

February 2016

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



DISTINGUISHED EDUCATORS: DISTINCTIVE PEDAGOGIES AND PROGRAMMATIC EXCELLENCE

The recipients of the 2016 Distinguished Educator in Teaching as Scholarship and 2015 CASE Nebraska Professor of the Year awards--Drs. Jennifer Furze of the Department of Physical Therapy and Dr. Jeffrey Hause of the Departments of Classical and Near Eastern Studies and Philosophy respectively--exhibit a career of distinctive pedagogies and innovative programmatic designs that have impacted their students' learning and the broader, disciplinary community.

You are invited to join in a campus conversation as they describe their current practices and address such questions as:

- How can faculty harness their individual pedagogies and curricular practices to collaborate with others and/or "impact" educational programs and, even, national standards?
- How have your students directly and indirectly influenced your teaching as scholarship; in other words, what and how have your students "taught" you?
- Looking forward, how can Creighton University build upon its Jesuit pedagogical tradition to ensure distinctive educational programs that ensure students' academic success and professional excellence?

excellence in teaching and 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.](#)

Please join us **Wednesday, Feb. 24; 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Skutt 105** for a lively discussion as we (audience participation expected) engage in, reflect on and evaluate our pedagogies and programmatic practices leading to student success. **Lunch will be provided.**

Reservations required. [Register](#).

HONORS AND AWARDS



College of Arts and Sciences student, **Hailey Austin**, has been selected for the [Phi Beta Kappa Writing Internship](#) and will work with the Society's national office in Washington, D.C. through May. Interns must make a five-month commitment to the program and prepare a minimum of six publishable articles for the Society's publication for news and alumni relations, [The Key Reporter](#).

Creighton received the following five honors at the [Omaha Entertainment and Arts Awards](#) ceremony: Best Supporting Actress in a Musical – Judy Radcliff, Cabaret; Best Musical Direction: Stephen Sheftz, Cabaret; Best Direction of a Musical: Amy Lane, Cabaret; Best Musical: Cabaret; Best Dance Production: A Nightmare's Holiday.

Matthew Huss, Ph.D., professor of psychology, has been awarded the [2016 American Psychology-Law Society Outstanding Teaching and Mentoring Award](#). Huss will be presented with the award March 10 during the AP-LS Annual Conference in Atlanta. Nominees for the award have made substantial contributions to student training in the field of psychology and law and have been teaching for at least eight years. [Read full article](#).



Creighton has been ranked the [No. 33 Best Value private university](#) in the United States in [Kiplinger's Personal Finance](#) list of the Top 300 Best College Values of 2016.

Five online programs at Creighton

Kiplinger's
PERSONAL FINANCE



have earned rankings in the [2016 U.S. News & World Report Best Online Programs](#), announced in the magazine's fifth annual edition on online higher education. The rankings evaluated more than 1,000 distance education programs for bachelor's and graduate degrees in business education, nursing, engineering and computer technology. Creighton's placement in five categories represents the most programs ranked since the rankings began in 2012, with two University programs earning rankings for the first time: the Online MBA Programs (44th) and the Online Graduate Nursing Program (64th).

Our other online program categories recognized are: No. 20 in Best Online Bachelor's Programs; No. 13 in Best Online Graduate Business Programs (Excluding MBA); and No. 36 in Best Online Graduate Education Programs. It's the second consecutive year Creighton's online

HIGHER LEARNING COMMISSION



ACCREDITATION VISIT

Creighton University is [fully accredited](#) by the [Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools](#). **The University is in the preparation stages for the 2016-2017 HLC accreditation visit on April 10-11, 2017.**

Please look for campus announcements and conversations in the spring 2016.

INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH

INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH

Did you know?

