

Subject: PREVIEW: Teaching and Learning Connections Newsletter - February 2015

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To: Emmer, Mary C.

Teaching and Learning Connections Newsletter

Creighton
UNIVERSITY

TEACHING & LEARNING
CONNECTIONS

FROM THE OFFICE FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND ASSESSMENT

February 2015

About Us



The Office for Academic Excellence and Assessment (AEA) is dedicated to Creighton University's commitment to excellence in teaching and student learning by offering faculty and staff the opportunity to:

*Imagine...*the Opportunities.
*Reflect...*on Best Practices.
*Collaborate...*with Campus Colleagues.
*Transform...*Student Learning.

Given the changing landscape of higher education, pedagogical innovations, and student needs, AEA invites creative engagement among faculty and staff, through comprehensive university-wide ongoing professional development programs and services.

Collaboration and conversation of teaching and learning create a community of life-long learners; AEA programs offer innovative, interprofessional and interdisciplinary engagement with faculty and staff in elevating dialogue on excellence in teaching and



CELEBRATING TEACHING
EXCELLENCE: CREATIVITY AND
ENGAGEMENT FOUNDATIONAL TO
STUDENT SUCCESS

The recipients of the 2015 Distinguished Educator in Teaching as Scholarship Award, **Noam Ebner, LL.M.**, and **David Reed, Ph.D.**, exhibit a career filled with creativity in programmatic designs as well as a tradition of student engagement.

You are invited to join in a campus conversation as they address such questions as:

- How can faculty retain their creativity, model creativity for their students, and/or learn from the creativity of their students?
- In the age of rapidly changing technologies, what advice do you offer to ensure our students remain engaged with their learning?
- Looking forward, how can Creighton University build upon its Jesuit pedagogical tradition to ensure student success in the 21st century?

Please join us **Wednesday, Mar. 4; 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Skutt SC 104** for a lively discussion as we (audience participation expected) engage in, reflect on and evaluate our current practices and imagine new creative and/or engagement practices leading to student success. **Lunch will be provided.**

Reservations required. [Register.](#)

assessment of student learning.

Contact AEA to learn more about faculty development programming, assessment, course design, effective teaching methods, and/or the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) and service learning.

[Find past issues of this newsletter here.](#)

HONORS AND AWARDS



CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to our students, faculty, and staff recently recognized for their commitment to Creighton University.



Maria Benevento, a senior honors student from Kirksville, Mo., majoring in theology and American studies and minoring in justice and peace studies, has been awarded a Phi Beta Kappa writing internship. Only about 20 students nationwide are selected as PBK writing interns each year.

August J
Randy Crist
Chai Math
x 2580

At the Math Association of America Winter Meeting, students **Ben Schmachtenberger** and **A.J. Hagan** presented a poster entitled "Low Regularity Mild Solutions to the Generalized Magneto-Hydrodynamic Equations". This poster is the joint work of Ben Schmachtenberger, A.J. Hagan, and **Lucia Magos** under the direction of **Nathan Pennington, Ph.D.**

August
Alexander



Will Graft and **Josh Trebbien** presented a poster "Towards a Stability Theory for Feynman's Operational Calculus in the Purely Discrete Setting: A Direct Approach". It is the joint work of Will Graft, **Samantha Stanley**, and Josh Trebbien under the direction of **Lance Nielsen, Ph.D.**

Two mathematics seniors, Lucia Magos and **Asia Inagaki**, participated in the Nebraska Conference for Undergraduate Women in Mathematics in Lincoln in January. This national conference showcases successful research projects completed by undergraduate students and gives them a chance to meet professional women in STEM disciplines.

The [Backpack Journalism Film](#) "Mother



"Kuskokwim" has been accepted at the Princeton Environmental Film Festival and the Omaha Film Festival. The Backpack Journalism project is a collaboration of Creighton University's Departments of Theology and Journalism, Media & Computing. The film also has other applications pending.



Creighton's literature and arts publication *Shadows* has had three individual pieces and the cover of the most recent issue selected as 2015 Crown finalists by the [Columbia Scholastic Press Association](#).



Lynne Houtz, Ph.D., professor and associate chair in the education department, shared her research presentation, "Effective Science-Teaching Strategies for Students with Special Needs" at the statewide Nebraska Summit on Math and Science Education in Lincoln, NE in December.



Two College of Nursing faculty members were honored Oct. 17 during the Nebraska Nurses Association's 2014 convention in Kearney, Neb. – a wonderful tribute to both the college and University. **Margo Minnich, MSN, R.N.**, assistant professor, received the Outstanding Nurse Educator Award for innovation and expertise in the educator role and **Linda Lazure, Ph.D., R.N.**, associate professor and associate dean for External Relations, received the Outstanding Achievement Award for distinguished contributions at the local, state, and national levels over a cumulative number of years.



