

# Consultant Biography

## Dr. Jodie Steele

Dr. Jodie Steele has dedicated more than 25 years to higher education and the use of educational technology. She has a M.A. in History and a Ph.D. in Education with a specialization in teaching and learning with technology. Steele's career includes both teaching and administration in the California Community College system. She taught undergraduate history courses for 17 years before taking a position as the Director of Distance Education & Instructional Technology at Fresno City College in Fresno, California.

Intrigued early on by the promise of distance education to enable broader access to higher education, Steele has a resume of actions that represent a commitment to student-centered diversity, equity and inclusion. Collaborative efforts include being a jury member from 2011 - 2013 with the Department of Labor's Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training ([TAACCCT](#)) program. The grant awarded \$1.9 billion for large-scale sustainable open educational resources (OER) to improve quality and innovation in higher education

When COVID-19 shifted the educational landscape in 2020, Dr. Steele worked with the Charles A. Dana Center at The University of Texas at Austin to develop FOCI Series 4, [Creating Effective Learning Experiences at a Distance](#). Nearly 400 faculty in higher education from around the country participated in this professional development series, learning how to convert face to face instruction to virtual. Her expertise was employed for several collaborative projects in 2020. She was a co-presenter of [Planning for the Unexpected: Front and Center](#), the keynote at the Online Teaching Conference in June 2020. Dr. Steele partnered with the Institute for the Study of Knowledge Management (ISKME) and the Michelson 20MM Foundation to author [guides](#) for faculty and administration to adopt Open Educational Resources (OER) while shifting to online instruction in 2020 and beyond. She has been featured in several publications including *Inside Higher Education*, *the Chronicle of Higher Education* and *the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education*. Serving as a board member of the Distance Education and Educational Technology Advisory Committee (DEETAC) at the California Community College Chancellor's Office, Dr. Steele assisted with the creation and passage of title 5 regulations for distance education.

Engaging in thoughtful discourse grounded in evidence-based pedagogy is not a new endeavor for Steele. Universal design has been a passion of hers, as it is essential for student success with equitable virtual instruction and services. Holistic efforts require equity, compliance, and access as gateways for pedagogical shifts. Since 2014, Dr. Steele has been a leader with the pioneering work of the [CVC/OEI](#) (California Virtual Campus/Online Education Initiative), collaborative cybersecurity programs and responsible procurement for digital tools and other various statewide groups.

Future projects include the development of digital credentials for students through badging and supporting a series [Driving Equitable Student Outcomes: Implementing Equity Minded Teaching and Learning](#) for the Charles M. Dana Center. She will also be part of a panel of higher education leaders in December 2021. The panel will discuss responsible procurement of digital tools in higher education that includes a rubric around equity, costs, accessibility, technical requirements, and short/long term adoption.