About 50% of 2015 Creighton's graduating seniors who participated in an undergraduate research program plan to attend graduate school, while 28% of the graduating seniors without



research experience plan to attend graduate school, as compared with the national norms of 38% and 21%, respectively.*

The College Senior Survey (CSS), developed by the Higher Education Research Institute (HERI), has been administered to Creighton graduating seniors since 1993. The instrument is designed as an exit survey for graduating seniors and focuses on a broad range of college outcomes and post-college goals and plans. For more information, contact [Dr. Ying Vuthipadadon](#), Director of Institutional Research at 402.280.1164.

*Source: College Senior Survey (2015)

FACULTY DEVELOPMENT

TIME-OUT-FOR-LUNCH PROGRAMS

The 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 luncheon 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. Attendees are encouraged to come prepared with their questions and ideas for sharing.

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

[Grading Rubrics and Student Creativity: A Contradiction in Terms?](#)

Tuesday, Feb. 23; 11:30-1; Skutt 105
Facilitator: Amy Mayer, Occupational Therapy Department, AEA Associate

Employers want graduates who are creative problem solvers and innovators. Do you expect the same from your students? From the arts to the sciences to professional school, creative problem solving is necessary for success. Can you describe the components of creativity to your students as it pertains to their field of study? Rubrics can make your



creativity expectations clear as well as make grading and feedback clearer. This session will focus on building a rubric that integrates components of creativity.

Place-Based Learning: Thinking Beyond Creighton's Borders

Tuesday, Apr. 5; 11:30-1; Skutt 105

Facilitator: Brian Kokensparger,
College of Arts & Sciences, AEA
Senior Associate



Creighton is located in close proximity to some of the most vibrant and historical places in the city. Opportunities for our students to engage in meaningful learning experiences in these places abound. Come hear representatives from nearby community service agencies and cultural institutions discuss their needs with a special emphasis on things our students can do in a classroom extended beyond Creighton's borders. Faculty and staff members will also discuss current programs that utilize place-based learning as an integral part of their curriculum. Bring your brainstorming cap and come prepared to think beyond the borders.

**AEA DEVELOPMENT GRANT
SERIES PROGRAMS**

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.



Student Voices in Assessment of Student Learning; Tuesday, Mar. 22; 11:30-1; Skutt 105.

Curricular Development and Course Redesign; Thursday, Mar. 31; 11:30-1; Skutt 105.

[Grant topic information.](#) [To register.](#)

**CREIGHTON FACULTY
OPPORTUNITY FOR
INVOLVEMENT IN AJCU
CONFERENCE**

Call for one-page proposals for

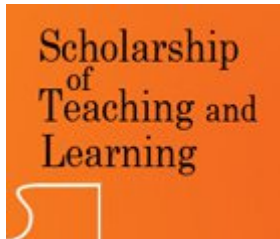
Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities (AJCU) conference, *"Through the Eye of the Needle: Commitment to Justice in Jesuit Higher Education,"* hosted by Seattle University; Seattle, WA, Aug. 10-13, 2017. **Proposal deadline: May 12.** [Proposal submission guidelines and conference information.](#)

Inquiries about the call or conference, please contact [Roger Bergman, PhD](#), 402.280.1492, Director of the Justice and Peace Studies Program at Creighton and a member of the AJCU National Steering Committee.

SOTL RESOURCES

TRANSFORMING TEACHING THROUGH SOTL

Join the discussion with colleagues on how their engagement in SoTL improved their teaching and student learning? Share your SoTL experience. Attend the [17th annual Midwest Scholarship of Teaching and Learning \(SoTL\) conference; Friday, Apr. 1; Indiana University, South Bend.](#)



Keynote presentation, *"Empowering Teachers and Teaching through SoTL Communities: Past, Present, and Future,"* with speaker, David Pace, a emeritus professor of European History at Indiana University, a co-founder of the Freshman Learning Project and President of the International Society for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning in History. [Conference information and Registration.](#)

[Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Resources](#) are readily available at the University of Alaska Anchorage, to include topics of: What is SoTL, SoTL Tutorials, Doing SoTL, SoTL books, SoTL Journals, Bibliographies on SoTL, and Online SoTL.

