



CTL *notes*

the Center for Teaching and Learning

The CTL logo is a mature tree, symbolizing the developed roots and continued growth of Miami University Middletown's excellence in teaching and learning under the canopy of its Center for Teaching and Learning.

Conversation Dates

October 11

Different Styles, One Classroom

November 1

Student and Faculty Expectations

December 6

Interdisciplinary Visits,
Different Perspectives

February 7

Bottlenecks in Thinking

March 7

Modeling Expert Thinking

April 4

Giving Students Practice and Feedback

“Connecting in Our Classrooms” This Year’s Conversation Theme

This year, the CTL continues our Conversations (with lunch and prizes!) series with the theme, “Connecting in our Classrooms.” Our focus will be on the interactions that make teaching and learning so interesting. During the Fall Semester, we will examine the differences that make connecting with our students so challenging. In the Spring Semester, we will expand on our Fall Opening Workshop ideas to examine ways to connect with our students.

Mark October 11th on your calendar!

Lizz Howard and Beth Uhler will lead our first session, “Different Learning Styles, One Classroom.” We will meet in Room 15 JH to allow each of us to take a short survey on learning styles. Lizz will explain the survey and how being aware of differences in learning styles affects her classroom teaching.

We all feel excited and privileged to have Lizz Howard, one of our “Excellence in Teaching” award winners, leading our first “Conversation.”

Each session, except for the first (different room!), will be held on Tuesdays in Room 120 JH, from noon until 1:00 pm.

Our second session is entitled Student/Faculty Expectations. If you would like to volunteer to take part in a panel discussion with a student of yours, please contact Amy Fisher (fisherma@muohio.edu).

Our third session is Interdisciplinary Visits, Different Perspectives. We are looking for instructor volunteers to pair with another instructor from a very different discipline. The paired instructors will visit each other’s classroom and then meet to discuss their different perspectives of the class. The CTL will fund a lunch meeting for the pairs. Interested? Again, contact Amy Fisher (fisherma@muohio.edu).

We’re Open! Stop By and Say “Hello”

Your CTL is open and staffed by the Leadership Collaborative from 10:00-12:00 and 2:00-4:00, Monday through Thursday. Or visit us on the web:

<http://www.mid.muohio.edu/ctl/>



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Leadership Collaborative Contact Information

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What Can a “SGID” Do for You?

Do you want to find out how your students are experiencing your class? The Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL) can help. The CTL coordinates the Small Group Instructional Diagnosis (SGID) program at Middletown and, upon request, can schedule a SGID during one of your class meetings.

What exactly is a SGID, you might be asking. SGIDs take about 20 - 30 minutes of a class period. During this time a SGID facilitator (one of your colleagues who has been trained in SGID facilitation) comes into your class to meet with your students without your being present. Students meet in small groups to identify strengths of the class as well as offer suggestions to improve their learning. The facilitator provides a (confidential) written report for you, and if you wish, will meet with you to talk about the results.

SGIDs give you student feedback at any point in the semester, an opportunity most students appreciate. You can use this feedback to fine-tune your teaching to better address *your* students' learning needs. SGIDs also provide documentation of your teaching for your annual evaluation or tenure dossier.

For more information or to schedule a SGID, call the CTL at 7-3464 or email us at mumctl@muohio.edu. You can find more information on the SGID process under Services on the CTL website: <http://www.mid.muohio.edu/ctl/>.

Coming Soon . . .

PPP'S PANOPLY OF PROBLEMS AND PIZZA

This year the CTL is offering a new series of mini-workshops centered on problems in our classrooms. We have one session planned for each semester. Our Fall Semester workshop is scheduled for Tuesday, November 8, noon until 1 pm, and is entitled “Facilitating Difficult Situations.” The session will be led by Lizz Howard and Marty Petrone. Look for more details in the October Notes.

CTL's Library Initiative — Your Choices!

The Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL) is eager to start its library. As your teaching and learning resource center, we would like to be able to have available in the CTL teaching and learning resources that you want and/or need. If there are books that you would like the CTL to purchase and house, then please let us know. Feel free to browse the library's listing of books or CELT's library listing to identify books that are likely to be of interest to you. It is okay if we replicate books that are in our library or CELT's library.

To see the list of CTL books that are housed in Gardner-Harvey, go to this site:

<http://www.mid.muohio.edu/ctl/library.cfm>

To see the list of books in CELT's library, go to this site:

<http://www.units.muohio.edu/celt/library/librarysearch.php>

If there are books that you want us to order, please send the title, author(s), and year to Beth Uhler at (uhlerbd@muohio.edu) or call her at 727-3254.

Nuggets

“Team (group) work often fails because the task given is NOT better served by teamwork. The best group work (is) designed (so that students may benefit) from collaboration and synergy AND (it) provides a way for everyone to contribute, even the quiet ones.”

—Russ on the POD listserv

Have a teaching nugget to share? Please contribute by contacting Lynn Dille (dilleml@muohio.edu).

