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Joel Gardner Franklin University, joel.gardner@franklin.edu

Lewis Chongwony Franklin University

Amie Tope amie.tope@franklin.edu

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Instructional Design Leadership and Management Competencies: Job Description Analysis

Lewis Chongwony

Franklin University
Lewis.chongwony@franklin.edu

Joel L. Gardner

Franklin University
Joel.l.gardner@gmail.com

Amie Tope

Franklin University amie.tope@franklin.edu

Abstract

Researchers in the field of instructional design and educational technology journals usually focus on the practice of instructional design; however, the management and leadership of instructional design has typically received little emphasis. Recent studies have investigated the competencies associated with effective leadership and management of instructional design from the perspective of those they lead, and from the perspective of leaders in higher education. There is, however, little systematic research into what competencies employers require of leaders and managers of instructional designers in higher education. This research would provide the field with further guidance on training and preparing instructional design leaders and managers. In this study, we explore and report on the competencies required of instructional design managers in higher education by analyzing 30 job descriptions posted by institutions of higher education. Results of this analysis identified major categories with 17 competencies. Communication skills, Instructional Design and Related Areas, and General Leadership and Management Expertise were the competencies noted most frequently within the job posts. We share the results of the study, including typical job titles, common job descriptions, and education and experience requirements. Finally, we briefly highlight the implications of these findings and provide recommendations for future research, practice, and training of future instructional designers and leaders.

Introduction

Researchers in the field of instructional design and educational technology journals typically focus on the practice of instructional design, including theories, models, processes, and technologies (Gardner, Chongwony, & Washington, 2018; West & Borup, 2014). However, the management and leadership of instructional design has typically received little emphasis (Gardner, Chongwony, & Washington, 2018). This is an issue, because some scholars assert that instructional design will play a key role in the leadership and the future of higher education (Ashbaugh & Piña, 2014; Brigance, 2011; Shaw, 2012). In addition, much research has shown that an employee's direct manager or leader has significant impact on employee engagement and success (e.g. Madlock & Kennedy-Lightsey, 2010; Wang & Hsieh, 2013; Xu & Cooper Thomas, 2011). Further, without an understanding of the competencies for leading instructional design, we will be unable to prepare instructional designers to take leadership positions within higher education.

Recent studies have investigated the competencies associated with effective leadership and management of instructional design from the perspective of the instructional designer and from the perspective of leaders in higher education (Ashbaugh & Piña, 2014; Gardner, Chongwony, & Washington, 2018). For example, Ashbaug and Piña (2014) outline the 7 Ps of leadership for instructional design (7PL4ID), which include the following components: (1) envision the future and promote that vision; (2) Preventive/proactive Thinking – carefully anticipate the future, both its opportunities and problems; (3) Provision for the unexpected – have backup plans and reserves; (4) Personality – work well with and show care to others; (5) Productivity – be productive and expect hard work from others; (6) Psychological toughness – make and implement difficult decisions based on sound judgment; and, (7) Personal convictions – exhibit moral character consistently. Gardner, Chongwony, and Washington (2018) conducted a Delphi study in which managers and leaders of instructional design were surveyed through an anonymous consensus-building process. Eight major categories were identified, including the following in order of

rated importance: (1) Communication; (2) Project Management; (3) Visioning and Strategic Alignment; (4) Organizational Politics and Relationships; (5) Environmental and Organizational Awareness; (6) Inspiring, Motivating, and Empowering Others; (7) Interpersonal People Skills; and (8) Teaching, Learning, Design, and Technology Expertise.

Despite these preliminary studies, there is no systematic research into what competencies employers require of leaders and managers of instructional designers in higher education. Further research on the competencies for leading and managing instructional design in higher education would provide the field with further guidance on training and preparing instructional design leaders and managers; therefore, in this study, we explore and report on the competencies required of instructional design managers in higher education by analyzing 30 job descriptions posted by institutions of higher education. We describe the methods used to identify and analyze the job descriptions. We then share the results of our analysis, share the implications of these findings, and provide recommendations for research, practice, and training of future instructional designer and leaders.

