

TEACHING AND LEARNING CENTER NEWSLETTER

Our Goals are to:

Support advanced effective teaching

Improve student proficiency levels in basic knowledge and skills needed for success in the 21st century, such as oral and written communication mathematics, and computer skills.

Create a "culture of planning" to guide decisions about possible changes in academic programs and services.

Sustain academic and student services supporting technical, career-oriented, and professional programs.

Promote the value of higher education to the community.



The SSU TLC has been able to provide informal assistance to faculty members seeking help with individual needs, such as peer review of lesson plans, individualized instruction to add sound to PowerPoint, navigating Blackboard, getting settled within our community as new faculty, hosting mathematic scholars from China within our office space, loaning books on teaching and learning, holding editing and peer review sessions for scholarly submissions, and offering support to other offices that serve the university community. It has been a pleasure to assist faculty needs for development as an open walk-in office available to those interested in growing as teachers and learners.



Faculty Festival of Achievement

On January 27-28, 2015, the campus community and the general public were invited to Shawnee State University to celebrate faculty achievement. During this two-day event, faculty members presented their scholarly research in the form of a poster presentation or an oral presentation. Throughout the week, the Clark Memorial Library also displayed published articles, books, and research projects by SSU faculty and administrators. For complete details and photos, visit <http://www.shawnee.edu/offices/teaching-learning-center/festival.aspx> In addition, a permanent link has been established on the Clark Memorial Library page. A total of 311 people attended, 123 of which were faculty members.

Tuesday, January 27, nine faculty members gave oral presentations from 9:00am-5:00pm in the CML Learning Lab and the CML Flohr Lecture Hall. Most sessions were well-attended, having anywhere from 6-30 audience members.

Also on that day, the SSU Faculty Enrichment Poster Session took place in the CML Learning Lab from 2:00-3:30 pm. Eight different faculty members, many Faculty Enrichment fund recipients, showcased seven posters to approximately 20 attendees. Refreshments were served and faculty members answered questions about their wide range of topics, from *Incomprehensible Crimes: Media Coverage of Homicides of Children Perpetuated by Family Members* to *Empowering Students: A Library/Writing Center Collaboration*. The venue offered faculty a platform to share research and academic interests with students, colleagues, and the general public, an important aspect of the university's mission to our campus and community, modeling a commitment to life-long learning.

On Wednesday, ten oral presentations were given by 11 faculty members from 9:00am-5:00pm in the CML Learning Lab and the CML Flohr Lecture Hall. These sessions were also well attended by a varying count of 9-34 audience members. The TLC would like to thank all faculty members who participated this year.



Professor Kimberly Inman, Natural Sciences



Dr. Tony Dzik, Social Sciences



Faculty Focus Articles

Faculty focus articles on teaching were sent out every Thursday with the free coffee invitation via e-mail. Copies of each article were also made available in the Teaching and Learning Center office while # of articles were also taken to offices placed near mailboxes for all faculty to see. These articles highlighted teaching tips the faculty could use to help faculty members get their students engaged, retain information, hold discussions, and succeed in class. The TLC received many responses from faculty about the weekly articles.



Brown Bag Session: Teaching ONLINE

April 8, 2015, the TLC hosted a faculty discussion about online teaching. Recent OLC scholars Chrystal Sherman, Shannon Lawson, and Steve Doster presented. Drinks and snacks were provided and the session was open to any faculty interested in online learning. It took place in the Library Conference room from noon-1:00 pm with ten faculty members who are interested in improving their online teaching skills



Shannon Lawson



Steve Doster



Spring Hours ADM 032

Monday

8 am-11 am

Tuesday

1 pm-5 pm

Wednesday

10 am-3 pm

Thursday

8 am-10 am & 12:30 pm- 5 pm

Faculty and Staff Article & Coffee Day

Friday, CLOSED

Click here to access the TLC Faculty Recommended Summer

Reading List given to students in May 2015:

THE FACULTY RESEARCH DIRECTORY OF PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS LIST THE TLC WEBSITE HAS BEEN UPDATED!

