

VAL MARGARIT, ED.D.

Email: drmargarit2021@gmail.com
www.valmargarit.com;
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/valmargarit/>

Summary:

- 10+ years of progressive experience in teaching, managing, and leading students and faculty affairs, and initiatives to promote student growth and achievement
- Excellent leadership, communication, relationship building, and interpersonal skills
- Ability to foster equity, diversity, and inclusion, and work efficiently in diverse settings
- A dynamic, energetic leader with a high level of curiosity that crosses a broad spectrum of disciplines including liberal arts and sciences; business and economics; technology, society and politics; and health and wellness
- Passion for education and learning. Committed to making a local and global impact, ability to be innovative and forward-thinking to predict and respond to emerging trends
- Experience in curriculum development, design and delivery
- Experience in faculty development and training
- Skilled in building cross-functional teams, demonstrating exceptional communication and analytical skills, and making critical decisions during challenging times
- Creative, value-focused with diverse transferable qualifications comprising operations, compliance, pedagogy, performance, cultural, and human development functions
- Track record of student success, staff development and diversity initiatives
- First-generation student success advocate, creating and directing learning environments to meet the needs of diverse students
- Strategic thinker and performance results oriented

Work Experience

Administration

Associate Dean Academic Affairs

Program Director - General Studies

Keiser University, FL 4/2020 - 10/2021

- Supervised a team of Academic Department Chairs, Full-Time Faculty, and Adjunct Faculty for the General Studies, and Business programs.
- Assisted the Dean implementing and enforcing policies, procedures, and initiatives related to the advancement and improvement of the general studies and business programs.
- Managed and supported the development, coordination, and publication of the courses. schedules including adding and canceling classes. Provided oversight of faculty teaching load.
- Reviewed and responded to student, faculty issues and concerns for the programs.
- Led instructor recruiting efforts by meeting, interviewing and hiring qualified instructors.
- Managed and oversaw the retention of general education programs.

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- Advised and mentored instructors to help create new teaching approaches that inspire and generate enthusiasm.
- Promoted faculty and student growth and development through ongoing professional and academic programs and services.
- Supported and advocated incorporation of diversity, equity, and inclusion into the curriculums to broaden the education of students and expand their knowledge.
- Coordinated and provided faculty training and development and performed annual performance evaluation
- Performed degree audits, program changes and degree design plan; assisted in the accreditation process.

Professor of Social and Behavioral Sciences

Keiser University, Flagship

- Facilitated social & behavioral science courses to an international student body
- Used science-based activities to prepare students for tomorrow's challenges
- Guided students in identifying appropriate resources to ensure course completion
- Voted by students "Distinguished Instructor Award"
- Coached students on career success, wellness, resilience and growth mindset
- Coached students to overcome self-limiting beliefs and achieve their goals
- Implemented science-based strategies to motivate students into action
- Developed active-learning assignments to prepare students for career success
- Collaborated with other departments and organized a week long wellness program for the entire campus - I managed a 5K run and inspired others into actions

Professional Development Designer and Facilitator

Keiser University, Flagship Campus

- Developed and facilitated faculty professional development workshops using science-based research, which improved student and faculty wellbeing and success

Instructional Designer for the First Year Experience Program

Keiser University, Flagship Campus

- Co-developed the First Year Experience Curriculum
- Developed a minor-degree program

Department Chair -General Education & Fine Arts Programs

(DMAC) - Lynn University, Boca Raton, FL 03/2012-10/2015

- Provided day-to-day leadership to eight full-time faculty, twelve adjuncts and one librarian
- Conducted classroom faculty observation and provided constructive feedback
- Recruited, interviewed and hired academic faculty

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- Increased student retention by 25% and student persistence by 35%
- Improved department culture to reflect positive attitudes and behaviors
- Responsible for promoting teaching, learning, and assessments excellence
- Provided advisement and support for students and faculty
- Developed and coordinated programs, schedule, and faculty assignments
- Revised and updated department curricula and syllabi
- Collaborated with the Dean on compliance and accreditation efforts
- Developed, and implemented policies and procedures guides
- Responsible for staff development and training
- Assisted the Dean with new program development, courses, and activities
- Represented the college at events on behalf of the Dean
- Chaired monthly faculty meetings encouraging faculty contributions and ongoing professional development and scholarship
- Created a culture of inclusiveness, respect and professionalism
- Chaired the Faculty Development Committee and Professional Advisory Committee
- Provided support and services for students with disabilities (ADA)
- Developed and taught general education courses - online and face to face
- Facilitated ongoing holistic faculty professional development webinars

