



# A World-Class Faculty

IRWA unveils next steps in instructor development

BY DEIDRE ALVES, M.ED.

**In January, IRWA launched its new CLIMB Instructor Development Program, an innovative learning lab designed to integrate cutting-edge instructional methods that support a powerful learner-centered experience.**

Our newly CLIMB Certified faculty ensures that learning is happening—and happening for the long haul in a way that positively impacts professional development at the core of an individual. Yes, even the most technical subject matter comes alive for the learner. It's possible, it's memorable, and it works!

## Cutting Edge Instructional Methods

Now, more than 70 IRWA Instructors can add the prestigious “CLIMB Certified” status to their credentials. These instructors represent a world-class faculty trained in the most current instructional methods and standards that focus on long-

term retention, application of new knowledge and skills, and assessment accountability. And this is just the beginning of IRWA's plans to support, engage and develop this esteemed faculty. The program will be supported by ongoing initiatives that empower instructors to refine their toolbox, reinforce critical areas of focus, and excel in authentic real time assessment. Following are some of the programs being planned to support our newly CLIMB Certified Instructors.

## Secret Student Program

We are pioneering a positive initiative to support instructors and ensure quality of programming. A cadre of IRWA leadership from across the organization will be vetted as Secret Student Reviewers. These reviewers are there to observe that the CLIMB standards and practices are in effect. Much like a “Secret Shopper,” the instructors will not be informed if one of them is present. Through this effort, IRWA can ensure quality and

consistency across all IRWA in-class programming. It is an effort designed to positively enhance and support the program, instructors and the students.

## Shared Resources

All CLIMB Certified Instructors have been invited to participate in an exclusive group on the IRWA Member Network. This new forum offers the opportunity to share and discuss everything related to educational instruction and enhancing the classroom experience. From exchanging ideas to discussing innovative approaches to using the CLIMB methods, this invaluable resource connects all of our CLIMB Certified Instructors, providing a place to share best practices for presenting the best learner-centered experience for our students.

## Resource Library

We are currently working on building out The Monocle, IRWA's Resource Library on IRWA University. We want instructors to have access to specially curated and approved resources that they can easily use in class to enhance the learning experience.

IRWA is fully committed to supporting our instructors. It is this focus on instructor development that enables right of way subject matter to come alive, affect professional development and credentialing, and reinforce IRWA's position as the central authority for global infrastructure real estate. ✪



*Deidre is IRWA's Vice President of Professional Development.*