



The Vice Rectorate for Educational and Academic Affairs

Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching

# Annual Report

Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching (CELT)

1446 AH | 2025

King Saud University

**Table of Contents**

- 1. Introduction ..... 3
- 2. Excellence in Learning and Teaching Grants – 8th Session ..... 3
  - Outcomes ..... 3
  - Strengths of the 8th Session ..... 3
  - Figure: Number of Applicants by Colleges ..... 4
  - Participating Projects ..... 4
- 3. Academic Learning and Teaching Conferences ..... 5
  - The service aims to: ..... 5
  - Figure: Examples of the academic learning and teaching conferences ..... 5
- 4. Educational Consultations ..... 7
  - Classification of Consultations by Type and Delivery Method ..... 7
  - Figure: Educational consultation service Ad ..... 8
  - Figure: Educational consultation beneficiary satisfaction form ..... 9
- 5. Enhancing Effective Teaching Series ..... 10
  - Examples ..... 10
  - Figure: Example of enhancing effective teaching series Ads ..... 10
- 6. Educational Resources ..... 11
  - Figure: Examples of the educational resources Ads ..... 11
- 7. Review and Evaluation of the Excellence in Learning and Teaching Grants ..... 13
  - This project aims to: ..... 13
  - Methodology ..... 13
  - Findings and Recommendations ..... 13
- 8. Teaching Competencies Framework at KSU ..... 14
- 9. KSU Teaching Fellowship ..... 15
  - Fellowship Goals ..... 16
  - Figure: KSU Fellowship opening of registration announcement ..... 16

## 1. Introduction

---

This report presents the achievements of the Center of Excellence in Learning and Teaching (CELT) for the academic year 1446 AH. It covers the Center's main projects: the 8th session of Excellence Grants, Academic Learning and Teaching Conferences, Educational Consultations, the Effective Teaching Series, Educational Resources, Review and Evaluation of the Grants for Excellence in Learning and Teaching, the KSU Teaching Competencies Framework, the launch of the KSU Fellowship in University Teaching and Learning by service program.

## 2. Excellence in Learning and Teaching Grants – 8th Session

---

CELT launched the 8th session of the Excellence in Learning and Teaching Grants program, which aims to encourage faculty members to adopt distinguished teaching practices, apply innovative strategies, and experience high-impact practices in undergraduate courses contributing to improved student achievement and engagement in learning environments.

- The program was announced on September 15, 2024 and launched on January 16, 2025 in the second semester.
- An introductory meeting was held via Zoom on January 16, 2025.
- Faculty participants implemented their grants according to the Center-approved plan and submitted preliminary, mid-term, and final reports for review.
- Each faculty member uploaded a detailed final report and supporting evidence — including video clips — to their personal cloud folder by April 27, 2025.
- Final project outputs were published on the Center's official website.

