



CTL *notes*

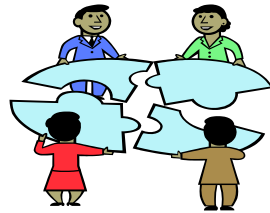
the Center for Teaching and Learning

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.

Volume 4, Issue 2

OCTOBER 2007

The CTL *Conversations on Teaching* presents



CULTURAL CONNECTIONS IN THE CLASSROOM

How students learn to perceive, understand, think, create meaning, feel, and act are integrally connected to their cultural orientation. Too often, as teachers we tend to think about learning in ethnocentric ways, or in ways that are specific to our own preferences and experiences. Please join **Marty Petrone** as she facilitates this interactive session designed to help us connect with our own cultural conditioning and in turn be more welcoming to the variety of diverse cultural perspectives we encounter in our classrooms.

This conversation will be **Tuesday, November 6** from 12:00-1:00 in **Room 136-137 Johnston Hall**
Lunch will be provided for the first 20 participants!



The CTL provides support of faculty-initiated efforts to improve teaching and learning. To learn more about the two types of funding available and how to request funding, go to:

<http://www.mid.muohio.edu/ctl/> and go to Resources.



EVENTS CALENDAR

- OCT 31** CTL and ETC present:
Dialogue on Digital Literacy Series
“Generation Next: Students, Faculty, and the Digital Divide”
12:00 - 1:00 in 137 Johnston Hall
- NOV 6** CTL Conversation on Teaching
“Cultural Connections in the Classroom”
12:00—1:00 in 136-137 Johnston Hall
- 15-18** Lilly Conference on College Teaching
Marcum Conference Center
Oxford Campus
- DEC 4** CTL Conversation on Teaching
12:00—1:00 in 137 Johnston Hall



SoTL Learning Community

The deadline for applying to the jointly sponsored CTL/CELT learning community on *The Scholarship of Teaching and Learning* is **Tuesday, October 30!**
The application can be found at:

<http://www.units.muohio.edu/celt/flcs/miami/flc-SoTL.php>



Generation Next Goes to College: Students, Faculty and the Digital Divide

The CTL and the ETC are pleased to launch a new series of dialogues on digital literacy. Different from the “hands-on” technology skill-building workshops, these discussions will be focused on the pedagogical issues involving technology. The first workshop in the series is scheduled for **Wednesday, October 31** from 12:00-1:00 in 137 Johnston. Lunch for first 20 participants!

What is digital literacy and how does this concept impact our teaching and students’ learning? In this first of the Dialogues on Digital Literacy series, we will explore the concept of digital literacy and the existence of digital divides separating students and ourselves. How Generation Next students understand and interact with the world around them is shaped by their use of technology. Research shows that students use technology in ways fundamentally different from how technology is used (or not used) in most classrooms. We will discuss what implications this has for the future of teaching and learning.



CTL SPOTLIGHT



Kudos to the following individuals for sharing their talents and expertise as reviewers for the journal *Teaching English in the Two-Year College* edited by Jeff Sommers. The following individuals have served as manuscript reviewers: Helane Androne, Mary Jane Brown, Moira Casey, Marianne Cotugno, John Heyda, Eric Melbye, John Tassoni (affiliate of Middletown Campus), and Ellenmarie Wahlrab. **TETYC** is a peer-reviewed journal published by the National Council of Teachers of English and the Two-Year College English Association and features scholarship of teaching and learning and other pedagogically-related articles. Moira Casey’s book review of a new text about plagiarism will be appearing in the March issue of the journal.

CTL BOOK NOOK



Rob Schorman (History) is our guest reviewer for October, and he has provided a book review of *The Missing Professor: An Academic Mystery*, by Thomas B. Jones (Sterling, Va.: Stylus 2006). You can check out copies of this book and others from the CTL lending library in Room 11 Johnston.

On the surface, *The Missing Professor* is a comic-mystery novel about young assistant professor Nicole Adams, who joins the faculty at Higher State University the day before her officemate, a curmudgeonly professor named R.Reynolds Raskin, disappears without a trace.

In reality, however, the book is a compilation of case studies on faculty development. Each chapter not only advances the plot but raises different issues connected to faculty life. They range from the practical (what to do on the first day of class; how to deal with student incivility) to the abstract (what is the role of faculty governance?; what is the proper context for peer observation of teaching?).

The plot is a bit overwrought and full of caricatures— though sometimes recognizable ones—as Professor Adams faces her first set of student evaluations, her first faculty meeting, even her first encounter with the Higher State’s “Center for Teaching Excellence.” It is a quick (146 pages) and entertaining read as well as thought-provoking. It would work well as the basis for a faculty-staff reading group, which seems to have been the author’s original intent, since the book includes a section of discussion questions in the back that seemed designed for just such a situation.



Lilly Conference on College Teaching

The Lilly Conference, Miami’s premier international conference on teaching, is celebrating its 27th anniversary this year from November 15-18 at the Marcum Conference Center on the Oxford Campus. This year’s keynote address will be delivered by Miami University president, David Hodge, who will speak on “Mainstreaming Undergraduate Research: Discovery-Based Undergraduate Education.” For those who have never before attended Lilly, it is a wonderful opportunity to network with other educators, attend seminars and workshops devoted specifically to teaching and learning, and revitalize your own teaching. Information on presenters, topics and registration can be found at the Lilly website:

<http://www.units.muohio.edu/lillycon/>