

# MnSCU CTL Update



Minnesota State Colleges and Universities – Center for Teaching and Learning Email Newsletter  
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## *Editor's Musing*

### **Mission Statements— they're not just for institutions anymore!**

Recently, I've been impressed by the efforts made by MnSCU institutions to breathe new life into their mission statements by actually putting them to work and by thinking of them as useful tools rather than as ornaments. Ideally this means seeing all academic planning, budgeting, and strategic planning as tied to and "washed" in the mission of the institution. On the POD list-serve (<http://www.podnetwork.org/main.html> Professional and Organizational Development Network in Higher Education) the discussion turned to mission statements. One participant chided that

today's glitzy mission statements are what, back in the "good 'ole days," used to be called direction and goals.

This past fall I attended the League for Innovation Technology Conference in Chicago and the CTL Campus Leaders Workshop at Rutgers. At these and other professional development events faculty frequently present best-practice sessions. While the best-practice topic might be top-notch, what truly draws me in is the faculty member's passionate approach. These are faculty with a mission! They have clear direction and matching goals, although they may not call that a mission.

These folks have a glowing coal at the center of their teaching. I'd wager that most of us do and this driving purpose is different for each of us. They are as varied as the subjects we teach. What mission do you bring to your teaching?

Gretchen C. Dorn, Editor  
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# CTL/MNSCU NEWS

## **Become a Kellogg Fellow**

As many of you may know, our very own Kia Witte, Faculty Development Coordinator has begun her position as Project Director for the Kellogg grant. The \$325,000 grant will fund the start up of the Kellogg/MnSCU Leadership Institute. This two-year program is intend to provide opportunities to MnSCU faculty and administrators for study and training in six strategic areas for transformation:

- Leading the effective institution
- Assessment and accountability
- Curriculum and pedagogy
- Technology as a strategic asset
- Serving students better
- International and global education

Kellogg Fellows will receive participation incentives to work in learning communities, research transformational leadership and participate in a mentorship relationship.

If you are interested in becoming a Kellogg Fellow please contact Kia at 651.649.5743 or [kia.witte@so.mnscu.edu](mailto:kia.witte@so.mnscu.edu) Applications must be submitted by December 15, 1999 and will include:

- Application form
- Supplemental information form
- Resume
- Letter of recommendation

The Leadership Institute Advisory Committee will select Kellogg Fellows from MnSCU system faculty and administrators. Fellows will be notified of acceptance by December 23, 1999. For additional details, please refer to the *Leading with Change* brochure, distributed in mid-November to all faculty and administrators on your campuses.

## **Bush Grant— Yes!**

MnSCU faculty soon will have access to more than \$1 million for faculty active learning projects

..... in 2000–2001 and 2001–2002.

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ing to Jane Miller, CTL Director, “demonstrates their faith in and enthusiasm for this project.” Bush’s contribution is being matched by over \$500,000 from MnSCU. All overhead costs from the grant are going directly to the implementation of the Learning by Doing program (not other MnSCU CTL salaries or projects) and to program evaluation, as required by the Bush Foundation. The grant will also have a project director, an evaluation coordinator, an instructional technology coordinator, and an advisory committee. *Requests for proposals (RFPs) will be arriving on your campus with the New Year.*

### **Successful grant applicants will:**

1. Demonstrate a need for the use of active learning methods in the applicant’s particular department, program and/or discipline
2. Include collaboration with community and/or college or university partners in the completion of the project
3. Have a strong, clear evaluation plan
4. Demonstrate creativity and innovation in the proposed teaching activity

### **Types of projects:**

Approximately 75 projects will be funded each year, 2000–2002.

Individual projects (up to \$5,000)— for one faculty member working with a class.

Faculty team projects (up to \$10,000)— for projects involving two or more faculty members in one or more departments or colleges working together on a teaching project.

Institutional projects (up to \$25,000)— for teams of key faculty, administrators, and staff. The purpose of these projects is to build a receptive climate for active learning on campuses.

**You could be chosen!** As part of the program evaluation, a randomly selected group of MnSCU faculty will receive surveys asking about their use of and familiarity with active learning in late January. If you receive one, please fill it out right away. It should take no longer than 20 minutes to complete and will help the Learning by Doing team develop a more effective program for all MnSCU faculty and their students.

### **Discipline Workshops**

Have you considered submitting a proposal for a discipline or interdisciplinary workshop? Each year the CTL solicits proposals for system-wide, discipline-based faculty development workshops. These one-day events are open to all MnSCU faculty in the discipline and are a time to share discipline-specific conversations. Full details about the application process for discipline workshops are available on the CTL website at <http://www.ctl.mnscu.edu/discipli.html> The call (request) for proposals (RFP) will be distributed mid- February through your local CTL campus leader. Proposals solicited this February are for workshops to be held in fall 2000.

### **Faculty Small Grant Projects**

Faculty Projects are opportunities for faculty proposals that improve curriculum, teaching, and student support services. Awards range from \$500 to \$5,000 and average about \$2,500. Usually any amount above \$3,000 is awarded only for collaborative projects. Grant recipients must receive from their college a minimum 10% cash match in actual dollars, release time, faculty development dollars, or other material support. Full details about the application process for Faculty Small Grant Projects are available on the CTL website at <http://www.ctl.mnscu.edu/small1.htm>. The call for proposals will be distributed mid-February through your local CTL campus leader. This round of grants is for projects to be completed by the conclusion of spring semester 2001.

