

Sustaining Open Cultures in HBCUs: Requirements of the Hewlett Foundation Grant

Tennessee State University: Principal Investigator

Subawards: MERLOT-SkillsCommons, OpenEd Culture.org, MITOCW

Agenda

Hewlett's Priorities

HBCU Hubs and Affiliates

Program Components & Promised Outcomes

Program Services to Help You Succeed

THE TSU Team – Dr. Melton, Dr. Q & Dr. A

Open Campus Culture: Dr. Gunder

Next Steps & Schedule of webinars

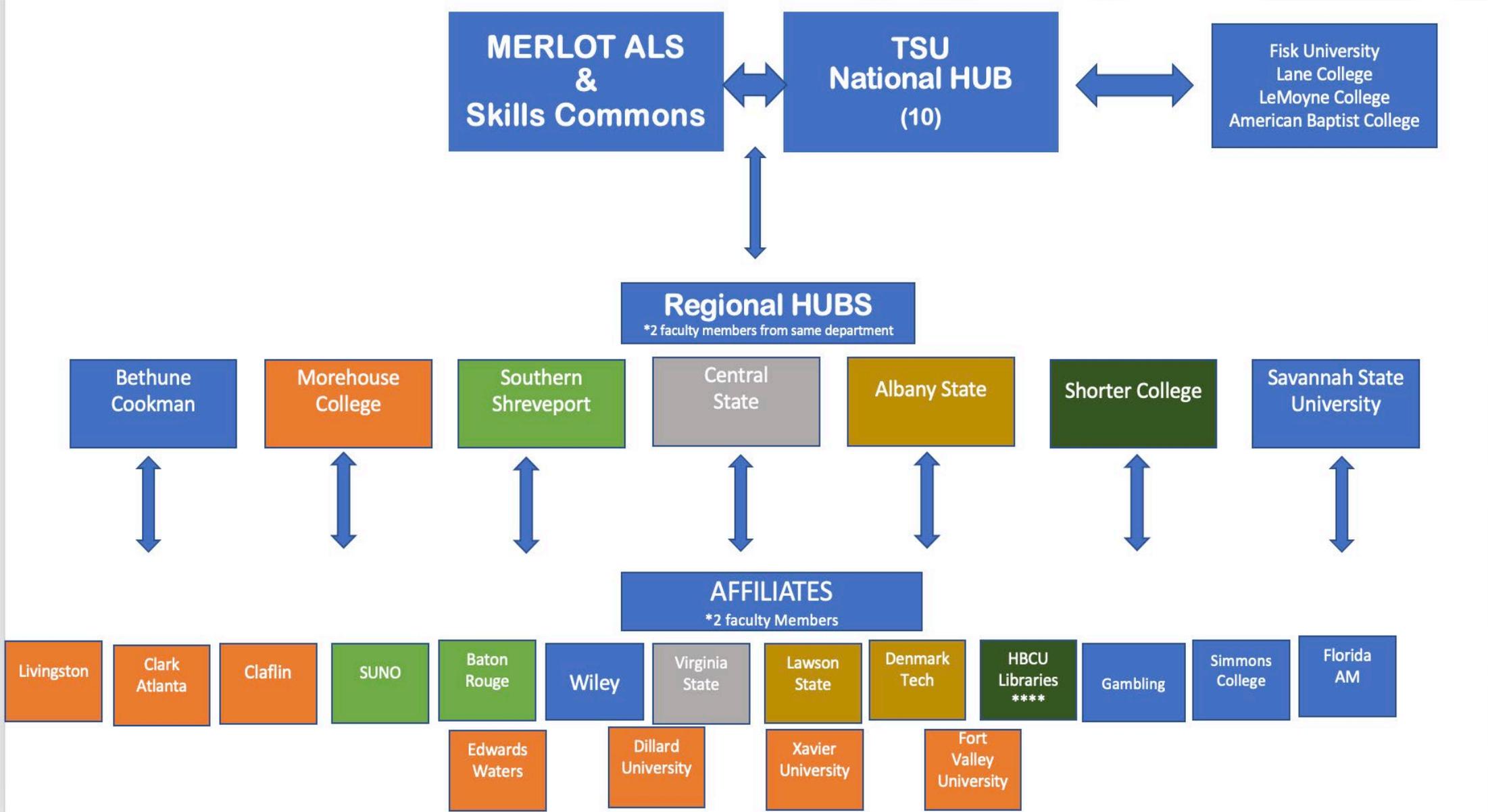
AI and OER – Dr. Robbie Melton

Hewlett Priorities

OER will have an impact on higher education only if the institutional culture enables the faculty, staff, students, and administrators to act in ways that advance and sustain open education.