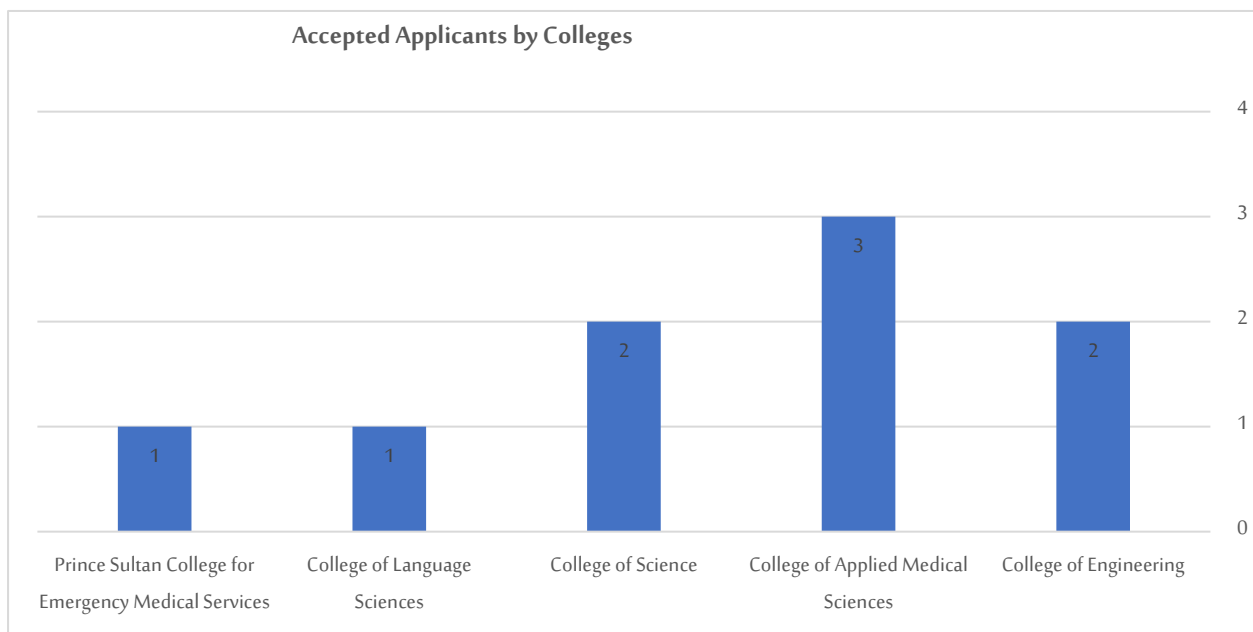
### Outcomes

- Transfer of successful teaching practices and experiences in the educational field.
- Implementation of innovative teaching, assessment, and feedback methods that stimulate student motivation and enable efficient achievement of learning outcomes.

### Strengths of the 8th Session

- Artificial Intelligence: Real-time support, immediate feedback, and activate them in the practical application.
- Simulation: Improving students' level of understanding has led to increase interaction with course material.
- Student Engagement: Diverse interactive tools and encouraging students to continuously interact by combining challenge, enjoyment, and targeting students technical interest.
- Strengthening practical application and use of real lab tools.
- Multiple performance assessment opportunities through learning-progress-linked measurement tools.
- Field experiences, engaging students in applied projects, real tasks, and links to training organizations.
- Development of labor market skills.
- Applicability of some ideas to other courses.
- Application of interdisciplinary learning.

Figure: Number of Applicants by Colleges



#### Participating Projects

1. Translation Office Simulation (classroom activity).
2. Effectiveness of AI in mathematics teaching on problem-solving skills and academic achievement.
3. Virtual Lab Table.
4. Enhancing active learning and group interaction through simulation in cognitive and motor psychology through simulation-based learning: Digital Escape Room as an innovative tool.
5. Dual study using gamification activities enhanced with AI.
6. Using generative AI in competency-based education for medical clinical practice.
7. Active teaching and interactive E-quizzes for teaching and learning Linear Algebra using PowerPoint, ClassPoint, and AI tools.
8. Cooperative professional education between students in Applied Medical Sciences.
9. Understanding petroleum fluid flow through theory, physical/numerical simulation, and field practice.

For more information, please visit [Excellence in Learning and Teaching Grants – 8th Session website page](#)

### 3. Academic Learning and Teaching Conferences

---

Academic Learning and Teaching Conferences in CELT's website features a bilingual (Arabic/English) pages listing the latest university learning and teaching conferences, first published on August 18, 2024.

The service aims to:

- Save faculty members time and effort by facilitating access to information on specialized academic conferences in teaching and learning field.
- Encourage attendance at relevant conferences and workshops, enhancing faculty pedagogical skills and academic abilities.
- Strengthen KSU's participation at Arab and international levels through faculty involvement in global academic conferences events which contributes in highlighting the university position and fostering the exchange of expertise with leading academic institutions.

Figure: Examples of the academic learning and teaching conferences



**International Conference on Education  
and E-Learning (ICEEL 2026)**

**Multi-Format (On-site / Online)**



**5th–6th October 2026**



**Bangkok, Thailand**

The International Conference on Education and E-Learning (ICEEL 2026) provides an international platform for scientists, scholars, educators, and professionals from universities and industry around the world to present ongoing research, share ideas, experiences, and application outcomes in the fields of teaching, learning, and e-learning. The conference fosters research collaboration, networking, and knowledge exchange among global partners.

For Conference Link [CLICK HERE](#)

For more information, please visit [Academic Learning and Teaching Conferences website page](#)

#### 4. Educational Consultations

The Educational Consultations program aims to improve students' learning experiences by helping faculty build those experiences on scientific principles. It provides support in pedagogy and teaching, technology integration, course design, assignments, assessments, and Integrating Generative AI in Teaching and Learning. The Center reviewed over 25 websites of learning and teaching centers at international universities to benchmark best practices in order to support the development of the program.

