



CTL Notes

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THE CENTER FOR TEACHING
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CTL

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CTL Upcoming Events

E-Learning: What's in It for U?
Wednesday, February 1, 2012
12:00PM JHN 136/137

Miami University Middletown has been involved with online and hybrid learning for approximately twelve years and currently serves over 1500 students using this delivery method. In fall semester 2012, BTE will become the first MUM program to offer degrees entirely online. Join the CTL for the first Conversation of 2012 on Wednesday, February 1, at noon to discuss the increasing number of e-learning opportunities at Miami Middletown. Janet Hurn, our Interim Coordinator of E-Learning, will respond to our questions, concerns and ideas about online, distance and hybrid learning. Please access the following short [SURVEY](#) to help shape the conversation by sharing your thoughts on e-learning and Miami Regionals:

[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheet/viewform?
formkey=dEY0VEQzMGRDQzZaYIFrUHM3eXBybVE6MQ](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheet/viewform?formkey=dEY0VEQzMGRDQzZaYIFrUHM3eXBybVE6MQ)

*****Lunch will be provided to the first twenty participants*****

CTL Special: English Language Learners (ELL)

Wednesday, February 8, 2012

11:00AM JHN 110

Have you ever had an English Language Learner (ELL) in your class or office? Do you have questions about how to support these students? Do you need some myths debunked and questions answered? Please join this interactive session to learn more about the ELL population on the Miami Regional campuses and to acquire the information you need to support your interactions with the ELL students you meet each semester. Facilitated by Emily Williams (MUH).

*****Lunch will be provided to the first 20 participants*****

Integrating Learning Technologies to Engage Distance Students

By Ming Li

The Engineering and Technology Department has seen more and more distance students enrolled in its programs. To engage distance students and enhance their learning experiences is always a great challenge. New technologies such as social media and digital media tools are transforming fundamental aspects of society. Twitter and Facebook, which provide more channels for communication and connection, will no doubt have a profound impact on teaching and learning. The Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL) funded a project to integrate social media, audio and video tools to get students more involved in teaching and learning in Engineering Technology.

The project was carried out for ENT 192, ENT 291 during the fall semester of 2011. Twitter widgets were developed and embedded in Niihka course sites. Surveys using poll tools were also developed to get feedback from students. Several video demos of experimental labs were captured and posted on YouTube. The project set up a multi-channel communication platform to engage students and enable more convenient connections between students and instructors. And through lab demo videos, students could visualize all the experimental procedures, which could assist them during the experiment and troubleshooting process.

Tech Tips January 2012

By Janet Hurn

Niihka:

If you want to evaluate your student's responses in the forums in Niihka, I have some suggestions. One way to see each student's participation is to click on the statistics button at the top of the forums. Then click on that particular student. There you will see what posts the student has done and the posts the student has read. If you click on the upper right link "show full text for all authored messages" you will be able to read right through all of that student's posts. See this screencast for help.

<http://www.screenr.com/OMMs>

Don't forget that if you create an assignment in the assignment tool, you have to grade there as well. The students can read your comments there afterwards. If you had the grades sent to the gradebook, they will be sent there automatically.

Interactive Textbooks:

If you haven't seen the announcement from Apple, go check it out.

<http://www.apple.com/education/#video-textbooks>

They are getting into the interactive textbook race and I have to say that I am impressed. They have also made it easy for folks to author their own interactive texts on the Mac. The books have animations, videos, 3D models and self-check quizzes. Education will not look the same in 5 years so put on your seat belts!



Libraries and Learning: Researching Together

By Beth Tumbleson



“Databases are a lot more in-depth than they seem, and you have to know how to use them to get the right information. If not for Research Strategies, I would have never known how many databases are available, or how to narrow down my results using search terms and limiters. That is how this [assigned] article helped me realize why schools need to teach their students more classes like Research Strategies.”

Pike’s Peak Community College Student, Nov. 8, 2011

At the start of the semester, instructors dare to experiment with creative and demanding projects involving research. To keep students’ expectations high and hopeful, guide them throughout the research process. By scaffolding deadlines, you ensure that students get started. Who among us isn’t haunted by the date, April 15?

Although students spend much time online, it may not be with the electronic resources you assume are known and appreciated by young scholars in the field. Send students to search named research databases, the very ones you use in your own research and teaching. Often these subject databases go untapped by students until someone—the professor or a librarian—demonstrates how to search them. Moving outside one’s comfort zone is the narrow path few travel without a research companion. Be there for the student. Share the professional terms and thesauri, codes, favored reports and journals those in the field turn to in searching. Raise the research bar; set requirements students must meet to influence their lifelong information literacy skills. They will thank you later. Didn’t you realize about the time you started graduate school that there was much more to learn? New, unfamiliar resources to tap? The last shreds of high school over-confidence fade. The older student is teachable.

