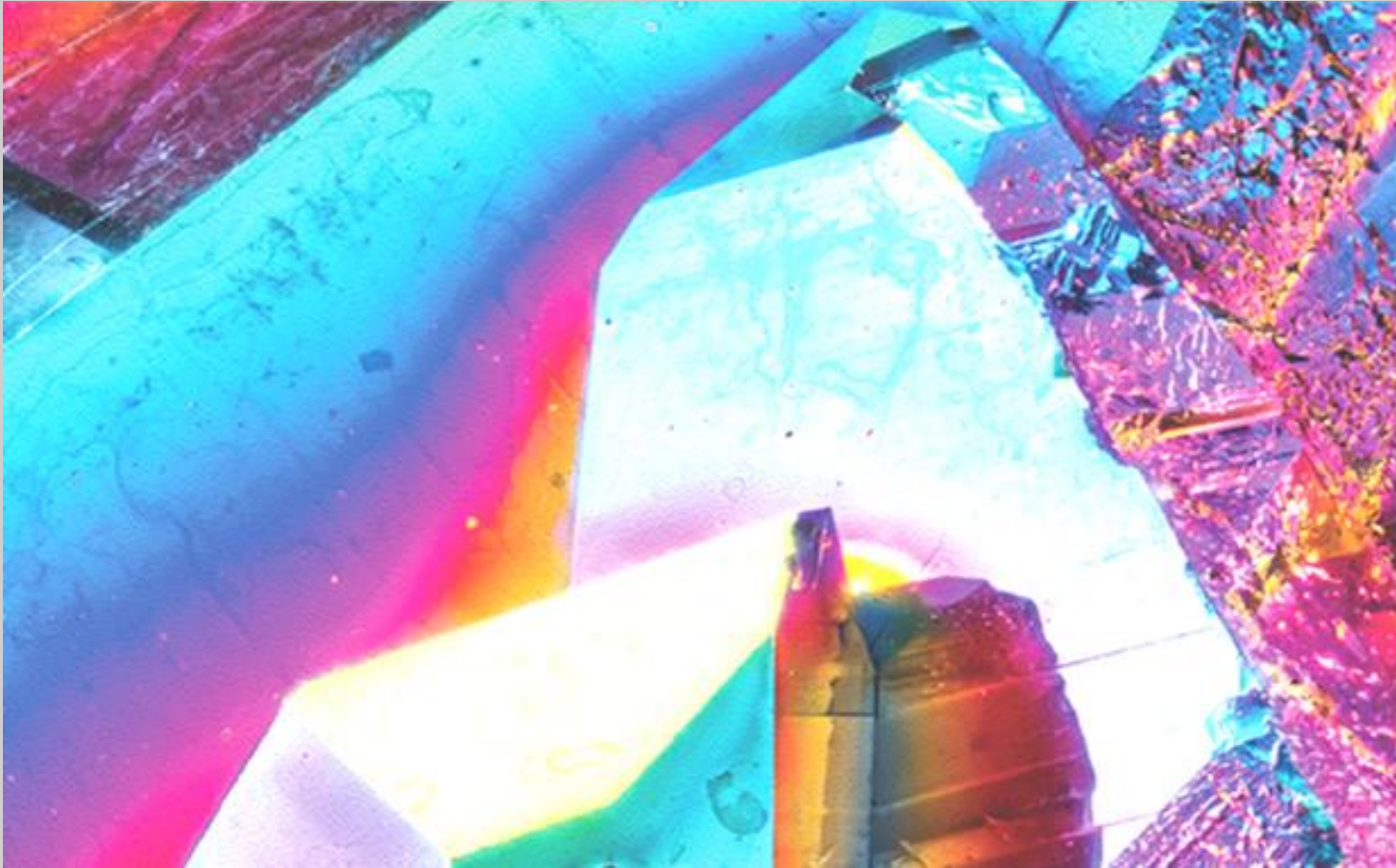


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## Examples of Recent GEMS Themes

