

**COUNCIL ON TEACHING**  
Follow-Up Report for  
**Teaching in Higher Education Conference Award**

Name: Stephen Cummings

Department/Unit: Social Work

Conference Attended: Council on Social Work Education, Annual Program Meeting

Date of Conference: October 24-27, 2024

Award Amount: 800.00

Briefly summarize how your attendance at the conference enhanced your professional development and allowed you to gain a better understanding of teaching in your discipline or trends in higher education in general.

- **Presentation:** I co-presented on the presentation “Mapping equity to the 2022 EPAS [Educational Policy and Educational Standards]” with a colleague from my unit as well as a colleague from the University of Northern Iowa. This presentation highlighted the work the School of Social Work has been focusing on to connect open educational resources (OER) to benefit students to reduce textbook costs.
- **Panel:** I led a panel *Overcoming barriers with open educational resources and zero textbook cost courses in social work*, related to the above mentioned presentation. Each participant discussed an OER project they are developing. I have since co-authored a journal article based on this panel presentation, with an anticipated publication date of summer 2025.
- **Academic and Practice Track:** I attended the annual Technology Research and Practice Track related to this conference, to network with colleagues on the intersection of technology and social work practice. At this meeting I was formally invited to join an Advisory Panel for the Annual Social Work Distance Education Conference, a national conference organized by the University of Alabama – Birmingham.

How have you been able to share what you learned about teaching with your department, the University of Iowa, and/or beyond?

- I serve as my unit’s Director of Master Social Work Program and Distance Education Administrator. With my department, I was able to discuss the emerging need for Open Educational Resources with my departmental colleagues, as well as the adjunct faculty that we support.
- As noted above, as the result of participating in the panel, I have co-authored a paper on the development of Open Educational Resources to assist with Zero Textbook Costs with students.