Method

We used document analysis methodology for this study (Creswell & Creswell, 2018). In this qualitative approach, the researcher reviews relevant documents of interest, which may be public such as job postings in websites, newspapers, official reports and so on or private documents such email exchanges, diaries, and personal journal among others. To access relevant documents for this study, we looked at specific websites that carry job posting announcements we were interested in in order to explore the competencies required of instructional design managers through job description analysis. The websites selected were those that commonly advertise instructional design positions. They included the following: www.higheredjobs.com, www.ehronicles.com, www.indeed.com, www.indeed.com, www.ehronicles.com, www.ehronicles.com, <a href="www.

Job Parameters for the Study

To identify and narrow down our searches for positions of interest, we used the following search terms: instructional design, leader, manager, dean of online, director, educational technology, technology coordinator, online learning coordinator, dean of instruction, and instructional design specialist. We also agreed ahead of time on criteria for selecting job descriptions that would make it to our initial list for analysis. In particular, we were interested in job descriptions in announcements for positions that lead and manage instructional design in higher education. We selected job posting from July of 2017 to September 2017 because they coincided with our research timeline. In addition, a three-month window is reasonable because most job announcements are listed for about the same time interval before being deleted. We documented the website site, job title, description of position, link, and date we gathered the description.

Data Collection Procedure

We utilized qualitative documents of job description postings to collect data. In particular, the study utilized job-posting announcements for leaders and managers of instructional design in higher education. All job announcements of interest were positions for leaders and managers in instructional design. We collected the data from July 24, 2017 to September 12, 2017. We looked at over 100 open job postings in higher education using the following search terms: instructional design leader or manager, dean of online, director, educational technology, technology coordinator, online learning coordinator, dean of instruction, and instructional design specialist. A wide array of colleges and universities were included ranging from mid-sized private universities, private research universities to private Ivy League research universities to public Research 1 (R1) universities. A majority of job description postings were gathered from www.higheredjobs.com, www.chronicles.com, www.educause.edu, and www.aect.org job board, which accounted for 83% of the postings identified. The distribution of job descriptions collected from various websites is shown in Table 1. We gathered a total of 100 positions that met our search terms. From these 100 positions, we eliminated 40 postings that did not meet our criteria through the process of winnowing data (Guest, MacQueen, & Namey, 2012). The process left us with 60 postings, which we further winnowed down to our final 30. These we analyzed using emergent theme content analysis to identify emerging themes (competencies) required to perform the job duties of leading and managing instructional design.

Job Site	Number	Percentage
www.aect.org	6	6%
www.chronicle.com	28	28%
www.educause.edu	6	6%
www.higheredjobs.com	22	22%
www.indeed.com	21	21%
Others	17	17%

Data Analysis

We began our data analysis by first agreeing on how we were to organize our information and findings. We agreed to organize the information by main categories and/or themes. The researchers analyzed all 30 job postings independently and then regrouped to crosscheck each other's analysis and categorize main themes and subthemes. Following this process, the researchers categorized about 20 difference skills sets and/or reoccurring themes from all 30 job postings. Overall, the research had many common themes and where there were disagreements/variations, the researchers went back to the original posting to reanalyze. For example each researcher had a different view of the following themes but worked together and agreed to add 'vision' to the direction/strategy development category, add self-management/time-management as its own category, and 'decision-making' to the continuous improvement category.

Findings/Results from Job Descriptions

We reviewed 30 job postings – 16 of these were posted by public universities and 14 were posted by private universities. In our analysis, we identified several categories of data: job titles, education requirements, experience requirements, required competencies, and job duties. We describe our findings for each of these categories below.

Job Duties

Results of job positing analysis presented in Table 1 show that managers of instructional design are expected to perform numerous job duties.

Table 1: Job duties and the relative number of times mentioned in the job postings

Provide Leadership	in Job Postings	
Provide Leadership	002 1 03011165	
	18	"5 years of experience with online learning development,
		training methodologies, and online education, including
		the design, creation, delivery, and evaluation of
		asynchronous learning courses."
Strategy Development	16	"Supervisory and operational management experience of
		professional staff."
		"7 years of experience in coordinating and/or managing
		the development, installation, and/or use of instructional
		and communication technologies."
Communication with	4	"Experience providing professional development in the
Different Stakeholders		area of instructional technology or educational
		technology in an educational setting to P-12 and/or
		higher education"
Policy Management	4	"Experience providing professional development in the
		area of instructional technology or educational
		technology in an educational setting to -12 and/or higher
		education"
Course Design	15	"Experience in face to face, online, or hybrid teaching or
		workshop development." "Online teaching experience at
		the college level."
Project Management	8	"Prior experience leading multiple complex project
		initiatives." "Demonstrated experience managing
		technology projects."
Oversight of	7	"Experience with budget and financial management."
Budget/Finances		"Knowledge of budget preparation and fiscal
		management."
Professional	4	"Experience providing professional development in the
Development		area of instructional technology or educational
		technology in an educational setting to P-12 and/or
		higher education"
Oversight of Personnel	4	"Experience providing professional development in the
		area of instructional technology or educational
		technology in an educational setting to P-12 and/or
		higher education"
Evaluation and	4	"Experience providing professional development in the
Assessment		area of instructional technology or educational