HBCUs participating on this project for the last 7 years have made institutional culture changes to sustain open education. Growing these strategies to more HBCUs is a major priority for Hewlett and for us!

Community Mentoring For Changing Culture



Three Core Components of Grant Program

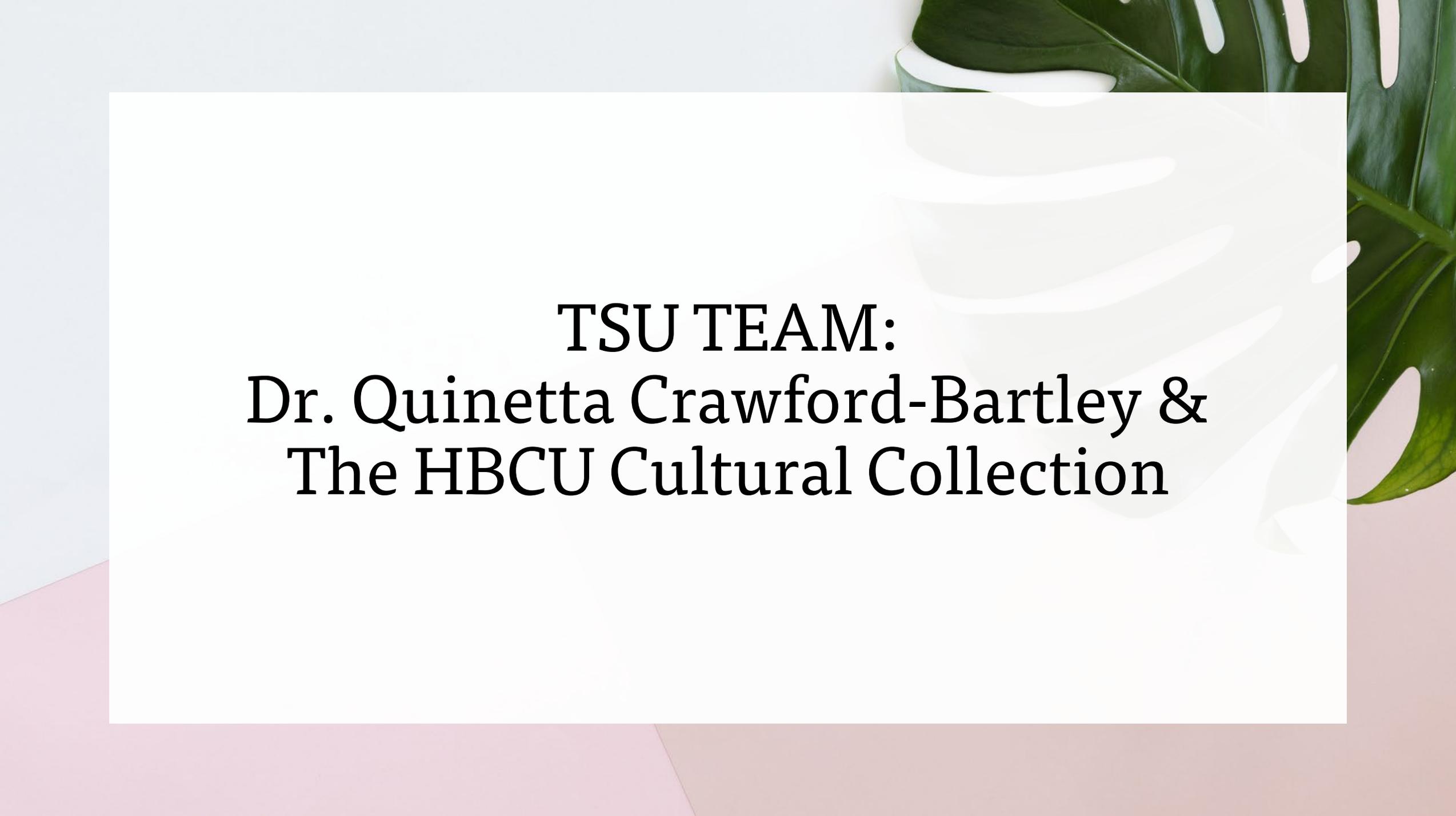
- 1. Expanding the adoption of free and open educational RESOURCES as well as other “Affordable Learning Solutions” by faculty and students.**
 - AI for OER- enabling easier discover and use of OER
 - MERLOT tools & HBCU Cultural Collection
- 2. Capturing, sharing, and adopting free and open educational PRACTICES**
 - HBCU AL\$ Affordable Learning Solutions (AL\$) Community Portal
 - HBCU’s ePortfolios for capturing faculty and student “know-how”
- 3. Building Institutional Capabilities for Sustaining AL\$ (change management to open culture)**
 - Professional development programs & training
 - Interdepartmental collaborations (library, bookstore, fac dev center, academic tech, etc.)
 - Institutional strategic plan and academic senate support

