

Peer-Led Team Learning International Society  
Tenth Annual Conference  
Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri  
Wednesday ~ Saturday, June 1-4, 2022



## Developing a Sense of Belonging Among Group Members

**FRIDAY, JUNE 3, 2022**

While today's students are the most connected generation through social media, their feelings of aloneness have never been higher. Online learning has increased a sense of loneliness of students who crave real community. Overt and subtle forms of racism impede success for historically-underrepresented students. Small learning groups and their leaders have a unique opportunity to be on the frontlines of engagement by creating an inclusive learning environment so that all have a sense of belonging. Principles shared during this talk can also be applied to the classroom by faculty members as well.

**DAVID R. ARENDALE, Ph.D.**, is an Associate Professor Emeritus in the Curriculum and Instruction Department at the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities (UMN) and Co-convenor of Colleagues of Color for Social Justice. At UMN, he led a team that developed the Peer Assisted Learning program for courses throughout the curriculum. Arendale investigates the history and best practices of peer assisted learning groups, equity programs, learning assistance, and academic interventions supporting improved student achievement and persistence. At the University of Missouri-Kansas City, Arendale was National Project Director of Supplemental Instruction and guided dissemination and research. The Council of Learning Assistance and Developmental Education Associations inducted him as a *Founding Fellow* of the profession. Among his publications is *Access at the crossroads: Learning assistance in higher education* (Jossey-Bass). Current research and publications are available at [www.arendale.org](http://www.arendale.org) and his podcasts and social media are at [www.davidmedia.org](http://www.davidmedia.org)



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