Subject Matter Expert - Instructional Designer

- Self-designed success courses for first year students
 - Public Speaking - Communication for the 21st century
 - Student Success by Design
 - Sociology

Faculty Professional Development Facilitator

- Trained faculty science -based teaching strategies and increased student retention by 21%

Department Chair & Social Studies Faculty

New Dimensions, Orlando, FL 12/2006 – 06/2012

- Liaison with the administration to evaluate departmental plans and concerns
- Created agendas and established meeting protocols that maximize collaboration time
- Led selection and interview process for selecting new department team members
- Worked with other departments to implement coursework realignment
- Maintained social studies department budget & managed all textbook & technology
- Selected and reviewed and recommended textbooks
- Created an online grading system (Engrade)
- Coached the students debate competition and own first place district level

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Teaching Experience

Associate Professor of Executive Graduate Education Leadership

Delaware State University 10/2021 - Present

- Create inclusive environments that empower students and promote world-class learning and leadership experiences
- Facilitate doctoral-level courses that prepare tomorrow's educational leaders
- Mentor future leaders to embrace and use their strengths to make a difference
- **Course currently teaching:** Ethics & Law in Higher Education

Adjunct Associate Professor of Education & Sociology- Online

Arizona University Global Campus 04/2011 – Present

- Using science-based activities to prepare students for tomorrow's challenges
- Guiding students in identifying appropriate resources to ensure course completion
- Received 4.9/5.0 average rating for teaching effectiveness from student evaluation
- Coaching students on career success, teaching effectiveness and classroom management
- Coached students on wellness, resilience and growth mindset
 - **Courses Taught Online Using Canvas:** Teaching in Higher Education, Adult Learning & Development, Issues and Innovations in Higher Education, Foundations of Educational Leadership, Curriculum & Assessment in Higher Education, Educational Policy & Administration, Sociology

Adjunct Professor of Sociology

Strayer University, Fort Lauderdale, FL, 03/2011 – Present

- Preparing students with the skills and knowledge necessary for the real world
- Creating weekly motivational announcements videos
- Mentoring and coaching students to believe and to achieve their full potential
- Received 4.9/5.0 average rating for teaching effectiveness from student evaluation
 - **Courses Taught Online Using Blackboard:** Sociology of Developing Countries, Solutions to Global Issues, Society, Law and Government, and the Politics of Culture, Sociology of Gender, Race, and Ethnicity

Associate Professor of General Education - MBA Program

Millennia Atlantic University, Doral , FL, 03/2014- 08/2020

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- Implemented motivational theories, and pedagogical strategies to ensure every student achieves success and is prepared for the real world
- Received 5.0/5.0 rating for teaching effectiveness from student evaluation
- Worked with international, multicultural and diverse students and faculty
- Recruited, advised, and coached students on leadership and success strategies
- Courses Taught: Sociology, Leadership Organization, Business Communications, Organizational Behavior, Human Relations, Ethics and Social Responsibility

Faculty Development Trainer

Millennia Atlantic University, FL, 03/2015-08/2020

- Facilitated science-based professional development faculty training

Professional Development And Training Certification

- Canvas and Blackboard Training
- Dissertation/ Thesis Workshop
- Inclusive Leadership
- Making Critical First Impressions
- Ethics Instructor Training
- Professional Image Development Training
- Best Teaching Practices
- Student Retention Practices Training
- Neuro-Programming Linguistic (NPL)

Publications

- **Margarit, V.** (2021). Transformative Teaching and Heutagogy. In S. Hase & L. M. Blaschke (Eds.), *Unleashing the Power of Learner Agency*. EdTech Books.
<https://edtechbooks.org/up/transform>
- **Margarit, V., Slater F. T.** (2020). The Successful Graduate Student Mindset: How to Set Your Mind to “IT” When You’re Busy. ASIN: B0863TWXZJ
- **Margarit, V., & Kennedy, J.** (2019). *Students’ Variables Predicting Timely Graduation at a Community College*. *Journal of Higher Education Theory and Practice*, 19 (6) 2019
- Margarit, V. (2018). *The Successful Student Mindset. Change Your Mind, Change Your Reality*. [Kindle Version]. ASIN: B07GR SKYSS

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- Margarit, V. (2017). *Why Not YOU? How to Become an Empowered Woman*. (2017). Professional Woman Network: Louisville, KY. ISBN: 978-0-578-194 72-1
- Margarit, V. (2014). *The Relationship Between Selected Background, Financial, Academic, and Instructional Integration Variables and Timely Graduation at Community College*. (Doctoral Dissertation). Nova Southeastern University, Fort Lauderdale, FL.

