

MnSCU CTL Update



Minnesota State Colleges and Universities – Center for Teaching and Learning Email Newsletter
Volume 1, Number 1 – July 1999

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Editor's Musing

This is the inaugural revised email newsletter for the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (MnSCU) Center for Teaching and Learning. The intent of this newsletter is to keep CTL leaders and their constituents informed about teaching and learning activities, CTL events, and national trends and issues in teaching and learning in higher education. This newsletter will be published bi-monthly.

Recently, I had the opportunity to discuss teaching and learning in higher education with educational administration doctoral students in the Leadership Academy at the University of Minnesota. In our conversation, the question was posed, "what defines a "good" teacher?" Think about it. What do you remember about "good" teachers in your

career as a student? What characteristics, attributes or traits impressed you the most and why? How do we define "good" teaching? When do we know we are effective teachers?

Parker Palmer, in his book The Courage to Teach, defines good teachers as those "who connect with their students...good teaching is more than technique, it's about the identity and integrity of the teacher." Often we reduce our teaching to technique – but as Parker Palmer infers - it's more than that. What then does it consist of? Teaching and learning is our business. At the Center for Teaching and Learning we believe that keeping current with trends and issues in teaching and learning, and increasing our knowledge base in methods and philosophies of education helps us become "good" teachers.

Have a great summer, and let us know what you think about this new format!

Kia Witte

Faculty Development Coordinator and Editor-In-Chief, CTL Update
MnSCU Center for Teaching and Learning

IMPORTANT DATES for your calendars: Please broadcast these to your faculty constituencies.

- CTL Leaders Fall Workshop:
November 4 - 5, 1999 at Ruttger's Resort
- 1st Annual Statewide Summer Conference - Summer 2000, exact dates TBA

Our summer work hours vary amongst the CTL staff. However, please feel free to call us with questions at any time. One of us will get back to you. We are pleased to serve as a resource for you in faculty development.

CTL/MnSCU News

As many of you know, Arlyne Wolf, faculty development coordinator and technical college representative to the MnSCU Center for Teaching and Learning has moved into a new job outside the MnSCU system. The CTL is looking for a new faculty development coordinator to join the CTL team and we are currently accepting applications through the MnSCU Human Resources Department. A complete job description can be found on the Hot Jobs Website under System Office at the following address: <http://www.mnscu.edu/>

In the past few weeks, the CTL staff has reviewed disciplinary and small grant applications (submission deadline was June 15th) for the upcoming academic year. If you are interested in this process or in future grant application reviews, please contact Kathryn Kelley (651.649.5745) or Kia Witte (651.649.5743). We will be notifying grant applicants of their awards the first week of July. The 16 applicants of their awards the Fifth Annual Faculty Development Summer Institute: Active Learning & Teaching in University & College; August 2 – 6, 1999; Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, Canada. For further information contact: <http://www.upei.ca/~!extensio/FDSI99.htm>

MnSCU Regional Workshop News

The CTL, in an attempt to encourage and boost statewide participation in faculty development activities, has launched a new initiative to create more interregional collaboration amongst MnSCU institutions. This initiative provides opportunities for all MnSCU institutions to participate in regional conferences and workshops. Recognized regions for MnSCU institutions include Southwest Minnesota, Southeast Minnesota, West Minnesota, Northwest Minnesota, East Minnesota, Northeast Minnesota and the Metro area. Faculty Development Coordinators have been assigned responsibility for communicating with the CTL leaders within the defined regions. If you are unaware of whom your Faculty Development Coordinator is, be sure to contact the CTL – we can direct you to the right person, or see the website at <http://www.ctl.mnscu.edu/>.

By decentralizing and focusing on local relationships and activities, more faculty can have greater opportunities to interact with their local faculties as well as faculty from other MnSCU campuses. Planning meetings are forthcoming and to be decided by the regional Faculty Development Coordinators. Fall meetings are currently being organized to plan regional workshops

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Preliminary plans are being made to host a **joint faculty development/assessment duty day** in the Northeast Region. **Hibbing Community College** will be hosting NCA Assessment expert, Cecelia Lopez, on **August 23, 1999**. Regional faculty will be presenting some of their teaching and learning projects. All MnSCU faculty are invited!

National/International Workshop Opportunities

Be sure to check the CTL Website

(<http://www.ctl.mnscu.edu/>) for other conference opportunities.

JULY/AUGUST

The 7th Annual Working Conference on Using Cases to Improve Teaching and Learning; July 31 – August 4, 1999; The University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada. (*Includes Tom Angelo as Conference Faculty*)

For more information see the conference website at <http://www.pace.edu/CTRCaseStudies> or contact Rita Silverman at email address: casecenter@pace.edu or call (914) 773-3879.

Distance Education Conference; August 4 - 6, 1999; Madison, WI. For more information, see the conference website at <http://www.uwes.edu/disted/conference>.

SEPTEMBER

Lab Centered Instruction Workshop; September 23 - 25, 1999; Minnesota State University at Mankato. Please contact Aaron Wenger (218) 327-4702 for further information.

OCTOBER

The IDEA Seminar: Rethinking the Learning/Teaching Process; October 6 – 8, 1999 in Baltimore, MD.