Promised Outcomes

- **AL\$ Hubs Network Expansion:** Extend the AL\$ network by integrating two new "Hubs" with current 6, thereby expanding reach to over 30 HBCUs and enhancing the cross-institutional sharing of open education resources and best practices.
- **Enhanced Professional Development Resources:** Develop and disseminate comprehensive professional development resources that cultivate competencies in open culture principles, open remix methodologies, and equitable application of AI technologies.
- **Expansion of Africana Collections in MERLOT:** Enrich the culturally responsive course materials in MERLOT's Africana collections and incorporate resources generated from professional development activities into open knowledge products.
- **Comprehensive Research and Evaluation:** Execute a systematic research and evaluation program that assesses existing open culture practices, pinpoints institutional needs, and investigates how generative AI can be leveraged to address equity gaps.

How are we going to help YOU!

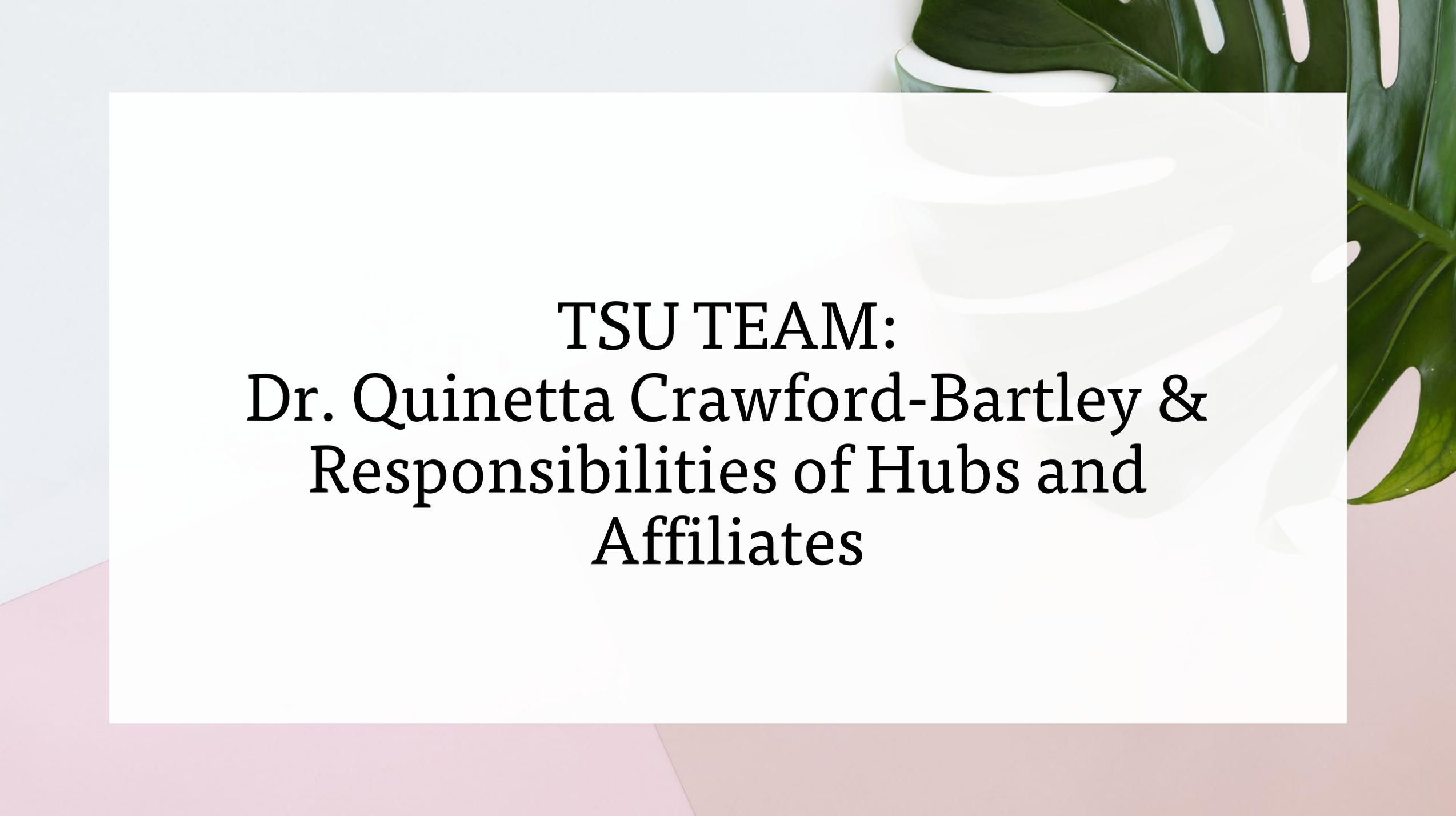
- 1. Professional Development Workshops – lots and frequently offered**
- 2. HBCU AL\$ Community Portals that provide you tools, templates, guidelines and more for you to adopt/adapt for your purposes.**
- 3. Open Culture “Playbooks” that will provide you recommendations and guidance on establishing a more open culture on your campus**
- 4. Program assessment – We will be providing the research methods to reliably collection data and write up results to provide evidence of AL\$ impact.**
- 5. 1:1 consultation with Hub leaders and/or with the HBCU AL\$ project staff**
- 6. Funding with individual stipend contracts**