The service is announced through the daily communication system and digital displays for faculty members, in both Arabic and English. A total of 16 consultation requests were received by the Center. Of these, 12 consultations were delivered, while 5 requests were not served as they fell outside the Center's scope; the applicants were contacted and directed to the appropriate concerned units. Additionally, the Center collaborated with 7 consultants to deliver the service during the year.

##### Classification of Consultations by Type and Delivery Method

		Count
<b>Requests received</b>		16
<b>Consultations delivered</b>		11
<b>Consultants</b>		7
<b>Type of Consultation</b>	<b>Teaching strategies</b>	3
	<b>Technology integration into education</b>	7
	<b>Assessment</b>	1
	<b>Educational design</b>	1
	<b>Integrating Generative AI in Teaching and Learning</b>	4
<b>Consultation Delivery Method</b>	<b>Via Zoom</b>	6
	<b>By phone</b>	8
	<b>By email</b>	3

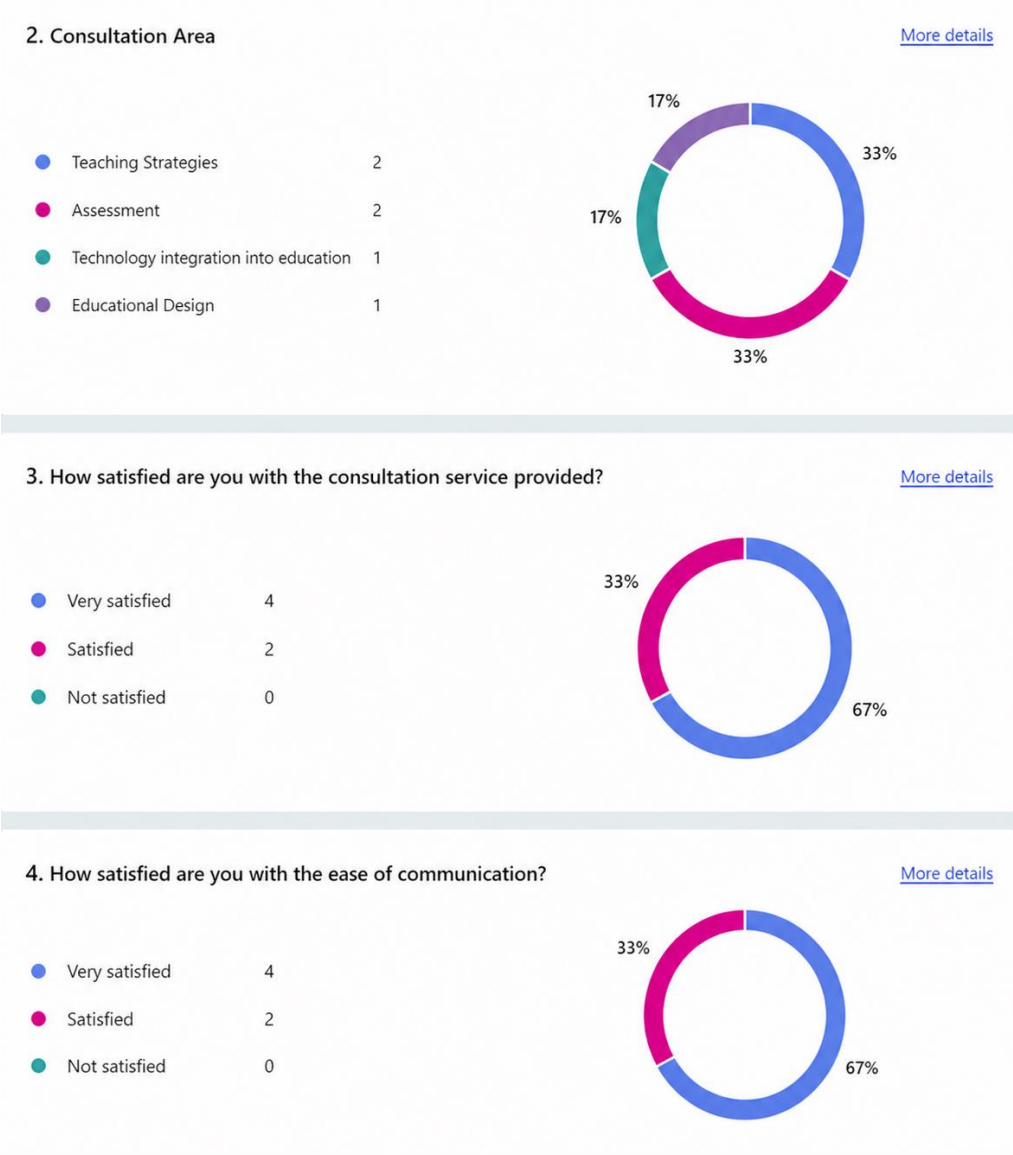
Figure: Educational consultation service Ad