		technology in an educational setting to P-12 and/or higher education"
Lead and Manage Learning Technologies	4	"Experience providing professional development in the area of instructional technology or educational technology in an educational setting to P-12 and/or higher education"

Course Quality	4	"Experience providing professional development in the
Management		area of instructional technology or educational
		technology in an educational setting to P-12 and/or
		higher education"
Student Support	4	"Experience providing professional development in the
		area of instructional technology or educational
		technology in an educational setting to P-12 and/or
		higher education"
Collaboration and	4	"Experience providing professional development in the
Coordination		area of instructional technology or educational
		technology in an educational setting to P-12 and/or
		higher education"
Other	4	"Experience providing professional development in the
		area of instructional technology or educational
		technology in an educational setting to P-12 and/or
		higher education"

Competencies - Knowledge and Skills

Following our data analysis, the following thematic competencies emerged as necessary to effectively lead and manage instructional design in higher education: communication skills, interpersonal skills, budget management, change management, technical skills, and project management. Other competencies included, collaboration/partnership, diversity, visioning/strategic development, problem solving/decision making skills, teaching and licensing expertise, instructional design and related areas, customer support, time management and self-management skills, general leadership and management expertise, professional development, and accreditation.

Table 2 summarizes these competencies and how often the competencies were referenced in the job descriptions analyzed.

Table 2: Competencies and skills, relative number of times mentioned, and some excerpts from job postings

Job Title	# of Job	Excerpts from Job Postings
	Postings	
Communication Skills	19	"Effective oral and written communication skills." "Excellent oral
		and written communication skills with the ability to build
		relationships and influence at all levels." "Good writing skills for
		higher education communications." "Excellent oral and written
		communication skills." "Superior written and verbal
		communication skills." "Well-developed business and technical
		writing skills are essential."
Instructional Design and	18	"Must have advanced knowledge of and experience with online
Related Areas		instruction in a university environment; Must have advanced
		knowledge of online instructional design." "Knowledge of
		instructional and learning theories." "Proven ability to understand
		and implement fundamentals of instructional design concepts."
		"Expert knowledge of exemplary student-focused pedagogical
		practices grounded in educational research; expertise in effective
		pedagogy and knowledge of relevant educational research in
		field." "Familiar with educational theories and design principles."
General Leadership and	14	"Requires strong leadership and organizational skills."
Management		"Demonstrated leadership abilities. Experience in staff
		supervision." "Management and organizational skills, including
		staff supervision." "Outstanding leadership and management
		ability." "Strong demonstrated management skills including the
		oversight of a medium-size staff." "Knowledge of personnel
		management."
Technical Skills	14	"Must have an advanced grasp of Information Technology in order
		to manage complex technology projects." "Proficient with basic
		applications of Microsoft Office, email, and LMS." "Extensive
		experience with educational technology and Learning
		Management Systems, preferably Blackboard, Canvas, Coursera,
		Moodle, and Sakai." "Strong skills in office productivity tools
		including Word, Excel, Power Point, and Outlook." "Well-
		developed knowledge of online learning tools including Learning
		Management Systems, synchronous web-based communication
		tools and social networking platforms." "Skill in using computers,
		other technologies and software for teaching, productivity and data
		analysisKnowledge of video, audio, visual and web-based
		technologies."
Collaboration/Partnerships	12	technologies." "Ability to exercise mature judgment and foster a collaborative