TSU TEAM:
**Dr. Quinetta Crawford-Bartley &
The HBCU Cultural Collection**



**TSU TEAM:
Dr. Audie Black &
HBCU International**



**TSU TEAM:
Dr. Quinetta Crawford-Bartley &
Responsibilities of Hubs and
Affiliates**



Changing Campus Culture

Angela Gunder, Ph.D.
Opened Culture

DRIVING QUESTION

How do we amplify the good work that individual educators are doing to extend across and beyond the institution?



An Open Turn Towards Culture

A turn from the **products** we create
(i.e. open educational resources)...

...to the **practices** we engage in (i.e.
open educational practices)...

...to the **people** that make up a
community of openness...

This is OPENED CULTURE

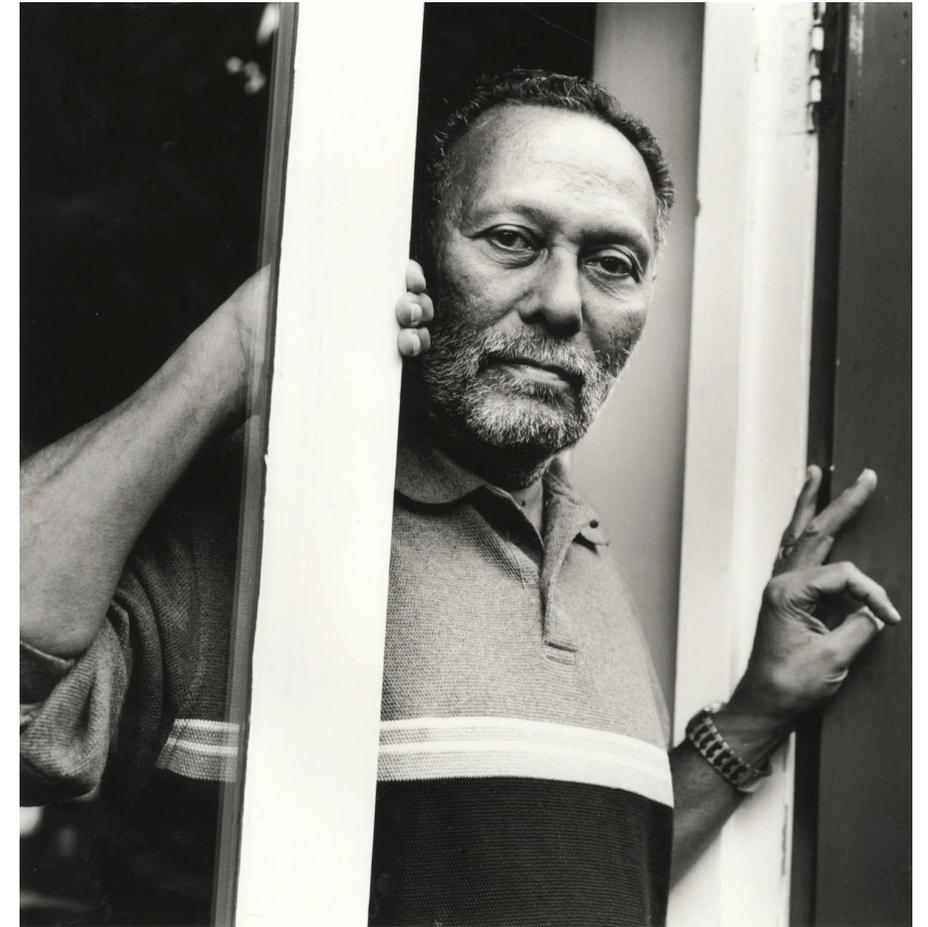


What is culture?

*Founder of cultural studies, Stuart Hall,
defines culture as:*

**“The practice of giving meaning
to people, objects and events.”**

Hall, S. (Ed.). (1997). *Representation: Cultural
Representation and Signifying Practices*. London:
Sage Publication.



What is opened culture?

A vibrant, active, and enduring **ecosystem** that gives meaning to openness and educational access through **collaboration (people)**, **innovation (objects)**, and **community engagement (events)**.

www.openedculture.com

Connecting Open Pedagogy and Opened Culture

- Participatory Technologies
- People, Openness, and Trust
- Innovation and Creativity
- Sharing Ideas and Resources
- Connected Community
- Learner Generated
- Reflective Practice
- Peer Review

Hegarty, B. (2015). Attributes of Open Pedagogy: A Model for Using Open Educational Resources. Educational Technology Research and Development: ETR & D, 55(4), 3–13.

Upcoming Activities



Playbook Series

Five playbooks released in Fall 2024 will be co-constructed with you all and cover OEP and other methods for advancing opened cultures



Workshop Series

Four hands-on, facilitated workshops offered in Spring 2025 covering the topics in the open culture playbooks, including open remix and institutional strategy

We're Excited to Support You!