<http://www.shawnee.edu/offices/teaching-learning-center/publications.aspx>

Strengthening our Online Presence

On April 16, Rob Elliot, Nancy Evans of IUPUI, and host, Ryan Gamm (along with the TLC) held three open sessions for faculty development: *Technology Tools to Improve Engagement and Interactivity in Online Courses*, *The Flipped Classroom: What Is It? Do Students Like It? How Do I Build It?* and, the last session, *Online vs. Hybrid vs. Blended Learning: Pros, Cons, and a Conversation about Alternative Classroom Formats*. All sessions took place in the Library Learning Lab and 16 SSU faculty and administrators honed their teaching skills alongside 36 SSU Education Department undergraduate and graduate students, modeling that learning is a lifelong process for all educators. Professor Elliott suggested multiple tools to facilitate online communication both between the learner and the instructor and among students. He also demonstrated how to design instructional units via a template that anticipates unique needs



Rob Elliot, IUPUI

for hybrid and online teaching utilizing backward design. Finally, in the third session, communicating via Skype with Professor Evans in Indiana, Elliot led a discussion of the pros and cons (and the lessons learned through experience) of teaching hybrid, online, and face to face courses. Handouts and materials are available in the TLC. Faculty responded on evaluations saying, "I am already trying some of the tools on the handout," "Such helpful, concrete suggestions for presenting and assessing material in an online format!" In addition, Dean Bauer attended lunch with a small group of faculty who all discussed online teaching at SSU, asking Professor Elliott for his advice.



Dr. Eugene Burns Receives SSU Board of Trustees' Distinguished Faculty Teaching Award 2014

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Shawnee State University is a teaching institution. To acknowledge outstanding teaching, the university has established an annual award which includes a prize of \$500. Full-time faculty and full-time students nominated esteemed tenure track faculty members and full-time instructors who had completed at least one year of service at the time of the nomination at SSU. Those nominated included: Eugene Burns, Neil Carpathios, Adair Lattimer, and Mark Mirabello. Those accepting the nomination submitted portfolios that included evidence of extraordinary dedication to teaching, demonstrated by excellence in the following areas: Impact on and involvement with students; scholarly approach to teaching and learning; contribution to undergraduate education in the institution, community and profession. They also submitted letters of support from colleagues, and current and former students. The Faculty Scholarly Affairs Committee reviewed and scored the portfolios and selected Dr. Burns as the 2015 recipient. Last year's recipient was Tony Ward.



Catherine Bailey

Distance Learning & Quality Matters Training

The SSU TLC, as part of its concerted effort to promote online teaching, assisted Dr. Catherine Bailey, hosting a full day training session for faculty interested in understanding the details of the Quality Matters Rubric. This rubric is used by the Distance Learning Committee to assess course proposals for all online courses. The in-depth training involved looking at courses for clear instructional design, solid goals, objectives, assessments, and communications that involve student to instructor as well as student to student interaction, and many other important aspects of strong online teaching. Nineteen SSU faculty members participated and learned from each other and the QM facilitator about quality online teaching (and face-to-face teaching!) as they worked together to evaluate a sample course, assessing it and offering constructive feedback as part of the training. Any SSU faculty interested in the QM rubric should contact Dr. Bailey.



Jennifer Napper Directs 2015 Celebration of Scholarship

Dr. Jennifer Napper directed this year's undergraduate research conference, a very important day on Shawnee State's campus that highlights faculty-student interaction and culminates in student presentations open to the public and the university community. The SSU Teaching and Learning Center assisted Dr. Napper and her faculty committee, which included April Barnette, Wendi Fleeman, Janet Holtman, Kim Inman, Derek Jones, Erik Larson, Shannon Lawson, Jennifer Pauley, Marc Scott, Ann Marie Short, and John Whitaker.

Over 135 students presented their scholarly work and were honored at a dinner hosted by the Provost, Dr. Alan Walker, and a picnic the following day. Guest speakers Priscila Santos and Lauren Waugh presented topics and research to a mixed audience of faculty and students alike. Many awards were presented.

Without faculty willing to serve on the committee and Dr. Napper's enthusiasm and direction, this event would not have been possible. The SSU TLC is proud to contribute our support for a connection between faculty mentorship and student research. Well-done!



Jennifer Napper