Receiving specific, knowledgeable coaching in information literacy by subject specialists is welcomed by students, all the more in today’s ever-changing information world. 21st century learning is shaped by emerging technologies, Web 2.0 tools, and apps. Changing publishing trend: from print to digital alters the way research is conducted. Your students face an overwhelming task of sorting too many results, unless you show them how to narrow a search in research databases, online catalogs, or search engines. The landscape of learning has undergone radical upheaval; it differs from the days you sat in the student desk.

It is incumbent upon instructors to come along side young researchers. Raise research questions; demonstrate solutions; draw on authoritative resources academic libraries provide. Collaborate with a librarian to strengthen the information literacy skills of your students, if that method appeals to you, as they are charged to stay current in these matters. Consider scheduling an information literacy session, requesting a LMS embedded librarian, or directing students to request a research consultation. In these ways, student, professor, and librarian meet to ensure a successful academic outcome.



International Engagement for Regional Students

By Janice Kinghorn

The Global Miami plan has asked us at the Regionals to think about how we can provide opportunities for our students to engage with others across cultural boundaries. While many of the main campus students meet this requirement through study abroad, it is often assumed that barriers of time and money preclude many of our regional students from doing so.

This fall a group of Regional faculty met in a faculty learning community led by Chen Ferguson, Director of Regional International Programs, to explore the process of creating and leading study abroad opportunities for our students. The Office of Lifelong Learning in Oxford was also very helpful in educating faculty about the process.

One learning that surprised the group, and came out of a student survey, is that although financial considerations were important for our students, family and job responsibilities were not identified as large impediments.

Twenty percent of respondents are planning to study abroad, and another 30 percent want to know more. Almost 20 percent of our students have never thought about studying abroad.

The six faculty involved in the learning community have begun to develop proposals for study abroad programs. The process of program development is a long one, as site visits are crucial to establish contacts and preview facilities. CTL Teaching Initiative funding was helpful, allowing me to extend a trip this past summer to do just that. Lifelong Learning and the Regionals are further supporting such development. Stay tuned – some exciting international opportunities may be coming to regional students in the near future!



*****Excellence in Teaching Award*****

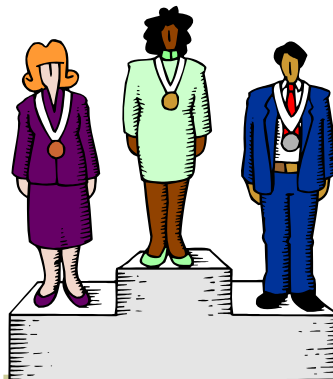
Miami University Middletown has recognized outstanding teachers for many years in connection with the Greater Cincinnati Consortium of Colleges and Universities (GCCCU).

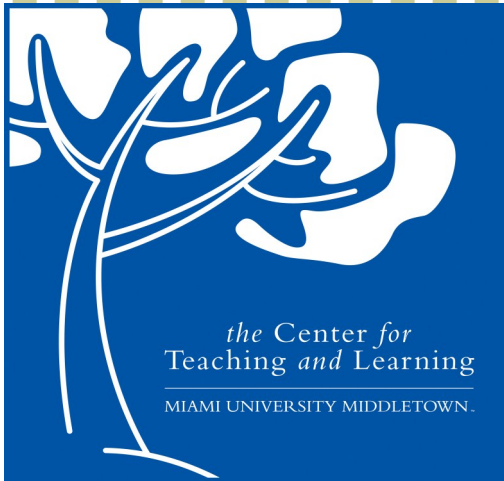


In 2005, the CTL began to sponsor the MUM Excellence in Teaching Award, whose recipients also represent the campus at annual celebrations of teaching sponsored by GCCCU, the Southwestern Ohio Council for Higher Education (SOCHE), and the Ohio Association of Two-Year Colleges (OATYC).

Award winners are nominated by their colleagues and students and then submit dossiers documenting their teaching achievements. The winners are chosen by a panel that includes award recipients from the past two years plus one member of the CTL Leadership Collaborative.

In 2006, the CTL began to make two annual awards, one to full-time faculty and one to part-time faculty. Last year's awardees were Ginger Wickline (PSY) for the full-time faculty and Susan Eacker (HST) for the part-time faculty. Check the CTL's website, www.mid.muohio.edu/ctl for more information on the Excellence in Teaching Award. The deadline for nominations for the 2012 award is February 3, 2012.





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CTL Office Hours

Each member of the CTL Leadership Collaborative staffs the office at least two hours during the week, working on CTL-related projects. Staff also welcomes faculty, staff, and students who want to discuss issues related to teaching and learning or browse the library of books, journals, and handouts.

CTL Staffing Hours

Mondays: 10:00-12:30PM Ellenmarie Wahlrab

12:30-1:45 Leadership Collaborative Meeting

Tuesdays: 11:00-12:00PM Susan Joyce

2:15-3:30PM Eric Luczaj

Wednesdays: 11:00-1:00PM Laurel Gilbert

1:00-3:00 PM Janet Hurn

Thursdays: 9:00-11:00 AM Beth Tumbleson

11:00-12:00PM Susan Joyce

2:15-3:30PM Eric Luczaj