Webinars Designer & Facilitator

- Margarit, V. (2021, June, 24). *Intentional Communication Performance, Productivity, & WellBeing*. [Webinar] Keiser University Pembroke, Pines Campus
- Margarit, V. (2021, March 2). *Adaptive Pedagogy: Transformative Teaching & Learning During Covid*. [Webinar] Keiser University, Flagship Campus
- Margarit, V. (2021, Jan 26). *Seven Steps to Become A Transformational Education Leader*. [Webinar] Keiser University, Flagship Campus
- Margarit, V. (2020, Oct 28). *Managing Your Online Teaching Persona* [Webinar] Keiser University, Flagship Campus
- Margarit, V. (2020, June 24th). *Brain Filters: Unleash Your Brain's Power For Unlimited Success*. [Webinar] www.valmargarit.com/events
- Margarit, V. (2020, June 4th). *How To Be An Excellent Online Instructor*. [Webinar] www.valmargarit.com/events
- Margarit, V. (2020, June 2nd). *How to Reprogram Your Brain for Success*. [Webinar] www.valmargarit.com/events
- Margarit, V. (2020, June 1st). *Teaching with Purpose: Creating a Positive Climate for Student Success*. [Webinar] www.valmargarit.com/events
- Margarit, V. (2020, May 29th). *How to Motivate Students to Learn*. [Webinar] www.valmargarit.com/events
- Margarit, V. (2020, May 21st). *How to Prepare for the Future of Work in 4 Easy Steps*. Keiser University Pembroke Pines

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- Margarit, V. (2019). *Mindset for Success: Change Your Mind (Brain) Change Your Life: Rewire Your Brain For Success in 7 Powerful Steps*. Invited speaking engagement at Back on Track, Davie, FL.
- Margarit, V. (2019). *Mindfulness: Reduce Stress and Anxiety in the Classroom*. Millennia Atlantic University, Doral, FL.
- Margarit, V. (2019). *Teaching by Design: Managing Successful Mindsets*. Facilitated faculty professional development workshop at Millennia Atlantic University, Doral, FL.
- Margarit, V. (2018). *Teaching with Purpose: Creating a Climate for Student Success*. Facilitated faculty professional development workshop at MAU, Doral, FL.
- Margarit, V. (2017). *Student Success Variables that Predict Retention*. Invited to develop and facilitate a faculty development webinar at Strayer University.
- Margarit, V. (2015). *Diversity in the Classroom and Workplace*. Invited to develop and facilitate a faculty and staff workshop at Digital Media Arts College, Boca Raton, FL.
- Margarit, V. (2014). *Why Do We Need Cultural Intelligence?* Invited speaking engagement at the Digital Media Arts College, Boca Raton, FL.

Conference Presentations

- Margarit, V. (2021, August 18). *Teaching at Its Best: Empowering Students & Faculty to Achieve Excellence Using Transformational Teaching & Heutagogy*. [Conference presentation] Keiser University, Florida.
- **Margarit, V.**, Kennedy, J. (2019 June 1-5). *The Relationship Between Student Background, Financial, Academic, and Institutional Integration Variables And Students' Timely Graduation at Community College*. [Paper presented and published in the proceedings of the International Academic Conference on Education (ICE), Dublin, Ireland.
- Margarit, V. (2018 August 2-5). *Why Not YOU? How to Become an Empowered Woman*. [Presentation delivered at the Professional Woman Network International Conference, Louisville, KY, USA.