Michael Miller, Ed.D., director of the EMS Education Program, has been appointed to the board of directors for the Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for the Emergency Medical Services Professions (CoAEMSP). In addition, he will be transitioning over the next several months into the position of National Association of EMS Educators (NAEMSE) governance chair and will be officially installed at the NAEMSE annual meeting in August. These appointments are a reflection on Dr. Miller's exceptional leadership in the

area of EMS education, as well as Creighton's 40-year history of offering quality EMS programs at both the graduate and undergraduate levels.

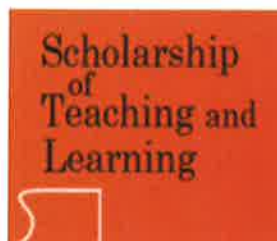
CHI Health CUMC has been recognized by The Joint Commission for the third consecutive year as a Top Performer on Key Quality Measures®. Only 36.9% of all Joint Commission-accredited hospitals received this recognition for exemplary performance in providing evidence-based interventions in the right way and at the right time. The Joint Commission tracks 46 metrics measuring the performance of hospitals in quality and safety of care.



Of the 124 academic medical centers in the U.S., only four received this recognition when it began in 2011 and this number has grown to 35 today. **Creighton University Medical Center is one of only four academic medical centers to receive this prestigious recognition all three years.** Joann Porter, M.D., associate dean for graduate medical education and associate professor of internal medicine, thanked our residents and fellows for their commitment to improve the patient care processes necessary to provide excellent quality care. Their dedication to collaboration and teamwork with nursing and other health professionals was also commended.

SOTL RESOURCES

GETTING SOTL ARTICLES PUBLISHED



From her experience as both an SoTL author and past editor of *Teaching Sociology*, Kathleen McKinney, interim Cross Chair in the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning and Professor of Sociology Emeritus at Illinois State University, offers 22 useful tips when preparing and submitting an SoTL article for publication. The article, [Getting SoTL Articles Published—A Few Tips](#) is a valuable resource for faculty at all stages of the SoTL process.

CALL FOR SOTL JOURNAL



SUBMISSIONS

Call for Journal Submission: The ISSOTL *Transformative Dialogues*, Special Theme: Post-Secondary Sustainability Leadership and Education, Volume 8, issue 2.

Deadline for submission: Apr. 15, 2015. [More information](#). Access previous issues of [Transformative Dialogues](#).

FACULTY DEVELOPMENT



ASSESSMENT SYMPOSIUM FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2015

The University Assessment Committee in partnership with the Office for Academic Excellence and Assessment and Graduate School is planning a **University-wide Assessment Symposium for Friday, Feb. 20, 2015; 8:30-12:30; Skutt SC Ballroom**. The program will feature keynote speaker, Susan Hatfield, assessment director and professor at Winona State University, Winona, MN. [Learn more/Register](#).

BROWN BAG TIME-OUT FOR LUNCH PROGRAMS

The Brown Bag Time-Out for Lunch programs invite creative engagement among faculty and staff to promote a community of learners. AEA Associates and staff work to develop and deliver individual and small group faculty/professional staff development workshops covering issues related to teaching, learning, and assessment.



Each program is a 60-90 minute session designed to allow in-depth coverage of a topic along with discussion among the facilitator and the participants. Drinks and dessert will be provided to include with your lunch. Attendees are encouraged to come prepared with their questions and ideas for sharing.

[More information](#)./[To register](#).

Teaching by Design: Engaging Students in Creating Educational Games; Friday, March 6; 10:30-12; Werner Institute Conference Room; Law School; Facilitator: Noam Ebner,



School of Law, Werner Institute, AEA Associate

Experiential learning, such as teaching through simulations and games, has been shown to be an effective method for conveying content and generating student engagement. In this workshop, we will discuss the implications of this research-based approach, and participants will be invited to consider how they might conduct such activities within their own course framework.

Using What's Already in Your Classroom: Leveraging Technology to Gather Student Learning Data;
Wednesdays, March 25 and April 1;
11-12:30; Skutt SC Room 104;
Facilitator: Brian Kokensparger,
College of Arts and Sciences, AEA
Senior Associate



This two-part seminar will introduce you to a variety of direct measurement techniques that you can take back to your classroom and try. The focus will be on using technology and data that are free or inexpensive – some of which you may currently have in your hands and don't know it!

Best Practices in Rubric Development;
Wednesday, April 15; 11:30-1; Criss II –
Computer Lab 216; Facilitator: Christina
Murcek, College of Nursing, AEA
Electronic Learning and Assessment
Systems Fellow



Let's explore what assessment experts recommend as best practices in rubric creation. Bring a rubric that you would like to improve or an assignment that needs a rubric created to this session in order to use the recommendations to help best formulate the criteria, fixed measurement scale and/or descriptions of characteristics for each point.

AEA DEVELOPMENT GRANT SERIES

The AEA Development Grant Series luncheon presentations are designed to familiarize the campus with the grant recipients and their project.



Development Grant projects are grouped thematically so 2-3 projects will be presented during each luncheon.

Educational Learning Environments: Enhancing Student Skills and Successes; Monday, Mar. 23; 11:30-1; Skutt 104.

Assessing Student Learning: Recall, Retention and Impact; Friday, Apr. 10; 11:30-1; Harper 3029.