Dr. Angela Gunder

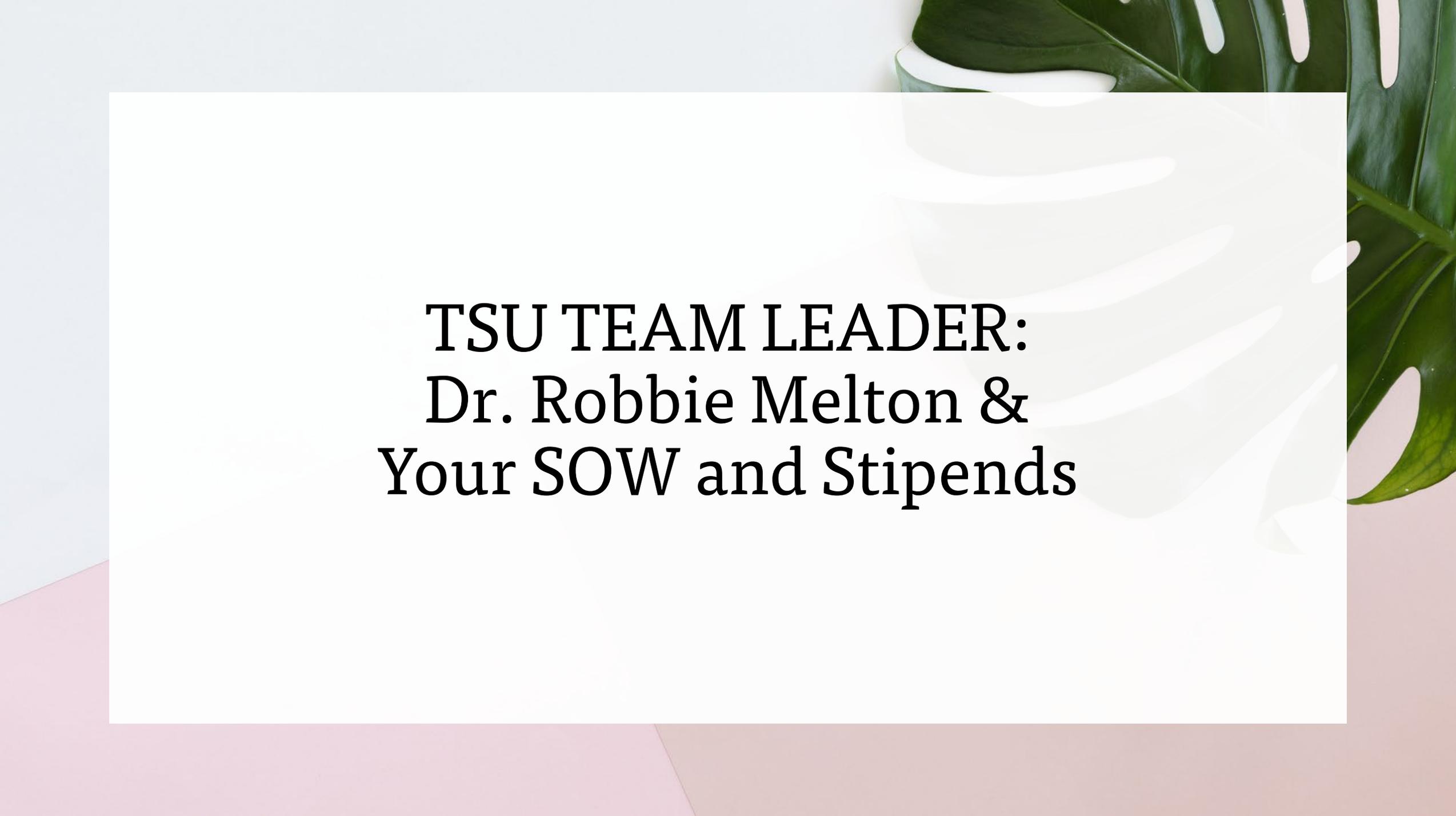
Dr. Cristi Ford

Dr. Colette Chelf

Dr. Sherry Birdwell

Dr. Andrew Swindell

www.openedculture.com



**TSU TEAM LEADER:
Dr. Robbie Melton &
Your SOW and Stipends**

HUB Letter:

If you need to
change it, you will
need to discuss
with us.

Robbie Melton, Ph.D.
Interim Provost & PI
Tennessee State University
3500 John A. Merritt Blvd
Nashville, TN 37209

Gerard L. Hanley, Ph.D.
Executive Director, MERLOT
California State University, Long Beach
1250 Bellflower Blvd
Long Beach, CA 90840

Date

Dear *[NAME of Senior Fellow of HUB Institution]*,

Tennessee State University (TSU) would like to request your leadership in the Affordable Learning Solutions Program (AL\$) as the Senior Fellow of an HBCU Hub Institution as part of the Hewlett Foundation grant project and MERLOT's initiative to improve the affordability of course materials by reducing cost of course materials for students through the adoption of free and low-cost resources as well as low-cost learning resources. This effort is designed to help shift the institutional Culture mindset. Led by Tennessee State University (TSU) and supported by California State University Long Beach's MERLOT program, this initiative accompanied by a newly developed Playbook will help guide this institution step-by-step throughout the process and facilitate change in reducing costs in educational materials.

You will be receiving a stipend of \$3,000.000 in each of 2 years from TSU for the leadership of the efforts and outcomes outlined in the following Scope of Work. You will be notified of your institution's leadership roll in this national HBCU initiative and a stipend for your efforts that go beyond your regular campus responsibilities.

The Scope of Work for the Affordable Learning Solutions - Open Education Resource Promotion is outlined below.

