

**INSPIRE Office of
Flexible Learning**

**INSPIRE Spring
Interession**

**Collaboration and
Interdisciplinarity**

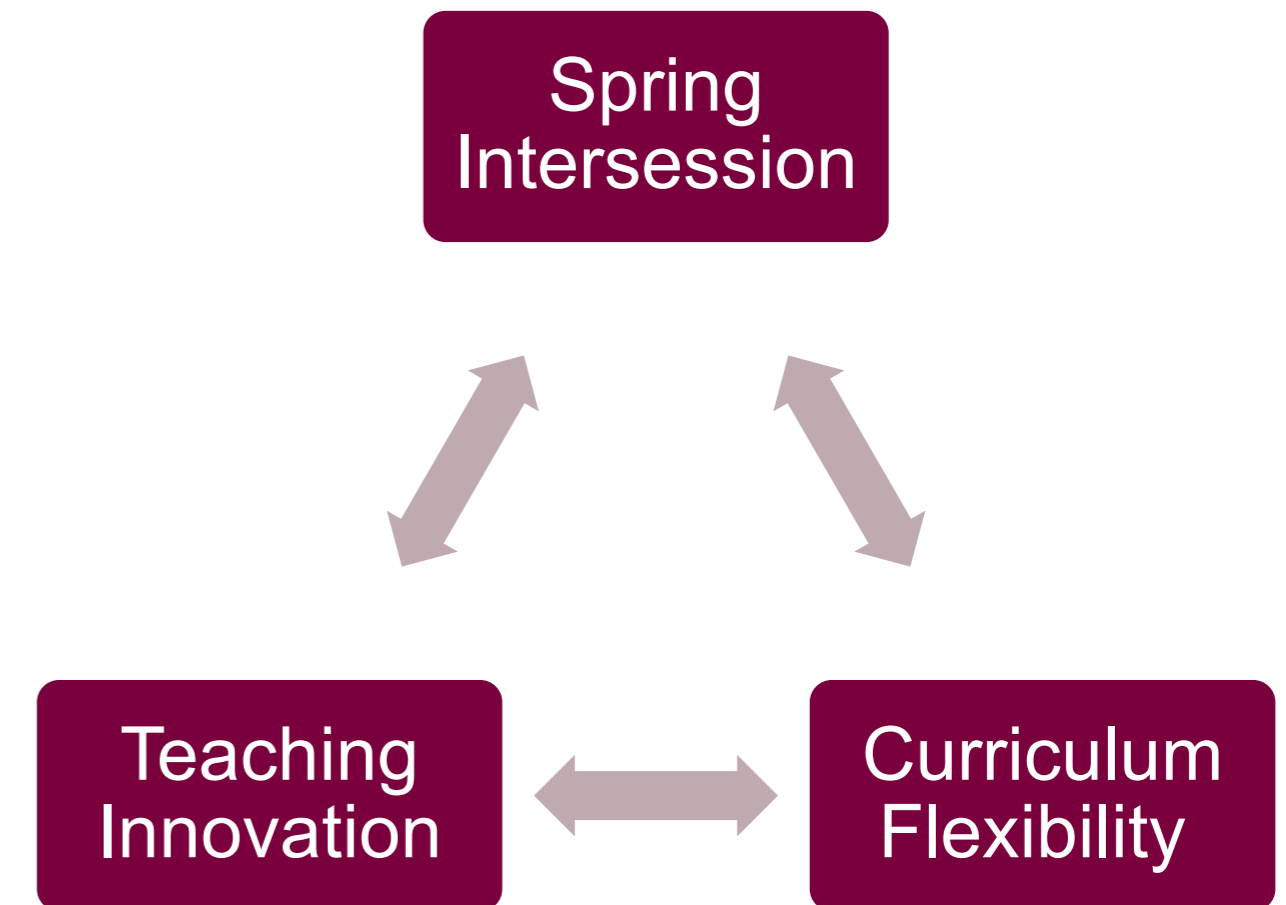
Dr. Kimberley Dej
7 May 2024



Initiative

Strategic Alignment Fund Submission, 2019

- Create a more fulsome spring semester that provides novel interdisciplinary and experiential learning opportunities (Spring Intersession)
- Creation of a level I interdisciplinary, experiential and community-engaged course, INSPIRE 1A03
- Micro-courses open to students in levels II-IV