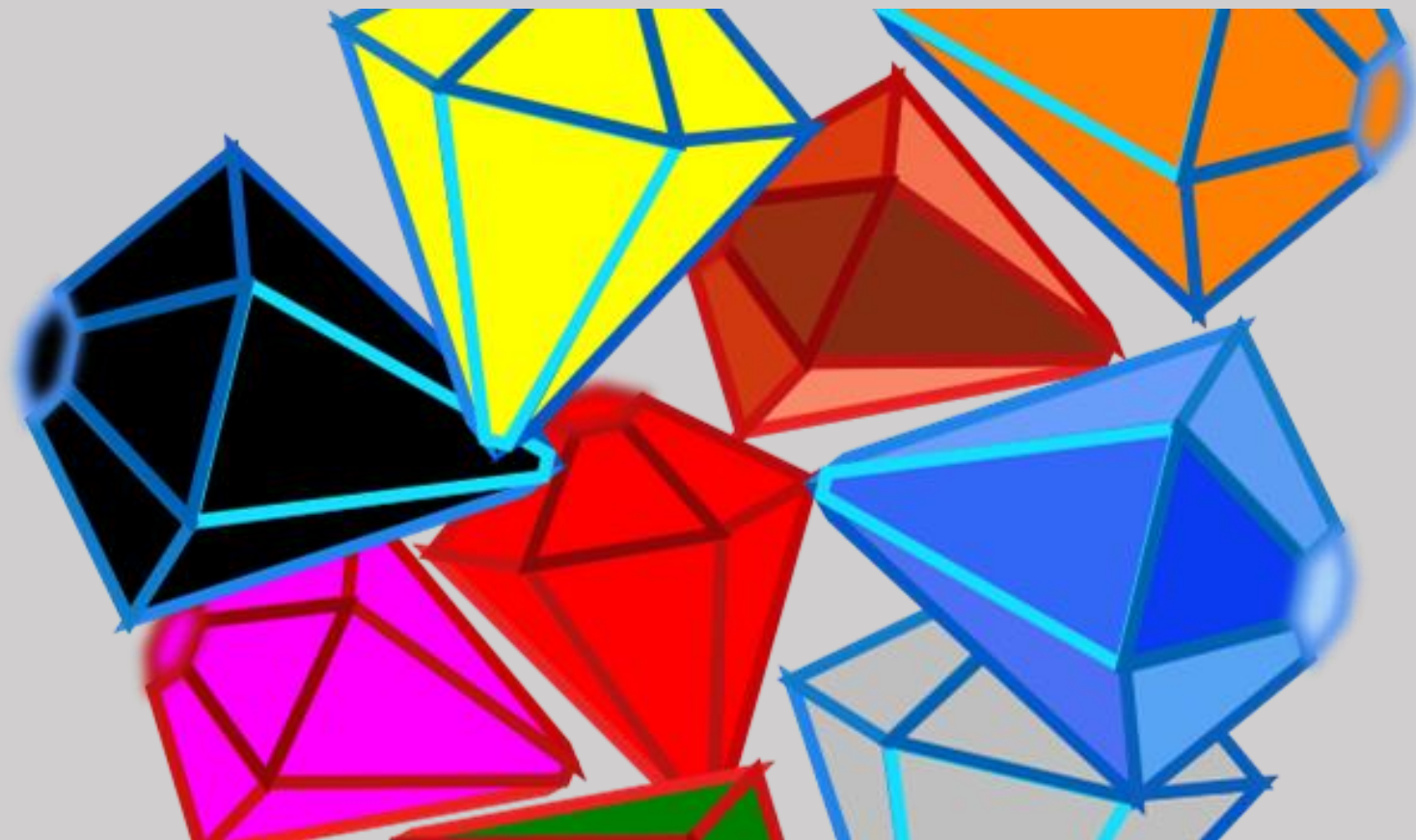
- Literary Festival and Teaching
- Strategies for Engagement and Success
- Academic Success Center
- Engaging students in the library
- Seminar grading and engagement
- Excel Track
- Time Management
- How to use different databases,
- Academic Writer
- Faculty use of Bongo Breakout Rooms
- Teaching with the Power of Sports
- Teaching professional writing skills to students
- Career Services
- Professional presence





# Learning Outcome Examples

- Explore how literature appreciation and usage can improve classroom instruction.
- Examine using creative writing strategies to improve non-fiction writing.
- Discuss using Haiku in teaching across disciplines
- List resources for seminar information
- Employ a tracking system for seminar attendance and communications
- Utilize Smore flyers to share seminar archives and option two requirements
- Discuss effective seminar grading and feedback strategies