Interpersonal Skills	12	collaborate and be part of a dynamic team with excellence and integrity." "Ability to build strong, collaborative relationships with key constituents." "Ability to work cooperatively." "Must have the ability to establish and foster collaborative relationships with people across levels and functional areas." "Excellent interpersonal skills." "Ability to develop congenial and productive relationships in order to work effectively with others." "Ability to provide and receive feedback in a non-confrontational manner." "Ability to build relationships and influence at all levels." "Requires strong interpersonal skills."
Project Management	10	"Strong organizational, analytical, and project management skills to concurrently manage multiple assigned tasks/projects and organize, coordinate, and direct team activities." "Ability to plan and manage multiple projects simultaneously and within designated deadlines." "Knowledge of the principles and practice of managing large-scale technology projects." "Strong conceptual, planning and project management skills required. Project."
Problem Solving/Decision making	8	"Demonstrated ability to use initiative and resourcefulness in problem solving." "Data driven decision-making." "Proven ability to analyze data to identify trends and drive innovative process improvement." "Excellent judgment and discretion are critical, with an ability to recognize when issues need to be escalated." "Sound judgement and decision-making skills."
Professional Development	7	"Identify and respond to training needs." "Ability to mentor health professions students, residents, faculty, fellows, and faculty in all aspects of education." "Ability to provide professional development for faculty." "Coach and develop direct reports."
Time Management and Self-management	7	"Time management to prioritize and meet project deadlines." "Time management skills." "Competency in multi-tasking, completing tasks on time and self-motivated to evaluate and learn new technologies." "Flexibility to perform multiple tasks simultaneously and to complete duties with frequent interruptions."
Customer Service	7	"Must be a customer-oriented individual." "Strong customer service skills." "Excellent customer service skills." "Ability to provide a balance of rational guidance and empathetic support."

Diversity	5	"Ability to work effectively with individuals from diverse
		communities and cultures." "Ability to work with faculty and staff
		with diverse backgrounds and perspectives." "Ability to maintain
		cooperative working relationships with individuals and groups
		within a diverse, multicultural, and academic environment."
Budget Management	5	"Awareness of budget administration principles." "Basic
		knowledge of managing a budget and developing financial plans."
		"Basic financial management skills." "Budgetary management."
Change Management	4	"Ability to develop and follow change management procedure and
		guidelines." "Ability to drive change, implement new programs
		and services utilizing best practices in teaching and learning."
		"Ability to be an agent of change in a rapidly changing
		environment."
Visioning/Strategy	2	"Ability to work strategically across functions, levels, and
Development		disciplines." "Leadership skills, including visioning, strategic
		planning"
Teaching and Licensing	2	"Teaching ability." "Ability to teach online."
Accreditation	1	"In-depth knowledge of federal and accreditation guidelines
		related to online/blended learning."

From Table 2, we see that the least mentioned competency in the job postings analyzed is accreditation, which is mentioned once or 3% of the time. This is followed by teaching & licensing, and visioning/strategy development competencies, which are mentioned 2 times or 6% of the times in the job postings. Change management, budget management, diversity, customer service, time management and self-management, professional development, and decision-making competencies are mentioned 4 (13%), 5 (17%), 5 (17%), 7 (23%), 7 (23%), 7 (23%), and 8 (27%) respectively, in the job postings analyzed. The most mentioned competency is communication skills. It is mentioned 19 times or 63% of the times. Following communication skills were, instructional design and related areas, technical skills, general management and leadership, collaboration and partnerships, interpersonal, and project management. These are mentioned 18 (60%), 14 (47%), 14 (47%), 12 (40%), 12 (40%), and 10 (33%) respectively.

Job Titles

Our analysis revealed five common titles among the various positions included in this study. These titles included Director, Assistant or Associate Director, Lead or Senior Instructional Designer/Technologist, Manager, and Associate Provost. Table 3 summarizes these job titles.

Table 3. Job titles and the relative number of job posts using that title.

Job Title	# of Job	Sample Job Titles
	Postings	
Director	17	"Director of Instructional Design"
		"Director for the Teaching & Learning Center"
		"Director of Instructional Technology Services"
Assistant or Associate	5	"Associate Director, Educational Technology" "Associate Director,
Director		Faculty Pedagogy Support and Assessment"
Lead or Senior	4	"Lead Instructional Designer"
Instructional		"Educational Technology Team Lead Instructional Designer"
Designer/Technologist		
Manager	3	"Advanced Program Manager, Center for Learning Technology"
		"Manager, Instructional Design (General Education)"
Associate Vice	1	"Associate Vice Provost – Online and Distance Education"
Provost		

Position title: We were also interested in looking at job position title used for those tasked with leading and managing instructional design. We found the following: assistant/associate director title appeared 5 times (39%), manager of instructional design 3 times (23%); associate vice provost for online and distance education, in charge of instructional design as well appeared once (7%); lead/senior instructional designer or technologist appeared 4 times (31%).

