

MnSCU CTL Update



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

Greetings!

Another fall has arrived and the excitement of a new academic year is upon us. It's been a busy summer at the MnSCU CTL and we are eager to delve into this year's teaching and learning activities. A number of exciting new projects are "on the stove" and we anticipate that the school year will be fruitful and full of opportunities for teaching and learning.

The MnSCU Center for Teaching and Learning is proud to announce the receipt of a \$1.6 million grant from the Bush Foundation to support the integration of active learning into the 36-institution MnSCU system over the next three

years. In addition, the W.K. Kellogg Foundation has awarded funds to the MnSCU CTL to develop a Leadership Institute for faculty and administrators who wish to hone their leadership skills and explore leadership opportunities through a mentorship program during a two-year period. These grants will have significant implications for the direction of MnSCU CTL activities over the next few years. Financial support allows the MnSCU CTL and MnSCU organizations to assist faculty in their professional development - we are so excited to begin these programs.

As we embark on the journey of becoming "better and better" teachers, we hope this newsletter informs and stimulates conversation amongst your peers, administrators, and faculties. To a great year!

Have a great fall!

Kia Witte

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

CTL/MnSCU News

We are pleased to announce that Gretchen Dorn, Hennepin Technical College, will be joining the CTL staff as Faculty Development Coordinator representing faculty and campus leaders from MnSCU system technical colleges.

Kia Witte, has accepted a position reassignment to Project Director of the W.K. Kellogg Foundation Grant and will be vacating the position of Faculty Development Coordinator as soon as a replacement is secured. Look for the posting in October on the MnSCU Job Postings (<http://www.mnscu.edu/>) or the MnSCU CTL website at (<http://www.ctl.mnscu.edu/>).

Kathryn Kelley continues to function in her role as Faculty Development Coordinator with primary responsibility for the working with the campus CTL leaders and campuses of the north and northwest regions of the state.

The MnSCU CTL will also be hiring a number of other personnel to administer the Bush Grant. Again, please see the MnSCU Job Postings or the MnSCU CTL website at (<http://www.ctl.mnscu.edu/>) for more information (<http://www.mnscu.edu/>)

This summer MnSCU CTL staff worked hard to review and award small grants and disciplinary grants to systemwide faculty. We are pleased to announce that 5 small grants were awarded and 5 discipline grants were awarded during the month of July. We have also been busy preparing for this fall's activities: A campus CTL leader workshop, 2 system-wide workshops (Lab-Centered Instruction and Global Education), future regional workshops, campus site visits, and planning for the implementation of the Bush and Kellogg Grants.

IMPORTANT DATES for your calendars:

- **Lab-Centered Instruction Workshop:**
September 23-24, 1999 - Mankato, MN.
- **Humanities & Social Sciences Workshop:**
Making Social Class Visible:
October 1-2, 1999 - Metropolitan State University, St. Paul, MN.

- **MnSCU Global Education Conference:**
November 18-19, 1999 - Sheraton Midway, St. Paul, MN. More information to follow.
- **Campus CTL Leaders Fall Workshop:**
November 4-5, 1999 at Ruttger's Resort
- **1st Annual Statewide Summer Conference -**
August 2000 - Cragun's Resort, Brainerd, Minnesota

MnSCU CTL Regional Workshop News

A small "pilot" regional workshop (organized by faculty and administrators in the Arrowhead Region) was held on August 23rd, 1999 at Hibbing Community College. Five different community and technical college campuses participated in this event. Cecelia Lopez, expert on student assessment, was the keynote speaker. Six faculty members in the northeast MnSCU campus region presented their classroom teaching and learning innovations.

The first official regional workshop is being planned for fall of 2000. Kathryn Kelley is working with the northwest region to begin program planning for this event. As staffing becomes more stable, other regional workshops around the state will also be planned for 2000.

NEWSFLASH* NEWSFLASH* NEWSFLASH*

LAB-CENTERED INSTRUCTION CONFERENCE

A two-day conference on Lab-Centered Instruction **for MnSCU math and science faculty** at Minnesota State University, Mankato on September 23-24, 1999.

Featuring: Senator Roger Moe. LCI presentations by colleague teachers "New Products" show of CBL and MBL equipment from Venier Software To register and to get more information, please contact Aaron Wenger at Itasca Community College (218-327-4702 or awenger@it.cc.mn.us).

Making Social Class Visible: A Conference in Humanities and Social Sciences October 1-2, 1999, Metropolitan State University

A two-day conference that explores ways that public life in the U.S. and the private lives of individuals are shaped by scarcely acknowledged social-class issues. Invited speakers include Lillian B. Rubin, Carolyn Chute, and Renny Christopher. For additional information, call or email Bob Gremore at Metropolitan State University.

Bob.Gremore@metrostate.edu or phone: 651.772.7754.

National/International Workshop Opportunities

Be sure to check the CTL Website (<http://www.ctl.mnscu.edu/>) for other conference opportunities.

SEPTEMBER

Northwest Computer Show and Conference; September 9-10, 1999, Minneapolis Convention Center. Keynote speakers include Vance Opperman and Tom Kieffer. For additional information visit (<http://www.nwcs-mn.com/>)

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

OCTOBER

Making Social Class Visible: A Conference in the Humanities and Social Sciences; October 1 - 2, 1999 at Metropolitan State University, St. Paul, MN. Contact Bob Gremore at (651) 772-7754 for more information or email Bob.Gremore@metrostate.edu

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; 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/>
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>

League for Innovation 1999 Conference on Technology; October 20 - 23, 1999; Chicago Hyatt Regency, Chicago, IL. For more information contact the website at <http://www.league.org>.

NOVEMBER

MnSCU Global Education Conference; November 18-19, 1999 - Sheraton Midway, St. Paul, MN. For more information contact Jeanette Daines (651) 296-0662.