Scope of Work

Goals:

- Increase awareness and understanding of OERs among administrators, faculty, and students
- Promote the adoption of OER course materials to reduce textbook costs
- Develop capacity among faculty to locate, evaluate, and integrate quality OERs
- Establish a HBCU Cultural Collection of curated OERs relevant to HBCU students

Key Activities: (supported by the TSU and MERLOT teams)

- Host informational webinars and on-campus workshops to explain OERs

Affiliate Letter

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Robbie Melton, Ph.D.
Interim Provost & PI
Tennessee State University
3500 John A. Merritt Blvd
Nashville, TN 37209

Gerard L. Hanley, Ph.D.
Executive Director, MERLOT
California State University, Long Beach
1250 Bellflower Blvd
Long Beach, CA 90840

Date

Dear Drs. Melton and Hanley,

[Your Institution's Name] would like to request membership in the HBCU Affordable Learning Solutions Program (AL\$) as an HBCU Affiliate Institution as part of William and Flora Hewlett Foundation grant project and MERLOT's initiative to improve the affordability of education by reducing cost of course materials for students through the adoption of free and open educational resources as well as low-cost learning resources.

As an HBCU AL\$ Affiliate member, [Your Institution's Name] will commit to the following requirements for becoming a member of the HBCU AL\$ program:

1. Sign this letter committing to develop and implement an AL\$ program that is supported by your institution's executives and aligns with your institution's strategic priorities.
 - a. Recommend a meeting with an appropriate campus executive and explain the project and your campus' participation in the project.
2. Allocate the relevant and appropriate staffing and resources to implement your AL\$ program. Confirm at least one Campus Faculty Members (names, department and emails) who will coordinate your institution's collaboration with the HBCU AL\$ Community and it's mentoring HBCU Hub institution.
3. Begin developing a campus-specific AL\$ plan the includes a communication campaign for campus faculty and staff.
4. Participate in the periodic HBCU AL\$ member community webinars, meetings, and activities including:
 - Convene Faculty Training on OER and the use of MERLOT that is coordinated with your mentoring HBCU Hub Institution
 - Complete Baseline Faculty Survey
 - Attend at least 2 OER Professional Development Webinars per semester. These webinars are provided free of charge by the TSU and MERLOT teams.
5. Attend the annual, virtual OLC-MERLOT INNOVATE Conference and participate in the HBCU AL\$ summit activities.

Next Steps... Together

- 1. Review, sign, and send back your participation letters - Hubs and Affiliates to Dr. Quinetta Crawford-Bartley.**
 - Required for you to receive your stipend!**
 - Your “homework” checklist**
- 2. Participate in the webinars – June 11 is your first one! The webinars will be recorded**
- 3. Draft a “strategic plan” for what and why you will be implementing your custom AL\$ strategy.**

Summer Workshop Series

June 11

June 25

July 9

July 23

August 6

3-4 pm CDT

SUSTAINING OPEN CULTURES IN HBCUS

Summer
Series

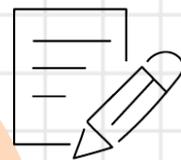
*Workshops Designed to link Professional Development, Open Knowledge
Product Creation, and Research and Evaluation to an Iterative and Holistic
Capacity-building Process to Transform Institutional Culture*

DELIVERABLES

- Add 2 New Hubs and Associated Affiliates (40 total)
- Curation of Culturally Responsive Content
- Institutionalized Open Culture Campus Wide in 15 Locations
- Professional Development including 5 Playbooks to Capture Proven Leadership Practices
- Research and Evaluation



ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES



- 2 New Hubs
- 1 Hub : 2 Affiliates
- Hub Portals Updated
- Minimum 1 ePortfolio
- Expand Africana Cultural Collection in MERLOT
- Institutionalize the Effort
- Participate in Research

