Every Learner Everywhere Launches Innovative "Expert Network"
Free and flexible coaching on equity, inclusion, and digital learning
for higher education faculty and administrators

Boulder, CO (January 5, 2021) – As a leader in digital learning and equitable teaching, Every Learner Everywhere has launched a first-of-its-kind "Expert Network" to provide critical professional coaching and practice at no cost to faculty, course coordinators, instructional designers, and academic leaders at U.S. institutions of higher education. The Network expands Every Learner's mission of advancing equity and inclusion in blended and online learning models by offering one-on-one advice around issues related to digital learning, including courseware selection and digital pedagogy. Free coaching sessions can now be booked on the Expert Network site.

"The global pandemic, coupled with an increased awareness on racial inequities, is propelling years of digital learning work," said Jessica Rowland Williams, Ph.D., Director of Every Learner Everywhere. "While no one would wish for the struggles of 2020, it is up to us what happens next. Our challenge to the field is to turn this crisis into an opportunity to focus on how to create quality courses that include equity at the start. If we follow best practices now, we can ensure long-term advantages for all students, especially those who are often marginalized."

Powered by Every Learner's partner, the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE), the Expert Network is comprised of equity experts from across the country. The launch of this flexible coaching program comes at a time when higher education faculty and leaders need additional guidance through the COVID-19 crisis, including the massive migration of face-to-face instruction to online learning. According to recent Every Learner surveys, while faculty feel better prepared for digital instruction now than they did for the Spring 2020 semester, they still report substantial needs for quality, ongoing support, especially with respect to equity.

"The challenges of 2020 for educators and leaders in both K-12 and higher education are unprecedented, but disruption can pave the way for innovation," stated ISTE Chief Learning Officer Joseph South. "ISTE is proud to partner with Every Learner to offer coaching focused on equity and digital learning through the Expert Network, which offers that critical piece of tailored, one-on-one attention to address the authentic challenges that practitioners bring to the table. As such, it's a great complement to existing Every Learner assets and helps ensure that equity is at the center of teaching and learning decision-making."

Faculty, course coordinators, instructional designers, and academic leaders should visit the Every Learner Expert Network to browse the biographies of the seven experts and book a

one-on-one session. Collectively, the expert coaches bring a wide range of expertise from STEM instruction to digital humanities, critical race theory in education, digital pedagogy, and more.

Every Learner Everywhere's founding mission and focus remains on equity and racial justice; digital courseware, learning technology, and sustainability; and evidence-based teaching in gateway courses. Across the country, through focus groups and surveys, Every Learner and its partners continue to hear a growing chorus asking for more resources and more guidance in navigating the unprecedented challenges presented by COVID-19.

To learn more about Every Learner Everywhere and its collaborative approach to equitize higher education through digital learning, visit www.everylearnereverywhere.org, email everylearner@wiche.edu, or call (303) 541-0206. Follow ELE on Twitter @EveryLearnerNet.

Every Learner Everywhere is a network of 12 partner organizations that collaborate with higher education institutions to improve student outcomes through innovative teaching strategies, including the adoption of adaptive digital learning tools. Evidence demonstrates active and adaptive learning has the potential to improve course outcomes and digital solutions lower the cost of course materials, particularly for Black, Latinx and Indigenous students, poverty-affected students, and first-generation students. Our network partners represent leaders and innovators in teaching and learning. We have specific expertise in the adoption, implementation, and measurement of digital learning tools as they are integrated into pedagogical practices.

The **International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE)** is a nonprofit organization that works with the global education community to accelerate the use of technology to solve tough problems and inspire innovation. Our worldwide network believes in the potential technology holds to transform teaching and learning.

ISTE sets a bold vision for education transformation through the ISTE Standards, a framework for students, educators, administrators, coaches, and computer science educators to rethink education and create innovative learning environments. ISTE hosts the annual ISTE Conference & Expo, one of the world's most influential edtech events. The organization's professional learning offerings include online courses, professional networks, year-round academies, peer-reviewed journals, and other publications. ISTE is also the leading publisher of books focused on technology in education.