### **New CTL Faculty Development Coordinator**

This past October Gretchen Dorn joined the CTL as one of three faculty development coordinators. Gretchen has been a technical college faculty member since 1993. She taught culinary arts at Hennepin Technical College's Eden Prairie Campus and in 1996 moved to the Brooklyn Park Campus where she worked in professional development and curriculum modification. She was trained as a leader for the S.E.E.D. program, Seeking Educational Equity and Diversity, and worked in the areas of diversity and affirmative action.

### **Static Website?**

Yes, we have been technologically challenged! If you visited our CTL website (<http://www.ctl.mnscu.edu>) during the first few months of this academic year, you likely noticed that the site was really quite static and stale! We are pleased to announce we have found a solution to our "server-severance" difficulty and have a "fresh website" located at the same URL. Visit us soon!

## Professional Development Diversity Resources

### Teaching Tolerance Resource

The Southern Poverty Law Center has provided funding for the Teaching Tolerance project. Available through the project are classroom resources, classroom activities, readings, and writers' guidelines. The award-winning program also offers a one-year research fellowship for educators with strong writing skills and an interest in equity issues. For more information go to <http://www.splcenter.org/teachingtolerance/tt-index.html>

### SEED— Seeking Educational Equity and Diversity

SEED, directed by the Minnesota Inclusiveness Program, is a statewide diversity program designed especially for educators and supported by a network of "seedlings" throughout the state. SEED was first developed for use with K-12 educators but has "sprouted" at Minnesota State University at Mankato and at both campuses of Hennepin Technical College. This professional development program consists of nine, 3-hour, monthly sessions that examine our multicultural selves and the cultures that surround us. Campus faculty who have been trained at a weeklong summer leader's workshop lead SEED campus seminars. Campus Seed Leaders have access to the extensive SEED curriculum, video library, and speakers' bureau. Faculty who participate in the SEED campus seminars may arrange for two or four graduate credits through the College of St. Catherine or Hamline University. For more information you may contact SEED directly (Yvonne Robinson at 612-435-0728) or Gretchen Dorn at the CTL office (651-649-5744 or [gretchen.dorn@so.mnscu.edu](mailto:gretchen.dorn@so.mnscu.edu))

### Effective Educator Training

This two-day, ten-hour, train-the-trainer session is designed for anyone who is confronted with gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender issues in

the workplace and who seeks to be effective in educating others about GLBT issues. This experiential, dynamic training, offered through OutFront Minnesota will be offered in St. Paul, Mankato and Grand Rapids.

- St. Paul at Metropolitan State University on January 21 & 22, 2000
- Mankato at the Multicultural Resource Center on February 11 & 12, 2000
- Itasca Community College in Grand Rapids on March 3 & 4, 2000.

Classes are scheduled for Friday night and all day Saturday. Fees are \$50 for non-members and \$35 for members. To register or for more information call 612-822-0127, ext. 611 or 800-800-0350, ext.611. Registration must be received 10 days in advance or a \$10 late fee will be charged. You may also contact Gretchen at the CTL office for additional information on this program.

### LEFT IN PARKING LOT



No, this is not a lost and found notice. The "Parking Lot" has become a tradition at CTL workshops and conferences. Actually the Parking Lot is a way for faculty to draw our attention to issues they feel need further discussion. At the recent CTL Campus Leader Workshop the following item was left in the parking lot:

**Once students know their learning styles, then what? Could you share study hints or other resources tailored to learning styles?**

At the Leaders' Workshop we used the comprehensive work of Anthony F. Grasha. His book, *Teaching with Style: A practical guide to enhancing learning by understanding teaching & learning styles*, presents an integrated model of teaching and learning style. It is but one of many approaches to the topic. How would you respond to this "Parking Lot Question?" Email your answers to us and we'll post your response in the next CTL Update. Email responses to [gretchen.dorn@so.mnscu.edu](mailto:gretchen.dorn@so.mnscu.edu)

## CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

(Listed in Order of Occurrence)

### **The Collaboration— a Great Resource!**

The Collaboration for the Advancement of College Teaching & Learning is an alliance of public, private and tribal colleges that supports and promotes outstanding college teaching. Among the programs and services The Collaboration offers are twice-yearly conferences, traveling workshops, department chairs workshops, faculty development program evaluations, and various publications.