**LEVERAGING OER
WORKSHOP**

**SMART PRACTICES
WORKSHOP**

**SUSTAINABILITY
WORKSHOP**

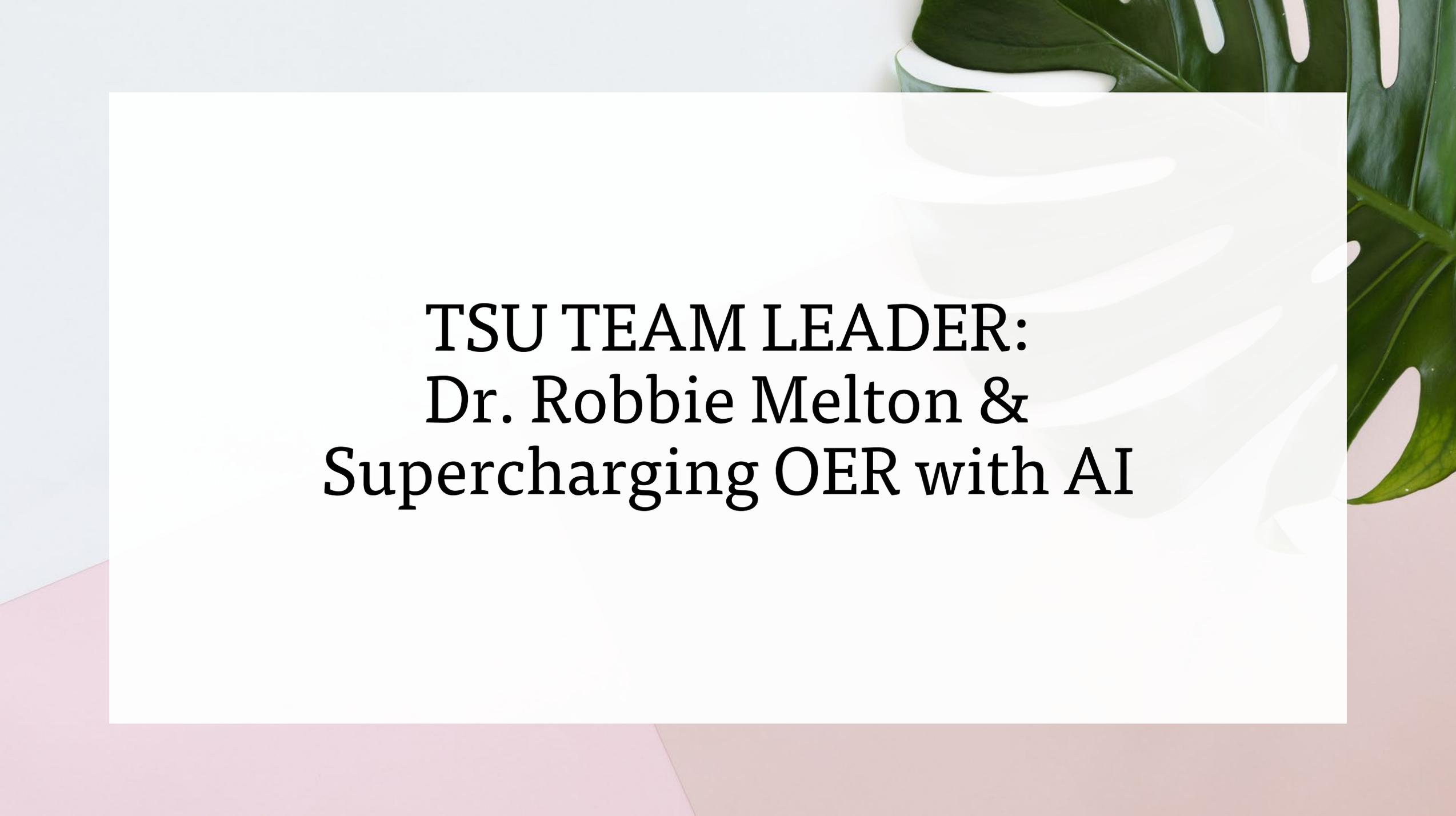
Additional AL\$ Opportunities

- **Gates Foundation Projects**

- Relevant Engaging Active Learning (REAL) Chemistry
- LUMEN Statistics
- You can have a demo presented to your faculty – email to provide more info

- **Digital Equity Act Funding**

- Developing a 4-year grant proposal to support HBCU leadership in strategies to close digital divide with very affordable broadband, computers, software, training, support, and more. Email will provide more information.



**TSU TEAM LEADER:
Dr. Robbie Melton &
Supercharging OER with AI**



**Questions?
Discussions?**



Thank you

The HBCU AL\$ Team

We are HERE FOR
YOU!

We want to HEAR
FROM YOU!

LIFE IS GOOD!