



# The Tiger's Eye

A Closer Look at Excellence in Action at SSU



## What We are Doing

### Roaring SSU Initiative: Regular Substantive Interaction (RSI)

In 2020, the U.S. Department of Education made public updated regulatory definitions of distance education that higher education institutions receiving Title IV funds must comply with in the Distance Education and Innovation Ruling.

The U.S. Department of Education requires that all online courses for which students may use Title IV funds (federal financial aid) “ensure that there is regular and substantive interaction between students and instructors.”



The CPE has brought an online short course developed by the USG to SSU. It is the hope that all faculty, who teach online, will take this RSI Certification course in order to be SACSCOC compliant. Presentations began at the end of 2023 and implementation has now begun in 2024. To date, we have had seventy-two (72) members of the faculty and staff take the course and pass the final exam. Congratulations to the first 72 certified. We look forward to continued participation in this valuable learning.



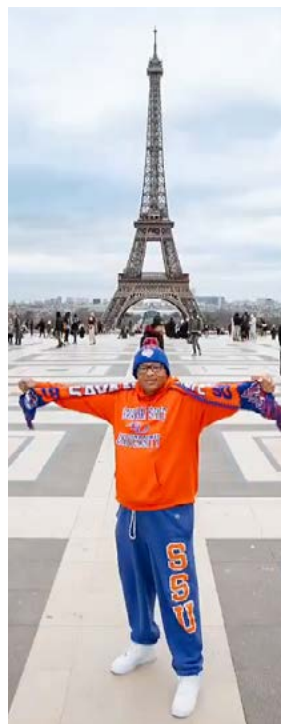
## Who We Noticed

### Take a Closer Look: Dean David Marshall

We've Noticed CLASS Dean David Marshall's enthusiasm for student success. Dean Marshall's fresh set of eyes on our campus is allowing his gift of observation to take root and bring about change that is sometimes difficult. He is setting out to interject the great news at SSU into the social media space.

In case you didn't know, Dean David Marshall is originally from Maryland, was a former DJ, and is foundationally a news reporter and historian at heart. His enthusiasm for storytelling is evident in his daily social media posts about his interactions here on our beautiful campus and on his recent trip to Paris, donning his orange and blue SSU colors. Dean Marshall says that he does not interject himself into the stories. Instead, he observes and documents stories around him – celebrating all aspects of life here on our SSU campus. He observes more wonderful stories than he can share, but vows to continue to capture moments daily for future postings. All of that reporting is not even his “day job.”

His role as dean and professor helps to hone



his own performance as a means to understand the student and set expectations for the faculty of CLASS. His goal is to shift to a more student-centric model and the results are speaking for themselves. His interactive style in the classroom and his leadership of his team challenges SSU to become the most student-focused environment possible.

When he was introduced to RSI (Regular and Substantive Interaction) regarding online learning, he immediately set an expectation to educate faculty. RSI helps students thrive in an online environment. Dean Marshall has helped to encourage and propel the 72 certifications of RSI to date.

We celebrate Dean Marshall's commitment to SSU, his abounding energy to share good news, and his joy at teaching students in his classroom. Please click the links below to learn more of Dean Marshall's efforts, and feel free to share the stories with others.

<https://twitter.com/deandavem>

<https://www.instagram.com/deandavemarshall/>



## What Is Next



April 15-16, 2024  
Athens, Georgia

[Click for Information](#)



The Center for Professional Excellence is located in Whiting Hall suite 203.

\* Free Image used for the The Tiger's Eye masthead retrieved from <https://www.vecteezy.com>.

# Title III and The Center for Professional Excellence

**Dr. Dedra Andrews**

Director, Title III  
(912) 358-4061  
andrewsd@savannahstate.edu

**Dr. Nancy E. Linden**

Program Director, CPE  
Director, QEP  
(912) 358-3333  
lindenn@savannahstate.edu  
Whiting Hall, Suite 203

**Ms. Jane C. Nichols, M.A.**

Program Support Specialist  
(912) 358-3309  
nicholsj@savannahstate.edu



**T**he offices for The Center for Professional Excellence are located in suite 203 of Whiting Hall on the beautiful Savannah State University campus.

\* Free Image used for the The Tiger's Eye masthead  
retrieved from <https://www.vecteezy.com>.