

## **Julia Williams: “Communication for Academic Change” (Hands-on, Interactive Session)**



**Communication is both the medium through which academic change is achieved and sometimes the biggest obstacle to making change happen.**

In this session, we will use a set of communication tools based on the book “Buy In” by John Kotter. **Using practical strategies to support your work as a change agent,** we will practice using these tools in a variety of conversational situations, such as presenting your change idea in a department meeting, encountering resistance to your idea from a colleague, and other contexts.

**Julia M. Williams is a Professor of English in the department of Humanities, Social Sciences, and the Arts at Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology.** She joined the faculty of the Humanities and Social Sciences Department at Rose-Hulman in 1992, then assumed duties as Executive Director of the Office of Institutional Research, Planning, and Assessment in 2005. In 2016, she was appointed Interim Dean of Cross-Cutting Programs and Emerging Opportunities. She returned to the classroom in 2019. Her experience in undergraduate teaching began in 1985 when she taught English Composition at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, then continued through her graduate years at Emory University, where she received the Excellence in Teaching Award from the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. Throughout her career at Rose-Hulman, she has blended her work in the classroom with work in assessment. Williams’ publications on assessment, engineering and professional communication, and tablet PCs have appeared in the Journal of Engineering Education, IEEE Transactions on Professional Communication, Technical Communication Quarterly, and The Impact of Tablet PCs and Pen-based Technologies in the Classroom, among others. She has been awarded grants from Microsoft, HP, the Engineering Communication Foundation, and NSF. She has also collaborated with colleagues at Rose-Hulman and at the University of Washington Center for Evaluation & Research in STEM Equity (CERSE) to support the work of the Revolutionizing Engineering and Computer Science Departments (RED) grant recipients. Williams has received numerous awards including the 2015 Schlesinger Award (IEEE Professional Communication Society), and the 2010 Sterling Olmsted Award (ASEE Liberal Education Division)