Honors And Awards

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- 2020 Distinguished Professor Award, Keiser University Flagship
- 2019 Best Presentation Paper Award, ICCE, Dublin, Ireland
- 2018 Outstanding Faculty Teaching, College of Education, Ashford University
- 2014 Outstanding Faculty Service, Digital Media Arts College, Boca Raton, FL
- 2013 Best Speech Award, Toastmasters, Pompano Beach, FL
- 2010 Professionalism Award, Broward County Courthouse, Student Mock Trials
- 2009 Excellence in Education The David & Annette Jorgensen Award, Chicago, IL
- 2009 Teacher of the Year, New Dimensions High School, Kissimmee, FL
- 2008 Outstanding Civic Service Awards, Law-Related Education, Tallahassee, FL

Research Interests

- First Generation College Students Access, and Completion Rates
- Teacher Effectiveness and Instructional Leadership
- Leadership Education

Professional Associations

- American Sociological Association
- American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education
- American Association of Community Colleges

Education

Doctor of Education - Higher Education Leadership
Nova Southeastern University, Davie, FL. 2014

Education Specialist - Higher Education Leadership
Nova Southeastern University, Davie, FL. 2011

Master of Arts - Sociology
University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL. 2005

Bachelors of Arts - Sociology;
Minor Political Science
University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL. 2003

Associates of Arts - Sociology
Miami Dade Community College, Miami, FL. 2001

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Certificate of Completion - University of Colorado Inclusive Leadership

- *Lifelong learner- Better than yesterday - I cultivate an ongoing, proactive approach to learning and becoming my best self each day.*

Languages

- Fluent in English and Romanian
- Spanish - excellent conversational skills
- French and Greek - minimal

Skills

- Proficient in Microsoft Office, Outlook; Adobe; SPPS; Power Point
- Highly organized - time management, goal settings, measuring results
- Detail-oriented and self-motivated
- Self-confident, honest and loyal
- Excellent interpersonal relations skills to ensure performance goals and objectives are met
- Leadership, and teambuilding skills
- Cultural and emotional intelligence
- Neuroplasticity Trainer & Coach
- Ability to motivate and inspire others into action
- *Course Management Systems:* Blackboard and Canvas
- Human development training
- Visionary leader passionate about helping people achieve their full potential

Leadership And Personal Qualities:

- Inspirational, pragmatic, diplomatic, and patient leadership that honors the core values of the institution, but also encourages risk-taking
- Performance and results oriented. Self driven with an exponential mindset.
- Ability to create organizational systems and apply project management skills in support of institutional-wide change within a complex academic program
- Authentic empathy, warmth, and collegiality, and an ability to spread these qualities across an entire staff
- A passion for inspiring programmatic change, but an understanding that to do so requires establishing lasting peer-to-peer relationships
- Savvy communication and dynamic presentation skills—both written and oral

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- A collaborative, cooperative, and growth-oriented mindset
- Enthusiasm for students and teachers to pursue their passions, talents, and interests, both in and out of the traditional classroom
- A vision that is aligned with the needs of a dynamic and diverse staff
- A love of learning and a willingness to support unique and unpredictable learning journeys of both students and staff
- On purpose to help people achieve their highest potential.
- Rebuilding and rewiring the brain for maximum performance and success using neuroscience/neuroplasticity

Community Service

- Teaching & Learning Committee member, Keiser University Flagship
- Advisory Board Member - Gen Ed & Political Science, Keiser University Flagship
- Volunteer Judge- Dwyer Awards for Excellence in Education 2021
- Member Accreditation Committee, Millennia Atlantic University, 2015-2019
- Graduation Committee - DMAC
- President - Homeowner Association, 2017-2019
- Board Member, Professional Woman Network, Louisville, KY - 2017 - present
- Professional Woman Network Ambassador to Romania, 2017-present
- United Nations Association, Member, UCF, Orlando, FL 2001-2005

World Traveler - Real Life Experience

- Asia: Cyprus- Lebanon –Sri Lanka-Turkey
- Africa: Egypt
- Central America: Costa Rica- Guatemala-Panamá
- Caribbean: Bahamas-Jamaica-Dominican Republic
- Europe: Austria- Bulgaria-Croatia-Czech Republic-Cyprus-Denmark
- England-France-Germany-Greece-Hungary-Ireland-Italy-Netherlands
- Norway-Poland-Romania-Spain-Serbia-Slovenia-Vatican City-Monte Carlo
- North America: Canada- Mexico-United States

Wellness And Health

- Promote and advocate wellness and health and well-being
- Marathon runner - 3 times
- Mindfulness meditation practitioner/teacher
- Abundance Mindset Coach

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