## Recent Presenters

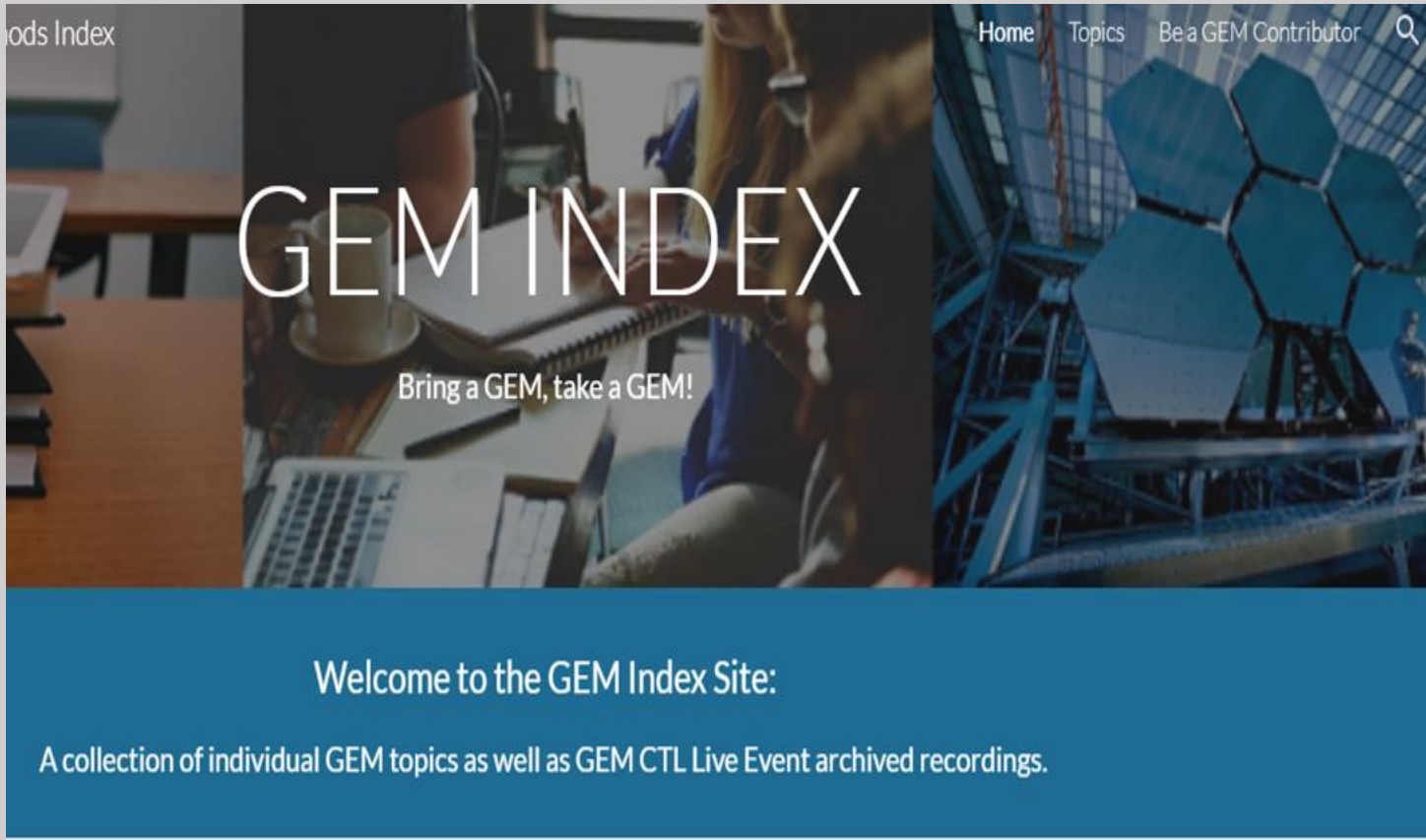
- Michelle Bianco
- Mary Bruce
- Kristin Early
- Barbara Green
- Laurie Hansen
- David Healey
- Jessica Love
- Candy Mowen
- Melody Pickle
- Amy Sexton
- Matt Stevons
- Lisa Teitler
- Emily Thompson





## Benefits of GEMs

- Professional development opportunities for GEMologists and attendees
- Sparks collaboration
- Practice presenting
- Expand relationship between faculty and CTL



# Archives

- The [GEM Index site](#) was created by Laurie Hansen of CTL with the help of Liz Fitzgerald.
- The site is dedicated to GEM founder, Dr. Ellen Manning.
- Laurie Hansen and Ellen often spoke of how GEMs could be made individually indexed and accessible. Google sites has made this possible.