Contact Kansas State University's Division of Continuing Education at (785) 532-5569 for further information. Or check out their online registration website at <http://www.idea.ksu.edu>

POD Conference – (formerly known as NCSPD) – Professional & Organizational Development in Higher Education Conference; October 13 - 17, 1999, The Resort at Split Rock, Lake Harmony, Pennsylvania. Theme: Pathways through the Field. For more information contact: <http://www.podnetwork.org/conf/>

Traditionally, an excellent conference – draws national speakers and audience! This year's conference features at least two presentations by MnSCU for this.

Developing a Comprehensive Faculty Evaluation System; October 18 – 19, 1999; San Diego, CA.

For more information contact the web site at:

<http://www.cedanet.com>**OCTOBER**

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Employment Opportunities

Job opportunities within the field of teaching and learning and faculty development are regularly posted on the POD network Listserv. Here are a couple of recent examples:

- Seeking: Faculty Development Coordinator (UTCE Bargaining Unit); Minnesota State Colleges and Universities – Center for Teaching and Learning, St. Paul Office.
This position works within a team setting to plan and deliver system-wide faculty development activities and provides support and resources for campus based faculty development programs. Check out the job description on the MnSCU CTL website at <http://www.ctl.mnscu.edu/>
- Seeking: Director of University Assessment Office; University of Nevada, Reno.
The successful candidate will oversee the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of a comprehensive outcomes assessment program.
For further information contact: Meggin McIntosh, Ph.D., Director, Excellence in Teaching Program, Reno NV.
Email: mcintosh@unr.edu;
Phone: (775) 784-6607.
Selection committee will begin reviewing applications on June 15th, 1999.
- Seeking: Director of the Center for the Enhancement of Learning and Teaching; The University of New Orleans, New Orleans, LA.
The Director will provide innovative, creative, and collaborative leadership in shaping the mission and policies of the new Center to advance the university's commitment to excellence in teaching and learning. Apply by sending a letter and a vita to Dr. Russell E. Trahan, Jr., Chair of the Search Committee, Office of Academic Affairs, Administration Building, University of New Orleans, New Orleans, LA 70148. Review of applications will begin on September 1, 1999 and continue until the position is filled.
- Seeking: Coordinator of Instructional and Professional Development/Assistant to the Provost; Middlesex Community College, Bedford, MA.
Major responsibilities include providing leadership for the coordination, assessment, and ongoing development of the community college's professional development network to enhance teaching, learning and professional growth. Apply by sending a letter and resume to: Dr. Charmian Sperling, Provost, Middlesex Community College, Springs Road, Bedford, MA 01730.
Application Deadline is July 7th, 1999; starting date is early August, 1999.
- Seeking: TWO Instructional Consultant Positions; Center for Research on Learning and Teaching at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
Responsibilities include carrying out faculty and instructional development activities, and developing and implementing programs for the improvement of teaching. This includes consulting with faculty and academic units on evaluation of teaching, curricular development, and program evaluation. For information on how to apply, please visit the University of Michigan Human Resources jobs website at: <http://www.umich.edu/~jobs/apply.html>
Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. Positions to begin in Fall of 1999.

Cyber Resource:

POD Listserve

If you aren't signed up already, now would be a good time to subscribe to the POD listserve. POD is a national organization that specializes in Professional & Organizational Development in Higher Education. It has a strong teaching and learning focus and encourages and provides opportunities for dialogue and exchange of information among higher education institutions across the country. Just subscribing and reading the emails gives one a good finger on the pulse of key teaching and learning issues faced by most higher education institutions.

To subscribe:

1. **Address your email to**
listproc@catfish.valdosta.edu
2. **Leave the subject box EMPTY or BLANK**
3. **In the message box, write: Sub pod *YOUR NAME***
4. **Send the message as is.**
5. **You should receive confirmation, instructions on how to unsubscribe, etc...via email.**

Topic of the Week:

What is a "good" teacher?

We (at the CTL) would like to know what you think are the characteristics and traits of a "good" teacher. Please reply by email to this newsletter with your comments! Thank you.

- Seeking: Director of the Office of Teaching Evaluation and Program Review; Center for Teaching and Learning at University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC.

This position will lead the development and implementation of a new teaching evaluation system for the campus. For further information please see the position on the website at: <http://www.unc.edu/depts/ctl/evalpos.html> or contact Lola Peed-Neal, Associate Director for the Center for Teaching and Learning via email at Iola_Peed-Neal@unc.edu or via phone at 919.966.1289

Application deadline is July 15, 1999.

- Seeking: Instructional Staff Position; at the Center for Innovative Teaching and Learning; Pohang University of Science and Technology; Republic of Korea.

Responsibilities include assisting faculty with identifying, evaluating, selecting and implementing instructional strategies, course assessment, workshops on teaching and learning and developing guidebooks for faculty and students. If interested submit resume to Professor Sang-il Choi, Director, Center for Innovative Teaching and Learning, POSTECH, Pohang, 790-784, South Korea. Email address:

sangil@vision.postech.ac.kr

Application deadline is July 31, 1999 with a start date of September 1999.

- Seeking: Coordinator of Assessment and Research; The Schreyer Institute for Innovation in Learning; Pennsylvania State University; State College, PA.

Responsibilities include developing, designing and assisting faculty to apply materials to measure and evaluate student learning. If interested, please send resume to: Employment Division, 120 S. Burrowes Street, University Park, PA 16801-3857. Applications will be taken until the position is filled.

