Consider using open questions below from the focus group protocol if you think they can help inform your future programming.

DLC Needs Analysis Focus Group Protocol

Introduction

Thank you for joining me today. We are talking with graduate students and future faculty about their career plans and expectations for teaching professional development. I'm going to ask a few questions. Consider this a semi-structured conversation in which multiple perspectives and ideas will be shared to help us better plan future programming.

Note: The questions below can be adapted for the specific needs of the institution. The protocol below is semi-structured, meaning that the interviewer should ask follow-up questions to fully explore respondents' answers as needed.

What careers are you considering at this stage of your education/traineeship?

What role do you expect teaching will play in your future careers?

What type of teaching professional development (workshops, mentorships, etc.) have you engaged in, if any? Why? Or What motivated you?

What have you liked/disliked about those programs?

How are graduate students and post-doctoral fellows supported in their instructional role in your department?

What challenges do you face in engaging in teaching professional development or teaching opportunities?

What type of teaching professional development (workshops, consultations, mentorship, etc.) would you like made available to you at the college and in your department?

If you were to participate in future professional development opportunities, what format and schedule would work best for you (e.g., synchronous vs. asynchronous, time of day, day of week, online vs. in-person vs hybrid)?