The advertisement features a dark blue header with the text "Apply for consultation in the following areas" in white. To the right is the King Saud University logo, which includes the Arabic text "جامعة الملك سعود" and "King Saud University", along with the motto "The Vice Rectory for Educational and Academic Affairs" and "Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching". Below the header, the main title "Educational Consultation Service" is displayed in white, followed by the text "Faculty members and their equivalents, provided by an elite consultants". A list of service areas is shown in light blue rounded rectangles: "Integrating Technology into Education", "Teaching Strategies", "Assessment", "Educational Design", and "Integrating Generative AI in Teaching and Learning". The last item is marked with a red "New" tag. Below this list, the text "Consultation is provided through" is accompanied by three circular icons representing email, a computer monitor, and a telephone. At the bottom, a dark blue banner contains contact information: the email "celt-f@ksu.edu.sa" and phone number "0118050949" on the left; a QR code with the text "To request an educational consultation, scan the barcode" in the center; and another QR code with the text "For more information about the Educational Consultation Service" on the right.

The Center was keen to deliver consultation services in a manner that achieves their intended objectives and ensures beneficiary satisfaction. Accordingly, a beneficiary satisfaction form was designed, which service requesters are asked to complete. The form includes: consultant’s name, consultation type, level of satisfaction with the service provided, and suggestions for improving the consultation service.

The form was completed by four beneficiaries, and the results were as follows:

Figure: Educational consultation beneficiary satisfaction form



For more information, please visit [Educational Consultations website page](#)

## 5. Enhancing Effective Teaching Series

Excellence in Learning and Teaching offers a series of evidence-based guidelines and recommendations aimed at enhancing effective teaching through the application of effective methods and strategies in higher education.

This series provides practical ideas for faculty members to inspire excellence and innovation in university teaching. During the academic year, the Center published 16 series installments through the daily communication system and digital display screens for faculty members, in both Arabic and English languages.


### Examples

- Preparing for the First Lectures of the Semester.
- In-Class Group Activity.
- Why and How Do Students Activate Previous Knowledge?
- Engage Students Effectively in Educational Online Discussions.
- Smart Exam Preparation: Active Learning and Effective Review.
- Designing Assignments Using Generative AI Tools.
- Enhancing the Quality of Multiple-Choice Questions.
- Effective Final Exam Review Sessions.
- Good Test Preparation.

Figure: Example of enhancing effective teaching series Ads


Enhancing Effective Teaching Series

## Designing Assignments Using Generative AI Tools






King Saud University  
Educational and Academic Affairs  
Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching

Using Gen AI tools will help save time, increase productivity, and creativity


 **Generative AI** is a branch of artificial intelligence that creates new content, such as images, text, and videos, by recognizing patterns of a large dataset, and **Gen AI tools** generate new content.

**A proposed method for designing assignments using Gen AI tools**


- ✦ Choose a specific topic for the assignment.
- ✦ Write a clear and concise assignment description, and instruct the Gen AI tool to generate objectives, questions, instructions, and a rubric for the assignment.
- ✦ Verify the accuracy and relevance of generated results, and select appropriate content for the assignment.
- ✦ Reflect on the use of the tool, identify the obstacles encountered, and propose ways to develop the assignment and its designing mechanism.

Examples for popular Gen AI tools:  ChatGPT  Gemini  Copilot

References



<https://sdaia.gov.sa/ar/MediaCenter/KnowledgeCenter/ResearchLibrary/GenAI.pdf>  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nYGvQjxd4o>



Share your successful educational practices with us [celt-f@ksu.edu.sa](mailto:celt-f@ksu.edu.sa)

For more information, please visit [Enhancing Effective Teaching Series website page](#)

## 6. Educational Resources

As part of the Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching's efforts to enhance the effectiveness of the teaching and learning process and elevate the quality of teaching practices at the university, the Center develops and publishes educational resources based on established and documented practices previously published on its official website. The Center published 11 resources during the academic year.


