



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.

New CTL Leadership Collaborative Members Announced

The CTL is proud to announce that three new members will take places on the Leadership Collaborative beginning in the Fall of 2010.

The Leadership Collaborative works together to make decisions about the operations and programming of the Center. The Collaborative is composed of 5-8 members, and any faculty or unclassified staff member with teaching

responsibilities may self-nominate to serve for a term on the LC. Two co-coordinators help manage CTL operations.

LC members are chosen by a selection committee convened by the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs.

This year, the selection committee chose **John Tassoni, Professor of English; Beth Tumbleson, Assistant Director**

of the Gardner-Harvey Library; and Susan Baim, Associate Professor of Business Technology.

We look forward to the fresh ideas they will bring to teaching and learning on the MUM campus.

Please see page 2 for brief overviews of the new LC member's interests and what they hope to achieve as CTL LC members.



"You can teach a student a lesson for a day; but if you can teach him to learn by creating curiosity, he will continue the learning process for as long as he lives."

—Clay P. Bedford

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Upcoming CTL Events-Save the Dates!



Wed. April 7

Time: 12:00-1:00

Location: Group Study Area of the Gardner-Harvey Library

"Teaching Controversial Subject Matter"

Co-sponsored with the Diversity Council

Tues. April 13

Time: 11:30-12:30

Location: Group Study Area of the Gardner-Harvey Library

"Active Learning Strategies"

Tues. April 20

Time: 11:00-12:00

Location: JHN 136/137

"Creating A Bridge for GED Students to Enter Post-Secondary Education"

New LC Member Introduction: Beth Tumbleson, MA, MS

I am a librarian by training and lay years of experience at the feet of CTL. Together, we at MUM are going somewhere new in the next years.

Librarians tend towards intellectual curiosity and filter a tremendous amount of information on the job. Once we become aware of campus needs in curriculum, teaching, learning, research, and grant writing our antennae quiver and we begin alerting colleagues to the

wealth of online and print resources which match their interests. Librarians also cross boundaries. We work with all subject disciplines and end users of all abilities.

During my Collaborative Leadership term, I hope to turn MUM's fertile soil, using my talents in research, information literacy instruction, collection development, technology, and academic integrity. I am especially interested in embedded librarianship within our course man-

agement system, assisting students in the 12/13 transition to academic life, lifelong learning and yes, reading.

Just the facts? I am Assistant Director at the Gardner-Harvey Library. I have worked in academic, high school, and corporate libraries in Greater Cincinnati as well as theological and social work libraries. My academic pursuits include English, French, Library Science, and Church History.

New LC Member Introduction: John Tassoni, PhD

I'm interested in strengthening *JCTL: Journal on Centers for Teaching and Learning*, which I helped develop during my last stint with our CTL and which we co-produce with Oxford's CET-LUA. One way to do this is to expand a listserv that we started developing during the last time I served—it's a listserv that collects

CTL staff from 2-year campuses across the state of Ohio. I'd like to see if I can develop a national list along these lines.

I'd also like to see us activate again the CTL Conversations listserv to extend conversations on CTL events and other teaching concerns on campus. A conversation that will be of particular importance over the

next couple of years (at least) will involve the role regional campuses might play in developing the new Global Miami Plan. I'm interested in exploring ways we can develop a dialogue here about how global perspectives, a feature of the new plan, can reshape our curricula (and vice versa).

New LC Member Introduction: Susan Baim

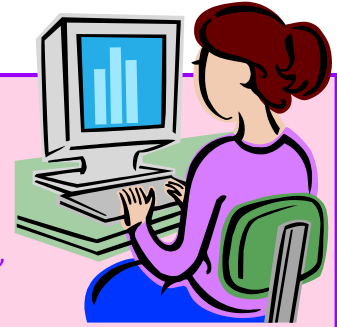
I am excited about joining the CTL Leadership Collaborative for the fall of 2010. My primary goal as a member is to search for ways that the activities and programs of the CTL can become more accessible to and experienced by a broader cross-section of faculty at Middletown.

To me, the idea of inclusive pro-

gramming that draws together individuals from across the campus and offers opportunities to discuss divergent views on topics critical to good teaching practices is of tremendous importance in these changing and challenging times. I will be considering the option of a brief survey to help generate ideas that may be of greatest interest campus-wide.