Experience Requirements

We found six major categories of experience requirements for the positions analyzed in our study. These categories included Design, Management/Leadership, Teaching, Project Management, Budgeting, and Training Delivery Experience. We summarize and describe these requirements in Table 4.

Table 4. The common experience requirements, relative number of job posts requiring that experience, and example descriptions of that experience.

Experience	# of Job	Sample Job Descriptions
Requirement	Postings	
	Requiring	
Design	18	"5 years of experience with online learning development, training
		methodologies, and online education, including the design, creation,
		delivery, and evaluation of asynchronous learning courses."
Management/Leadership	16	"Supervisory and operational management experience of
		professional staff."
		"7 years of experience in coordinating and/or managing the
		development, installation, and/or use of instructional and
		communication technologies."
Teaching	15	"Experience in face to face, online, or hybrid teaching or workshop
		development." "Online teaching experience at the college level."
Project Management	8	"Prior experience leading multiple complex project initiatives."
		"Demonstrated experience managing technology projects."
Budgeting	7	"Experience with budget and financial management." "Knowledge
		of budget preparation and fiscal management."
Training Delivery	4	"Experience providing professional development in the area of
		instructional technology or educational technology in an
		educational setting to P-12 and/or higher education"

Education Requirements

Our analysis of education requirements revealed a preference for individuals holding at least an undergraduate degree but favoring a master's degree qualification. Table 5 summarizes the education requirement findings. Two of the postings requiring a bachelor degree indicated a preference of master degree qualification, and five of the postings requiring a master degree indicated a preference of doctorate degree qualification.

Table 5. The common education level requirements and relative number of job posts with that requirement.

Education	# of Job Postings
Requirement	Requiring
Bachelor degree	8
Master degree	18
Doctorate degree	3

Level of education required: certificate only 1 (3%); bachelor's degree 7 (23%); bachelor's degree with other certification 1 (3%); master's degree 16 (53%); master's degree with other certification 2 (6%); doctorate 3 (10%)

Type of schools: 53% of the job descriptions were from public universities while 47% were from private non-profit universities. The public colleges ranged from community colleges to R1 institutions.

Discussion

Our analysis revealed a close connection between what managers of instructional design do and the competencies needed; that is, the duties and responsibilities of these leaders and managers appear to drive expected competencies. The results also show a mixed range of competencies needed to effectively lead and manage instructional design, which includes both hard (technical) and soft (people) skills. On average, three to five years of experience is required based on job postings analyzed in this study.

The findings of this study largely overlap with results (competencies) established in previous studies (Gardner, Chongwony & Tawana, 2018; Ashbaugh & Pina, 2014 and Ashbaugh, 2013) as being important to leading and managing instruction design. For example, in the study by Gardner, Chongwony & Tawana (2018), communication, project management, and visioning and strategic alignment were found to be the top three competencies while teaching, learning, design, and technology expertise had the lowest rating compared to the ratings of the other competencies in the study. In this study, communication, instructional design and related areas, general leadership and management, and technical skills were the top three competencies mentioned in the job postings, while teaching and accreditation were the lowest. We note that just because a competency is mentioned fewer times or rated lower does not necessarily mean it is not needed in leading and managing instructional design. Table 6 compares findings of this study with the results of Gardner, Chongwony & Tawana (2018).

Table 6. Comparing findings of Gardner, Chongwony & Tawana (2018) and the results of this study from highest to lowest ranked competencies.

Gardner, Chongwony & Tawana (2018)	Competencies Identified in This
Study	Study
(1) Communication	Communication
(2) Project Management	Instructional Design and Related Areas
(3) Visioning and Strategic Alignment	General Leadership and Management
(4) Organizational Politics and Relationships	Technical
(5) Environmental and Organizational	Collaboration/Partnerships
Awareness	
(6) Inspiring, Motivating and Empowering	Interpersonal Skills
Others	
(7) Interpersonal People Skills	Project Management
(8) Teaching, Learning, Design, and	Decision Making
Technology Expertise	
(9) Know Classroom Design Principles	Professional Development
(10) Draw on Experience Teaching in Higher	Time Management and Self-
Education	Management
(11) Create a Budget	Customer Service
(12) Understand Personality Styles	Diversity
(13) Solve Technical Problems	Budget Management
(14)	Change Management
(15)	Visioning/Strategy Development
(16)	Teaching and Licensing
(17)	Accreditation
L	ı.