[For more information on each grant topic and/or to register.](#)

ST. ALBERT'S AND UNIVERSITY RESEARCH DAY



Save the Date: University Research Day and St. Albert's Day, April 14, celebrates research and scholarship of Creighton students and faculty. Stop by and visit with students eagerly presenting research posters and faculty sharing accomplishments on their research and scholarship. **University Research/St. Albert's Day; Tuesday, April 14; 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.; Harper Center Ballroom.**

CAMPUS RESOURCES

ASSESSMENT MENTORING PROGRAM

Do you wonder how Assessment differs from Evaluation? Are you interested in learning how to use assessment data to improve your teaching or promotion dossier? Do you have questions about using BlueLine to manage and explore assessment data?



The Office of Academic Excellence and Assessment has established a cadre of assessment mentors to assist individuals, programs and departments in conducting the many activities that comprise quality assessment.

- [Assessment Topics and Definitions.](#)
- [Cadre of Assessment Mentors.](#)
- [Request a Mentor.](#)

Questions regarding the Assessment Mentoring Program, contact [Katie Huggett](#), program chair.

AT YOUR FINGERTIPS



The Virtual Center for Teaching Excellence (vCTE) is a one-stop shop website with information, tools and resources to enhance your classroom/online professional development for both new and seasoned faculty. Visit the [vCTE website](#) to learn more about strategies to actively engage students, assessment of student learning, service-learning, effective online and classroom teaching, and more. **New to the site:** [BlueLine tutorial videos](#).

ONLINE DEVELOPMENT



Creighton has an institutional membership to [Online Learning Consortium](#) (OLC) and [WCET](#). Both are great resources dedicated to improving the quality of distance learning.

LIBRARY PARTNERSHIP



The Reinert-Alumni Memorial Library partners with both AEA and CAI to offer campus-wide subscriptions. Take advantage of the great resources found in the December issues of the [Teaching Professor](#) and the [Online Classroom](#). For more information contact [Rick Kerns](#).

RECOMMENDED READINGS

MAUSBACH'S WORK PUBLISHED



An article that **Ann Mausbach, Ph.D.**, Department of Education, co-authored has been published in the journal *Educational Leadership* (EL). *EL* has a circulation of 160,000 and is acknowledged throughout the world as an authoritative source of information about teaching and learning, new ideas and practices relevant to practicing educators and the latest trends and issues affecting prekindergarten through higher education. The reference for the article is as follows: Bruckner, M. & Mausbach, A. (2015). [It Takes a Culture](#). *Educational Leadership*, 72, 60-64.

Call for Articles:

Journal articles are now being accepted for the March issue of **International Journal of Learning, Teaching and Educational Research (IJLTER)**. Deadline for submission: Feb. 28. [More information](#).

Call for Proposals:

40th Annual Professional and Organizational Development Network in Higher Education (POD) Conference, "Back to the Future: Critical Reflection, Effective Practice," Nov. 4-8, San Francisco, CA. Proposal database will open on Feb. 18 with proposals due Mar. 9. [More information](#).

New England Faculty Development Consortium (NEFDC) and Fairfield University's Center for Academic Excellence (CAE), "Collaborations for Empowerment and Learning," May 29, Fairfield, CT-Connecticut. Proposal deadline: Feb. 20. [More information](#).



Association of American Colleges and Universities 2015 Conference, "Crossing Boundaries – Transforming STEM Education," Nov. 12-14. Proposal deadline: Mar. 18. [More information](#).

Nebraska Women in Higher Education Leadership 2015 Conference (NWHEL), "Leading from Within," Sept. 18. Proposal deadline: Mar. 31. [More information](#).

12th Annual Georgia International Conference on Information Literacy, Sept. 25-26, Savannah, GA. Proposal deadline: Apr. 15. [More information](#).

Call for Manuscripts:

The Professional and Organizational Development Network in Higher Education (POD) is seeking manuscripts for the publication "To Improve the Academy" a creative scholarship feature. Deadline: June 30. [More information](#).

2015 CONFERENCES

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

[15th Annual Texas A&M Assessment Conference](#), Feb. 22-24, College Station, TX.

[Advanced Leadership Development in Higher Education](#), Mar. 9-11, Atlanta, GA.

[8th Scholarship of Teaching and Learning \(SoTL\) Common Conference](#), Mar. 25-27, Savannah, GA.

[Association of American Colleges and Universities \(AAC&U\) 2015 Conference](#), "Diversity, Equity, and Student Success: Assessing and Advancing Inclusive Excellence," Mar. 26-28, San Diego, CA

[8th Annual Emerging Technologies for Online Learning International Symposium](#), Apr. 22-24, Dallas, TX.

[International Spring Lilly Conference](#), "Evidence-Based Teaching and Learning," May 28-31, Bethesda, MD.

[12th Annual Teaching Professor Conference](#), May 29-31, Atlanta, GA.

[Association for the Assessment of Learning in Higher Education \(AALHE\)](#), June 1-3, Lexington, KY



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