

BY DEIDRE ALVES, M.ED.

Creating a dynamic learning experience for class participants continues to be an important priority, and it all relies on IRWA's team of highly skilled instructors. This year, our goal is to accelerate and grow the new instructional skills of our IRWA CLIMB Certified faculty. Officially launching this initiative, we have named the year our CLIMB Acceleration Year of IRWA Instructor Development.

Connecting and Sharing

We wanted to create an opportunity where our faculty could feel connected, share information, get the latest news, learn new instructional concepts and strengthen CLIMB skills—together on a quarterly basis, live and face-to-face. To meet this challenge, the concept of the "Instructor Small Circle" was born.

Beginning with the first quarter of this fiscal year, instructors will be invited to their very own Small Circle. Our 139-person faculty will be separated into five teams, each with about 28 instructors, and each led by a CLIMB Coach who is a member of The Partnership for Infrastructure Professional Education. The Small Circle will meet via videoconference—a live face-to-face experience—and

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each Small Circle will cover the same material on the same day to ensure that the entire faculty is synchronized. The beauty of the Small Circle is that no one gets lost in a sea of participants. Rather, the circle brings the team "close-in" and is personalized with more of an opportunity for connection and learning.

Impacting Industry

Accelerating and strengthening the IRWA CLIMB Certified faculty means a stronger instructor in the classroom, a more dynamic learning experience for the student, and a Chapter or Region who is making this all possible by scheduling and promoting IRWA classes. The better our collective educational experience is, the better equipped our people are to do great work—build bridges, tunnels, roads, pipelines, and provide electricity and water across the globe. Together, we are all positively impacting our industry and improving the quality of people's lives through infrastructure development... and IRWA Education.

And to think…it all begins with one IRWA class. ❖



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