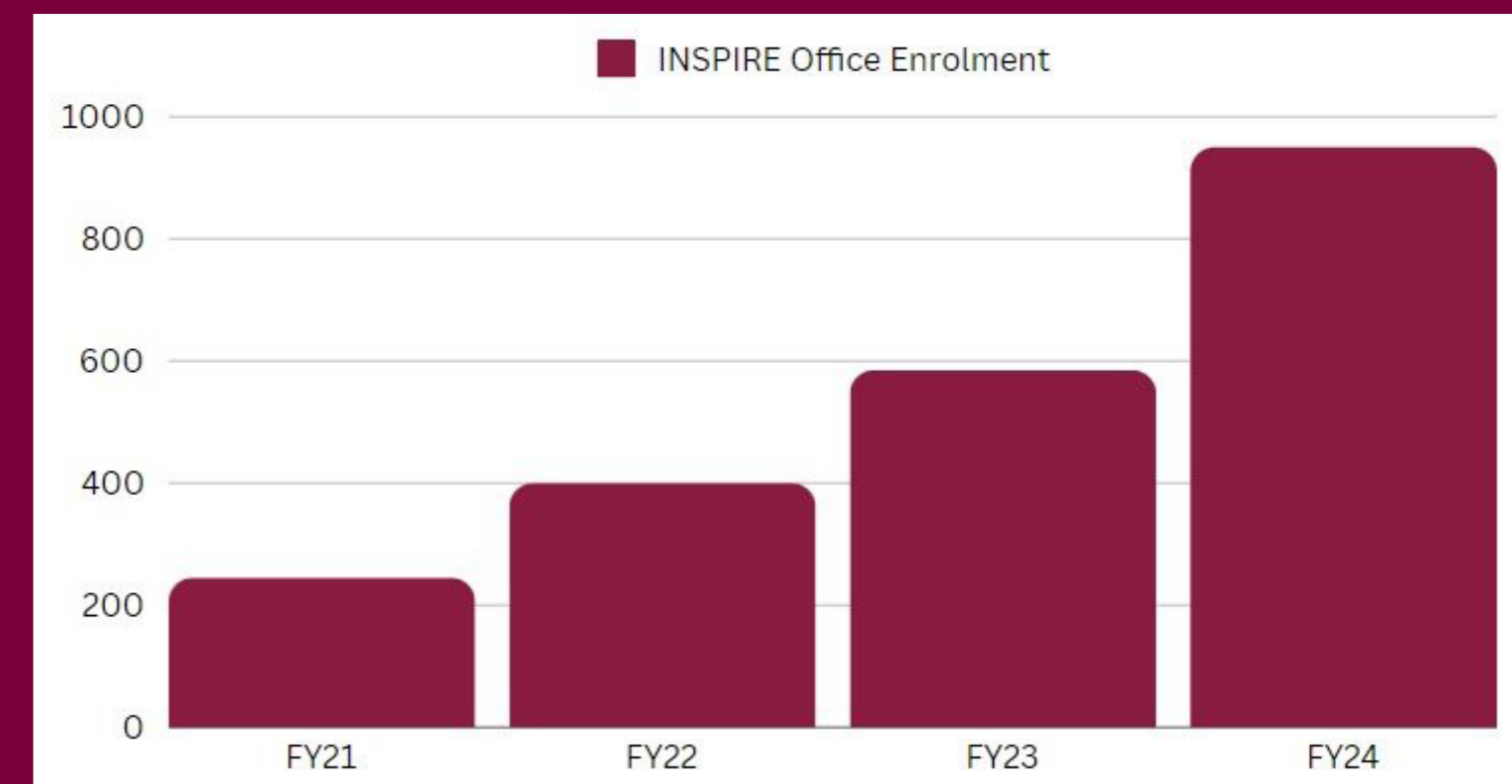
Outcomes

Intersession Term, Curriculum Flexibility and Teaching Innovation

- Successfully created a new academic term, *Intersession*
- Recognition of co-curricular opportunities as for-credit courses, in partnership with Service Units:
 - INSPIRE 3AR3, Athletics and Recreation
 - INSPIRE 3WW3, Student Success Centre
- Framework and support for instructors to offer experimental, and innovative courses that may not fall within a typical Faculty
 - INSPIRE 1PL3 - Student Success Centre, Housing and Conference Services
 - INSPIRE 3II3 - Centre for Human Rights and Restorative Justice, Equity and Inclusion Office, McMaster Library, Michael DeGroote Centre for Medicinal Cannabis Research
 - INSPIRE 3MP3 - McCall MacBain Postdoctoral Fellows Teaching and Leadership

1800
Students have
enrolled in an
INSPIRE course

50% of those enrolled during Intersession term



Outcomes

Additional Achievements

Interdisciplinary Minors

- Provide an academic home for foundational courses in the interdisciplinary minors Africa and Black Diaspora Studies, Latin American and Latinx Studies
- Lead the pilot registration process for Interdisciplinary Minors in Mosaic

Curriculum Development

- Pilot partnerships with Faculties realized into permanent course offerings with more pending Fall 2024:
 - INSPIRE/SUSTAIN 2GS3
 - INSPIRE/LINGUIST 3AS3
- Creation of faculty and student curriculum committees to provide meaningful insight into programming

Micro-credentials, micro-courses

- Project Coordinator to lead McMaster micro-credentials plan, 2024-2025
- Provincial reporting to online micro-credential hub
- Piloted suite of 1-unit courses with Student Success Centre and 2 offerings of INSPIRE 1A03

Lessons learned, best practices

- Incorporation of student voices and needs directly into curriculum through consultation and collaboration
- Partnerships of shared resources between similar interdisciplinary programs regarding administration of courses and program