Consider attending the Collaboration's upcoming conference, "Sustaining Innovation: Content and Pedagogy for a New Century." The conference will be held **February 17-18, 2000** at the DoubleTree Hotel in Minneapolis, MN. Drs. Paul C. Light and Marilla Svinicki will be the featured speakers; the program will also include preconference workshops and concurrent sessions on civic engagement, assessment, alternative methods of teaching and designing curricula, integrating technology, and interdisciplinary teaching. The conference brochure and registration materials are available at <http://www.collab.org/>

### **Minnesota Women in Community and Technical Colleges— MWCTC February Conference**

The MWCTC annual conference is scheduled for **February 17-18, 2000** at the Hotel Sofitel in Bloomington, Minnesota. This professional development opportunity is designed for all MnSCU women at technical colleges, community colleges, co-located colleges, and four-year universities. Last year's conference brought together MnSCU women from AFSCME, MMA, MAPE, UTCE, MCCFA, IFO, and excluded administrators. MnSCU women should look for registration information arriving at their institutions prior to the Holiday break. For more infor-

mation contact Diane Shuda at 612-425-3800 or 612-944-2222, [diane.shuda@htc.mnscu.edu](mailto:diane.shuda@htc.mnscu.edu)

### **Critical Thinking Seminar**

If you are interested in expanding your repertoire for teaching critical thinking, consider attending the IDEA Seminar to be held in Savannah, Georgia, **February 27-29**. The conference includes sessions on active learning, teaching thinking skills on the World Wide Web, and cognitive apprenticeship. Details about "Getting Creative about Critical Thinking" may be found at [www.idea.ksu.edu](http://www.idea.ksu.edu).

### **Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development— 2000 Annual Conference**

The ASCD 2000 Annual Conference & Exhibit Show is scheduled for **March 25-27, 2000** in New Orleans, Louisiana. "Celebrating Education: Leading the Way in the New Millennium" will include sessions on curriculum and assessment, virtual reality technology, promoting peace and respect as educators, and applying brain research. For more information go to <http://www.ascd.org/develop/20conf/2000.html>

### **Summer Conferences are Back! *CTL Summer Conference 2000, August 6-9, 2000***

Long before the MnSCU merger, the Center for Teaching and Learning sponsored summer conferences. Perhaps you had the opportunity to attend one of these or have heard glowing stories about them. These extended, four-day events were times for personal renewal and rededication to teaching and learning. We are pleased to announce that an all-faculty summer conference is scheduled for **August 6-9, 2000** (Sunday through Wednesday.) The conference, to be held at Cragun's Resort near Brainard, is free of charge for all MnSCU faculty. Conference themes and details will be announced in the next issue of the

CTL update. If you'd like to help with conference planning or have ideas for conference themes or speakers please contact Gretchen Dorn (651-649-5744 or [gretchen.dorn@so.mnscu.edu](mailto:gretchen.dorn@so.mnscu.edu)) or Kathryn Kelly (651-649-5745 or [kathryn.kelly@so.mnscu.edu](mailto:kathryn.kelly@so.mnscu.edu))

### **First Ever Regional Conference,**

**November 4–6, 2000**– save the date!

The CTL Northwest and West Regions (Bemidji State; Northland TC at Detroit Lakes, Bemidji, East Grand Forks, Moorhead, and Wadena; Alexandria TC; Fergus Falls CC; Moorhead State; and Ridgewater CTC at Wilmar and Hutchinson—whew!) invite all MnSCU faculty to our first ever regional conference to be held November 4–6 at Moorhead State. Kathryn Kelly, CTL faculty development coordinator for the Northwest and West regions, reports that the faculty are excited about hosting this first regional conference and look forward to showcasing their region to other MnSCU faculty.



### **The Clearinghouse for Teaching and Learning**

<http://clearinghouse.mnscu.edu/>

The Clearinghouse for Teaching and Learning enables MnSCU faculty and staff to share their expertise in various areas the support and enhance delivery of instruction. Primarily a technology site.

### **The Teaching, Learning, and Technology**

**Group** <http://www.tltgroup.org/>

The teaching, learning, and technology affiliate of the American Association for Higher Education. Includes the following links:

### **Teaching, Learning, and Technology**

**Roundtable** <http://www.tltgroup.org/programs/round.html> A Teaching, Learning, and Technology Roundtable (TLTR) a uniquely diverse group— representing all those who can and should work together to improve teaching and learning with information technology.

### **The Flashlight Program**

<http://www.tltgroup.org/programs/flashlight.html>

The Flashlight Program helps institutions study the ways that technology can be used to improve education.

### **EASI— Equal Access to Software and Information**

<http://www.tltgroup.org/programs/easi.html> Promotes access to information and resources for students and professionals with disabilities.

### **The Roundtable Network**

<http://www.tltgroup.org/about/subs.html>

Describes Teaching, Learning, and Technology Roundtables (TLTRs) and how they can be used to bring together parts of a college or university to work collaboratively to improve teaching and learning through the use of technology.

### **ASCD— The Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development**

<http://www.ascd.org/>

ASCD is an international, nonprofit, nonpartisan education association committed to the mission of forging covenants in teaching and learning for the success of all learners. It provides professional development, curriculum and supervision; initiates and supports activities to provide educational equity for all students; and serves as a world-class leader in education information services. Includes conference and technology links.

### **POD— Professional and Organizational Development Network in Higher Education**

<http://www.podnetwork.org/main.html>

The Professional and Organizational Development Network in Higher Education (POD) fosters human development in higher education through faculty, instructional, and organizational development. Includes the POD listserv (a CTL favorite!) as well as conference information and a wealth of faculty development links.