# What is coming for GEMs in 2020?

# GEMs in 2020



Monthly sessions on 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday  
January – October



30 minute sessions



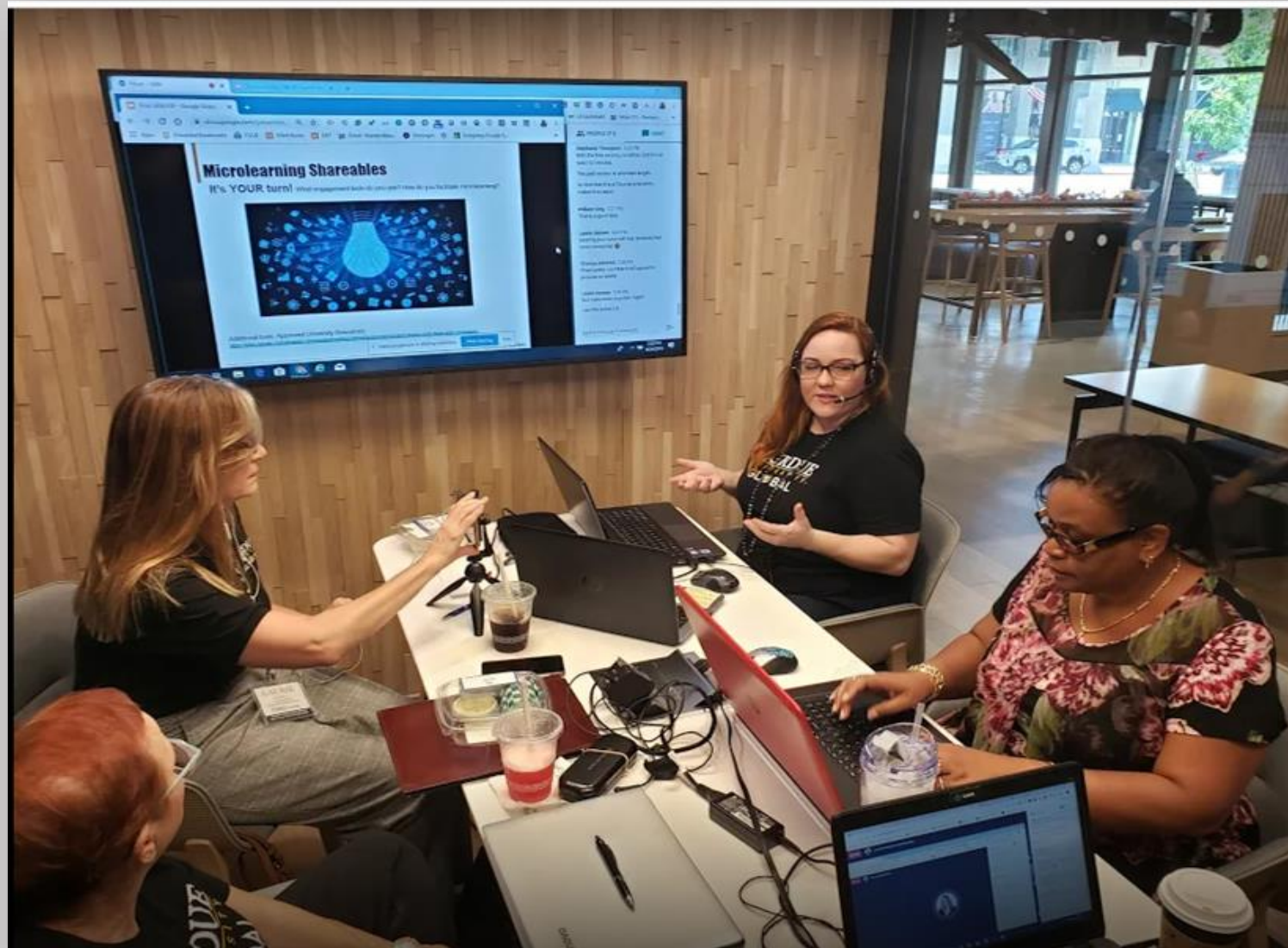
Emphasis on microlearning  
“GEMs”



More time to share ideas!



# NEW! Face to Face GEMS



Find a GEM: [GEMs topic index](#)

Email the CTL or a Gemologist to share a GEM!

Should you have any questions, please email [CTLLive@Purdueglobal.edu](mailto:CTLLive@Purdueglobal.edu)



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# References

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