We further compared the results of this study with 7PL4ID model (Ashbaugh & Pina, 2014) and findings of (Gardner, Chongwony & Tawana, 2018). In comparing these studies (see *Table 7*), we note that while the findings of

Gardner, Chongwony, & Tawana (2018) did not appear to have a relationship with the Provision for Unexpected and Unknown, Psychological/Emotional Toughness, and Personal Convictions categories expressed in 7PL4ID, this study's findings appear to align with all the 7PL4ID categories. Budget Management and Change Management, Problem Solving/Decision Making, and Time Management and Self-Management in this study appear to align respectively with the Provision for Unexpected and Unknown, Psychological/Emotional Toughness, and Personal Convictions categories in 7PL4ID based on description of these categories. Similar to the findings of (Gardner, Chongwony, & Tawana, 2018), the instructional design and related areas, teaching, and technical (technology) categories in this study did not appear to align with 7PL4ID. Also, the customer service and diversity categories did not align with any category in 7PL4ID.

Table 7. Comparing the 7PL4ID, Gardner, Chongwony & Tawana (2018) and the results of this study

7 Ps of Leadership for	Gardner, Chongwony &	Competencies Identified in This
Instructional Design (7PL4ID)	Tawana (2018) Study	Study
(1) Prescience – envision and	Visioning and strategic alignment	Visioning/strategy development
promote a vision of the future		
(2) Preventive or proactive thinking	Environmental and organizational	Strategy development
- strategize to anticipate future	awareness	General leadership and Management
problems and opportunities		
(3) Provision for unexpected and		Budget management
unknown – have backup plans and		Change management
resources in reserve		
(4) Personality – collaborate,	Communication	Communication
communicate effectively, and show	Interpersonal and people skills	Collaboration/partnerships
care for others	Politics and relationships	Interpersonal skills
(5) Productivity – work hard and	Inspiring, motivating, and	Project management
expect excellence from others	empowering others	Professional development
	Project management	
(6) Psychological/emotional		Problem solving/Decision making
toughness - make difficult		
decisions based on sound reasoning		
(7) Personal convictions, exhibit		Time management and self-
consistent, moral behavior		management

The results of this study reveal additional granularity in the set of competencies that hiring managers look for in leaders and managers of instructional design in higher education that have not been explicitly reported in previous studies. For example, diversity, customer support skills, accreditation, decision-making, time management and self-management have not been emphasized in previous studies. This has implications for institutions of learning that prepare instructional designers. In addition to core competencies, the programs and/or curriculum should include outcomes and activities that enable students both to learn and to demonstrate the diversity of competencies reflected in the findings of this study. Activities and/or other real-life problem solving tasks with a wide array of competencies could be incorporated into the curriculum design and/or training. It also means that program design and development could regularly review current employer needs in order to keep abreast of the happenings in the industry.

The findings of this study have practical implications for institutions of learning that prepare instructional designers. In additional to core competencies, program curricula could include outcomes as well as activities that both enable students to learn and to demonstrate the diversity of competencies as reflected in the findings of this study. There is a need to establish the challenges facing leaders and managers of instructional design in higher education and to discover how these leaders currently maneuver these challenges. It would also be interesting to gather the insights of direct reports of leaders and managers of instruction design regarding what they think about their own management and leadership competencies as well as those of their leaders, particularly the competencies they rate as most critical. Furthermore, it would of great interest to follow up with those institutions whose ads were evaluated in this study, and talk to those who filled the positions advertised, to perhaps find out how they perceive themselves fitting into the roles as reflected by the competencies. It would also be beneficial to explore why the competencies are important to their institution and the work of their instructional design staff.

Conclusion

The competencies identified in this study serve to confirm an emerging set of competencies needed to manage and lead instructional design in higher education. This has potential value to institutions of learning responsible for preparing, developing and/or training instructional designers. By examining their program offerings against the demands of the field, programs will be better able to determine whether gaps exist and act accordingly to remain viable and better meet the expectations of the field. Additionally, the findings of this study further advance the understanding of competencies expected of leaders and managers of instructional design in higher education, including what hiring managers should be looking for and what potential candidates for these positions should offer.

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