Grants and Competitive Awards

- **Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation** - accepting grant applications for Foundation funding that provides programming for technology and training for public libraries and schools in the United States and Canada. Please refer to the Web page for the Gates Library Initiative (GLI), Gates Center for Technology Access (GCTA) and the Gates Education Initiative/Teacher Leadership Project (TLP). The link <http://www.gatesfoundation.org> has been added to the Grants page within <http://clearinghouse.mnscu.edu> under resources.
- **NEA Teaching Awards** - The National Education Association announces a series of awards intended to advance the association's commitment in higher education. The deadline for submission for the 1999 awards is September 30, 1999. The competition is open to the entire academic community. The winning entries will be published in Thought & Action, the NEA higher education journal. All entries will be considered for publication in Thought & Action. Prizewinners will also be asked to be presenters at the National Education Association Higher Education Conference, as guests of NEA.
For submission guidelines write to: Con Lehane, Editor, Higher Education Publications, National Education Association, 1201 Sixteenth Street N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036 or email clehane@nea.org
- **Fulbright Teacher Exchange Program/U.S. Information Agency** - Applications are open to administrators and faculty of two-year and four-year higher education institutions for those who are interested in teaching abroad during the 2000-2001 academic year. Most exchanges are a year in length although there are a limited number of semester and shorter-term exchanges available, as well as one-way

assignments. Deadline for applications is Oct. 15th, 1999. Requests for applications should be directed to Tiffany Swanson, Outreach Specialist, USIA Fulbright Teacher Exchange Program, 600 Maryland Ave., SW, Suite 320, Washington, DC, 20024. Or call 800/726-0479.

Call for Proposals

The Collaboration for the Advancement of College Teaching and Learning, a Minnesota-based teaching and learning organization, will hold its Winter 2000 Faculty Development Conference on February 17-18, 2000 in Minneapolis, MN. The conference is entitled "Sustaining Innovation: Content & Pedagogy for a New Century." The **deadline for submitting a session proposal is September 27, 1999**. If you would like to submit, please contact the Collaboration directly at (651) 690-6333.

A second call for papers will be posted in fall, 1999 for the **Women's Lives, Voices and Solutions: Shaping a National Agenda for Women in Higher Education Conference**; March 27 - 29, 2000; University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN (co-sponsored by MnSCU, the University of Michigan, Michigan State University & Ohio State University). Mark your calendars now for this exciting national conference. For further information, see the web page: <http://www.umn.edu/women/wihe.html>

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 (MCCFA 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 (to be posted in October 1999) on the MnSCU CTL website at <http://www.ctl.mnscu.edu/>

● **Seeking:** Director of the Center for the Enhancement of Learning and Teaching, University of New Orleans, New Orleans, Louisiana

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. If interested, send 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 Multicultural Teaching and Learning Services, Center for Research on Learning and Teaching, University of Michigan.

The Coordinator of Multicultural Teaching and Learning Services will design, develop, and oversee the implementation of programs that enhance University teaching so it is more responsive to and enriched by the diverse values, perspectives, and styles of our pluralistic student population. Interested persons should apply at the University of Michigan Employment Services Office, G250 Wolverine Tower, 3001 S. State Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48104; and send a copy to Rachel Stivenson, CRLT, 610 E. University, Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1259. For information on how to apply, please visit the UM Human Resources jobs website at: <http://www.umich.edu/~jobs/apply.html>.

● **Seeking:** Faculty Development Consultants (2), Eugene Lang College, the undergraduate liberal arts division of New School University in New York City. Consultants will be involved with new faculty orientation and consultation, and the Graduate Student Training. The position(s) start in the fall 1999 semester and runs through May 2000. If interested send vita to: Bea Banu, Dean, Eugene Lang College, 65 W. 11th Street, NY 10014. E-mail: banub@newschool.edu Phone: 229-5617

Cyber Resources:

Web Links to Online Study Strategies and Related Issues

- Using the Internet for research - University of Victoria/Australia:
<http://www.sofweb.vic.edu.au/internet/research.htm>
- Writing Handouts - Documentation style guides, writing tips, punctuation tips, grammar tips - University of Illinois at Springfield:
<http://www.uis.edu/~ctl/handouts.html>
- Web Links to short articles on tips about succeeding in specific courses-e.g. economics, math, chemistry - Washington State University:
http://salc.wsu.edu/acad_assist/handouts/coursehandouts.asp
- Web Links to documents re: strategies for learning - Muskingum College, Ohio:
<http://muskingum.edu/~cal/database/genpurpose.html>
- General studying tips - managing test anxiety, memory tips, managing your schedule - Iowa State University:
http://www.public.iastate.edu/~deanstdt_info/asc/studskil.html
- Web Links to tips on studying and wellness, including doing oral presentations, building vocabulary - Utah State University:
<http://www.usu.edu/~acaserv/center/other/Links.htm>
- Strategies for improving study habits - Suite 101.Com:
http://www.suite101.com/article.cfm/higher_education/6502

Thanks to Stephanie Nickerson, Ph.D., Faculty Development Consultant at New York University for compiling this list.

Topic of the Week:

What do you think about students anonymously evaluating professors and instructors online?

A recent article in the New York Times, September 1, 1999 edition, entitled "To Professors' Dismay, Ratings by Students Go Online" by Ian Zack has provoked a flurry of editorial comments and opinions on the POD listserv - a major internet discussion forum for teaching and learning. It appears, according to Zack, that it is becoming increasingly common that students are going to online sources (some formal and others informal) to peruse course evaluations that are written anonymously by other students. What do you think about this type of public and accessible data bank for faculty teaching courses on your campus?

Please reply to this email newsletter with your comments! Be sure to delete the newsletter before replying!