Paraphrasing a quote from a favorite graduate school professor of mine, "the future will not look like the past." We need to be ready for what lies ahead – delivering the best possible learning experience within an environment that has and will continue to experience great change. I am ready to help and look forward to my time on the CTL Leadership Collaborative.

Prof. Hacker: A Blog Review by Moira Casey



I first came across the Professor Hacker blog when the blog's creator was interviewed in the *Chronicle of Higher Education's* Wired Campus edition. What intrigued me, in particular, was that it was started by a professor of English who wanted to provide colleagues in higher education with tips for using technology. According to the blog itself, "ProfHacker delivers tips, tutorials, and commentary on pedagogy, productivity, and technology in higher education, Monday through Friday."

The blog covers much more, though, than a strictly pedagogical approach to technology. While pedagogy is a major category, the productivity articles have been as useful or more useful to me than the pedagogy, and career-related articles about work-life balance also round out the blog's offerings. One recent article recommends software for Mac users that allows them to turn off the networking functions of their computer, thus enabling the user to stop reading about productivity and actually get some writing done. I had never considered this possibility, but I can certainly see the benefits of doing so!

My one criticism of the blog is that the "how-to" posts don't usually explain how to use the technology – you'll get tips and tricks, but these types of posts won't substitute for a hands-on workshop. I suppose we can't expect that type of instruction from a blog, but the how-to section could be misleading in this sense. For example, a recent post in the how-to section, "Scheduling 101: Using Acuity for Student Appointments," is really more of a review of Acuity than an explanation of how to use the program.

In the *Chronicle* interview with Jason B. Jones, the blog's creator, Jones explains how many blogs deal with technology and many others with productivity, but he wanted to bring this information together in a context that would specifically help higher education faculty. I think he's succeeded. The links to other sites, articles, books, and technologies are often the best part of each blog post. Additionally, the blog's writers have a good sense of humor, and even the articles that don't offer me some new or useful technology or tip are usually quite readable.

Check it out and feel free to let me know what you think: www.profhacker.com

Student Worker Position

The CTL is looking for a student worker to begin working in the Fall of 2010-2011 semester. Jackie Couch, our current student worker will be leaving us at the end of the semester, and we are hoping to find another student with the same drive and enthusiasm. Please announce the CTL position to your students. If you have any questions, please contact Ellenmarie Wahlrab (wahlrae@muohio.edu) or Lizz Howard (howardev@muohio.edu).

I remember the first time I met the Leadership Collaborative—I was so nervous and intimidated by the big words they tossed around and their general knowledge of well...everything. As it turns out, I had nothing to be nervous about. Working at the CTL has been a supreme pleasure and a wonderful learning experience. As the student worker for the CTL I have forged many wonderful relationships with faculty and staff and have gained an inside perspective on how much work faculty and staff put into their courses. It has been a pleasure getting to know professors in a setting outside of the classroom—I wish every student had the same opportunity that I have had. I will truly miss the CTL and everything that goes with it (the free pizza especially!) So thank you all for the wonderful learning experience—I know that the CTL and the events hosted at MUM have shaped my outlook on teaching. I want to be a better student and a better educator because of all that I have learned from working at the CTL.

Jackie Couch

The CTL announces the winners for the 2010 MUM Award for Teaching Excellence:

Beth Uhler, full-time faculty award recipient

Kent Bradshaw, part-time faculty award recipient

They were chosen by a seven-person selection committee chaired by Angela Yesh and composed of award recipients from the previous three years and two CTL-LC members. Faculty members were first nominated by faculty, staff, and students, and then asked to provide additional materials highlighting their teaching philosophy and practices. The committee then met to make the difficult decision to designate just two recipients from a rich pool of gifted and committed instructors. This year, between the full-time and part-time awards, twenty (20) different MUM faculty members were nominated. The award will be officially presented at MUM's annual award ceremony on April 29. Congratulations to this year's deserving winners!

CTL Spring Staffing Hours

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
9-10			Sue	Ellenmarie
10-11	Brad	Eric	Sue/Jackie	
11-12			Jackie	
12-1	Jackie			
1-2	LC Meeting	John/Jackie		
2-3				Lizz
3-4	Maira/Jackie	John/Jackie/ Angela		Lizz/Jackie
4-5		Angela/Jackie		
5-6				Jackie
6-7	Jackie	Jackie		