These resources are disseminated periodically through the "Tawasul" program, in both Arabic and English, ensuring their reach to all colleges and academic departments. The distribution follows a timeline aligned with the sequence of academic semester activities. The following is a list of the educational practices announced according to the sequence of academic semesters:

- Teaching Philosophy
- Assessing Prior Knowledge
- Using Technology to Identify Prior Student Knowledge
- Organizing Student Knowledge
- Using Generative AI to Create Activities and Assignments
- Motivating Student Participation with Electronic Voting Tools
- Activating Student Discussion Forums
- Using Effective Feedback in Assignments
- Using Effective Rubrics in Student Assessment
- Role-Play Strategy
- Effectiveness of Peer Feedback

Figure: Examples of the educational resources Ads

Educational Resources


### Using Effective Rubrics to Evaluate Student Performance




The course professor assigns his students to write a report. He uploads the performance task on the course page on Blackboard, with a brief explanation of how to write the report. He also attaches a rubric that shows the criteria required to complete the report.


The course professor notices the students' many questions and wonders! "Although I attached a rubric that shows the evaluation criteria, I did not find any benefit from it for the students. Their questions are still repeated even after assigning the grade, their questions increase about the reason for the deduction.


To learn more about [Using Effective Rubrics to Evaluate Student Performance](#), visit the [Educational Resources page on the Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching website](#).




**The Issue:**  
Students do not pay attention to the rubric, or they look at it but do not understand it as required. Also, the description of some of the criteria was not clear.





celtsku


0118050788


<https://celt.ksu.edu.sa/ar>

The Vice Rectorate for Educational and Academic Affairs  
Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching



جامعة الملك سعود  
King Saud University

Educational Resources

### Using Technology to Identify Students Previous Knowledge



One of the main problems that the course instructor may face, is the ability to determine the previous knowledge of all students, especially in large classes (a large number of students) or in irregular classes (variation in levels).

To learn about some of the technology tools used to identify students' previous knowledge, visit the Learning Resources page on the Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching website.



It is good to know advanced technology tools that help in engaging students and knowing more about their level of knowledge and expectations



celtksu



0118050788



<https://celt.ksu.edu.sa/ar>

The Vice Rectorate for Educational and Academic Affairs  
Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching

جامعة الملك سعود  
King Saud University



For more information, please visit [Educational Resources website page](#)

## 7. Review and Evaluation of the Excellence in Learning and Teaching Grants

---

The **Grants Program for Enhancing Effective Teaching** was launched in 1432H (2011) in its first session as part of the activities of the Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching, representing a unique initiative at the level of Saudi universities aimed at developing undergraduate education. The grants are supported by the Vice Rectorate for Educational and Academic Affairs, which focuses on enhancing the university student experience (Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching, 2025).

The program aims to provide financial support for developing effective mechanisms and practices in teaching and learning, with the objective of improving student learning outcomes, developing faculty members and enhancing their teaching skills, creating a motivating environment for innovation and development, and strengthening graduates' competencies. It also seeks to leverage these initiatives as tools for sustainable change at both institutional and departmental levels. The first session in 2011 received appreciation from faculty members and their equivalents. Although the number of applicants whose projects received funding has declined across subsequent sessions, applicants have continued to apply for these grants.

### This project aims to:

- Develop an operational plan for the program.
- Analyze strengths and weaknesses through benchmarking.
- Review applications and program models across eight sessions.
- Identify gaps between proposed ideas and final outputs.
- Provide recommendations to bridge the gap between expectations and actual outcomes.

### Methodology

- Benchmarking against leading international universities offering similar grant programs.
- Analysis of program documentation (applications, evaluation forms, and supporting evidence).
- Conducting interviews with faculty members (reviewers, applicants, and non-applicants).
- Applying SWOT analysis and gap analysis to assess the current situation.

### Findings and Recommendations

#### Identification of two key gaps:

- Decline in the number of applicants.
- Limited number of innovative ideas.

The Center demonstrates strong institutional capabilities that can be leveraged for further development. Moreover, several areas require improvement to enhance program effectiveness alongside areas requiring improvement through the implementation of targeted recommendations or a development plan to support decision-makers. These are linked to available opportunities that can be utilized to further enhance the Excellence in Learning and Teaching Grants in line with modern trends in teaching and learning.

## 8. Teaching Competencies Framework at KSU

---

In alignment with the objectives of the University, as stipulated in the Statute of King Saud University, and pursuant to **Article (21)** of the Rules and Procedures for the Development of the Educational Process at the University which states in **paragraph (7)** the “supervision of the development and implementation of a practical framework for university teaching competencies and the required performance standards for faculty members and their equivalents” the Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching has undertaken the development of this framework.