RECOMMENDED READING

[The International Journal of Learning, Teaching and Educational Research](#) offers articles from academics, educators, teachers, trainers and other



practitioners on all aspects of education and research. Read previous journals.

Creighton faculty and professional staff: If you have published an article on teaching, student learning and/or assessment, and would like to have it featured in Recommended Reading section, please email the article to [Mary Ann Danielson](#).

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 for 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](#).

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 February issues of the [Teaching Professor](#) and the [Online Classroom](#). For more information contact [Rick Kerns](#).

REQUESTS FOR PAPERS, PROPOSALS, AND ABSTRACTS

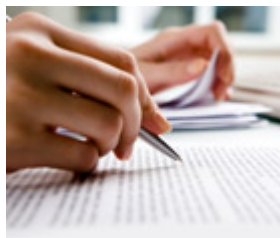
Papers are now being accepted for the [Conference on Applied Learning in Higher Education \(CALHE\)](#) to be held Mar. 31-Apr. 2 at Missouri Western State University in St. Joseph, MO. The conference theme is exploring the future of applied learning. Conference and paper submission information. **Proposal deadline: Feb. 29.**

The [Center for Academic Excellence](#) is now accepting proposals for the "*Collaborations for Empowerment and Learning*" conference to be held May 26, 2016 in Fairfield, CT. **Proposal deadline: Mar. 1.**

[Lilly National Conference](#) proposal call is now open. The conference will be held in Traverse City, MI; Oct. 20-22. **Proposal deadline: Apr. 30.**

Call for abstracts is now open for the [9th Annual Midwest Interprofessional Practice, Education, and Research Center Conference \(MIPERC\)](#). The conference will be held Sept. 22-23 in Grand Rapids, MI. **Proposal deadline: June 1.**

Proposals are now being accepted for the upcoming publication to [The World Journal of Educational Research](#)



which publishes research papers on these subjects: education in different stages such as preschool, primary school, secondary school and high school education, educational technology, educational leadership, teaching and learning skills, etc.

2016-2017 CONFERENCES

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

[Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities \(ACC&U\)](#), 2016 General Education and Assessment, Feb. 18-20, 2016, New Orleans, LA.

[Lilly National Conference](#), Feb. 18-20, 2016, Newport Beach, CA.

[American Council on Education 2016 – 98th Annual Meeting](#), Mar. 12-15, 2016, San Francisco, CA.

[The 9th Annual Scholarship of Teaching and Learning \(SoTL\) Commons Annual Conference](#), Georgia Southern University, Mar. 31-Apr. 1, 2016, Savannah, GA.

[Applied Learning in Higher Education](#), Missouri Western State University, Mar. 30-Apr. 2, St. Joseph, MO.

[Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities \(ACC&U\)](#), 2016 Diversity, Learning, and Student Success, Mar. 17-19, Philadelphia, PA.

[International Symposium on Emerging Technologies for Online Learning](#), Apr. 20-22, 2016, New Orleans, LA.

[Higher Learning Commission Conference](#), Apr. 15-19, 2016, Chicago, IL.

[International Lilly Conference](#), June 2-5, Bethesda, MD.

[9th Annual Midwest Interprofessional Practice, Education, and Research Center Conference](#), Sept. 22-23, Grand Rapids, MI.

[Lilly National Conference](#), Oct. 20-22, Traverse City, MI.

[Original Lilly Conference](#), Nov. 17-20, Oxford, OH.

[Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities \(AJCU\)](#), Through the Eye



of the Needle: Conference on the
Commitment to Justice in Jesuit Higher
Education. Seattle University, Aug. 10-
13, 2017, Seattle, WA.

creighton.edu/aea

Creighton University
2500 California Plaza
Omaha, NE 68178

[click here](#) to manage your email preferences or to unsubscribe