# CONTENTS

## FOREWORD

*Stephen Carroll*

## RETENTION, PERSISTENCE, AND SUCCESS

**Clarifying the Challenge**
- Introduction 1
- Institutional Response and Increased Expectations 6
- What Does Teaching Have To Do With This? 8
- Significance of the Teaching Professor 9
- Overview of the Chapters 10
- Conclusion 11
- Notes 12

## CLASS CLIMATE

**Widening the Circle for a Diverse Student Body**
- Introduction 13
- Promote a Positive Classroom Climate 14
- Embrace Students' Diversity 18
- Increase Our Own Cultural Competence 20
- Encourage Student Interactions 21
- Foster a Community of Learners Within Our Classes 23
- Conclusion 27

## THE FIRST MONTH OF THE SEMESTER

**Engage, Connect, and Commit**
- Introduction 29
- Class Protocols (or Policies) 30
- In-Class Engagement Expectations 31
- Importance of Making Connections 34
- Activating Prior Knowledge 35
- Increase Relevancy With Real-World Issues 37
- Culturally Relevant Material 38
- Significance of a Commitment 40
- Conclusion 41
- Notes 42

## MOTIVATION AND ATTITUDES

**Impact of Mindsets and Mental Toughness Attributes**
- Introduction 43
- Mindsets: Fixed or Growth 44
Promoting Growth Mindsets
Mental Toughness
Nurturing Mental Toughness Components
Self-Efficacy Reinforced
Conclusion
Note

INTERACTIVE LECTURES
Using Meaningful Educational Activities
Introduction
Favoritism and Bias of the Traditional Lecture Format
Creating Interactive Lectures
Improving Lecture Techniques
PowerPoints, Class Notes, and Handouts
Conclusion
Notes

READING ASSIGNMENTS AND CLASS DISCUSSIONS
Stimulate Deeper Learning
Introduction
Required Books: Choose 'Em and Use 'Em
Preparing for Class: Reflections and Responses
Anticipating Difficulty With the Reading: Five Steps to Use
Reading and Critical Thinking Skills
Conclusion
Note

WRITING ASSIGNMENTS
Promote Critical Thinking and Writing
Introduction
The Quintessential Value of the Written Word
In-Class Response Writing Tasks
Out-of-Class Reflective Writing Tasks
Substantive Formal Writing: Procrastination and Plagiarism
Discouraging Plagiarism and Encouraging Scrutiny of Sources
Conclusion
Notes

RESILIENCE, HABITS, AND PERSISTENCE
Hold Fast and See It Through
Introduction
Building Academic Resilience
Developing Positive Habits and Routines
Promoting Productive Persistence
Conclusion
Note

EPILOGUE
Final Thoughts
Teacher Impact on Diverse College Students

APPENDIX A
Readings for Expanding Cultural Competence

APPENDIX B
Organizing Student Interaction With Multiple Small-Group Configurations

APPENDIX C
Quote of the Week: Examples From Diverse People for Supporting Growth Mindsets and Mental Toughness Attributes

APPENDIX D
Note-Taking Tips for Students and a Few Tips for Professors

APPENDIX E
A Strategy for Building Vocabulary

REFERENCES

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

INDEX