**The framework comprises two main domains:** Teaching and Learning and Teaching Development. Under these domains, six core competencies are identified: Planning and Preparation, Application of Teaching Strategies, Learner Empowerment, Learning Assessment and Feedback, Teaching Improvement, and Professional Development of Teaching Practices.

These competencies encompass a **total of thirty-nine performance indicators**, representing observable university teaching practices, as identified through the methodology adopted for developing this framework.

## 9. KSU Teaching Fellowship

---

KSU Teaching Fellowship **Program** (as an extension of the Promising Faculty Program) is designed to scientifically develop faculty members' performance so that they become leading models in university teaching, adopt best educational practices, and apply engaging and effective teaching methods that stimulate student learning and improve academic performance. This, in turn, contributes to enhancing the overall quality of the educational process and its outcomes at King Saud University.

Three sessions of the Promising Faculty Program have been implemented, achieving high levels of satisfaction among beneficiaries across all sessions. The program also received the **Khalifa Award for Education** in the category of innovative educational projects and programs at the Arab level during its first session in (2015/2016). Given its strong objectives, design, and outcomes, the program is considered highly competitive.

In line with the goals of the Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching and its continued commitment to supporting faculty members and fostering excellence and innovation in teaching, the Center undertook the development of the program. In January 2022, a benchmarking study and comprehensive review were conducted against **20 reference programs**, based on the **QS World University Rankings 2021**, including universities from the United States, the United Kingdom, Australia, and Asia. These programs focused on professional development for faculty members offered by Centers for Excellence in Learning and Teaching.

The study found that approximately **79%** of the reviewed universities offer internal institutional programs aimed at developing faculty teaching skills and conclude with certification, while around **21%** offer fellowship-based programs. Some of these institutions award fellowships accredited by the **UK Higher Education Academy (HEA)**.

The importance of the Teaching Fellowship Program at King Saud University lies in its alignment with the University's commitment to continuous improvement and academic excellence. The program aims to develop faculty teaching competencies based on the **Teaching Competencies Framework at KSU**, thereby enhancing the overall academic environment and supporting the University's broader goals of advancing knowledge and preparing students for the labor market by addressing diverse student and societal needs.

The program also contributes to achieving the University's **fifth strategic objective**, which focuses on enhancing the efficiency of human resources. Faculty members face several challenges, including dedicating sufficient time and effort to teaching and balancing teaching responsibilities with research and other academic duties. These challenges may limit their ability to systematically develop their teaching skills, often leaving them to rely on individual efforts, **which presents a challenge in enhancing teaching quality and positively impacting overall student outcomes**.

By adopting a tailored approach that addresses faculty needs within the context of institutional priorities and challenges, the Teaching Fellowship Program enhances teaching excellence and educational quality. It provides professional development opportunities that enable faculty members to implement effective teaching and assessment strategies, ultimately improving student learning outcomes in line with high-impact global practices.

Furthermore, the Teaching Fellowship Program ensures that faculty members remain up to date with innovative teaching methods, the integration of technology in education, and engagement in collaborative and research-based teaching initiatives, thereby fostering a culture of academic excellence.

### Fellowship Goals

- Enhance faculty teaching skills and innovative practices through professional development and targeted mentoring.
- Improve student learning outcomes through adoption of high-impact teaching and assessment strategies, resulting in enhanced student learning experiences and outcomes, as well as increased student satisfaction.
- Strengthen KSU's reputation as a leading institution in teaching excellence.
- Foster a culture of continuous improvement and excellence in teaching effectiveness.
- Encourage faculty members to engage with and further explore scholarly research on academic teaching across various disciplines, and to foster an environment for the exchange of ideas.
- Build an academic community that promotes sharing effective academic teaching practices.

Figure: KSU Fellowship opening of registration announcement



The graphic is a promotional announcement for the King Saud University Teaching Fellowship. It features a circular inset image of a building entrance with arches and a sign that reads 'King Saud University' in Arabic and English. To the right of the circle is a grey box with the text: 'The Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching announces the opening of registration for: King Saud University Teaching Fellowship'. In the top right corner, there is a logo for King Saud University and the Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching. At the bottom, a dark grey box contains the following text: 'Registration opens on Tuesday, 27 May 2025. The program will be implemented during the academic year for two semesters. For more information and registration, please visit the program page on the Center's website: [celt.ksu.edu.sa](http://celt.ksu.edu.sa)'.

For more information, please visit [KSU Teaching Fellowship website page](#)