

Thomas J. Tobin
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Salt Lake Community College would like to acknowledge Thomas J. Tobin from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He joined us September 20, 2019, at the Redwood Campus to share his wisdom and insight about "Universal Design for Learning: Reach Everyone, Teach Everyone."

Tom was so organized and easy to work with. Prior to his visit to the college, Tom did his research by contacting several employees at Salt Lake Community College to gain an understanding of what we were interested in. Delving into the strengths and uncovering some of the pain points to develop a well-rounded presentation that the College could benefit from.

The Disability Awareness Week (DAW) speaker evaluation opinions about his presentation were all in agreement: Tom definitely met our expectations! He gave insight on the timely topic of access in higher education for all learners and instructors, providing multiple formats to reach the broadest range of students enrolled in college programs. His material was useful to our current business needs. His presentation style was interactive, engaging, and thorough. He was friendly, focused, exceptionally knowledgeable, and fun to be with. He inspired and motivated faculty, staff, and students, many of whom reported they plan to implement his plus-one concept in their classrooms, offices, and schoolwork.

Some comments that DAW attendees shared include:

- Great information for those not familiar with Universal Design for Learning.

The handouts allowed the audience to focus on the speaker. Many like the size and content of the handout.

- Great speaker and great topic for today's tech savvy student and educator!
- Speaker presented ideas for every level of experience that take a little work, but are doable.

The most usable ideas gained from his presentation were:

- Plus one concept. Start small by creating one more option of how to complete assignments using one more format (audio, video, text, etc.).
- What will you do to make courses and assignments mobile friendly.
- Talk about access, not accessibility in order to reach a broader audience and gain support.
- Suggested action steps and accountability groups.

We recommend Tom to any professional group seeking to educate and inspire its audience.

Sincerely,



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