

Subject: PREVIEW: Teaching and Learning Connections - October Newsletter

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TEACHING & LEARNING CONNECTIONS

FROM THE OFFICE OF ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND ASSESSMENT

October 2013

About Us



The Office for Academic Excellence and Assessment (AEA) at Creighton University provides ongoing support and resources to enhance teacher effectiveness and student learning.

To learn more about faculty development programming, assessment, course design, student learning processes and/or effective teaching methods, or the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL), contact [Mary Ann Danielson](#) at 402.280.2535.

To help us all CONNECT, please forward your suggestions for materials to be included, as well as your awards and honors, to Danielson at maddam@creighton.edu. As a campus, we should be celebrating our teaching and student learning successes!

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



RISE OF THE MOOCs: LEARNING OPPORTUNITY

The rise of Massive Online Open Courses (MOOCs) and the growth of Open Educational Resources (OER) have the potential to drive significant change in the higher education enterprise, including faculty roles, funding and budgeting, student support services, learning outcome definition and assessment, academic credit and credentialing, and the heart of the teaching and learning process.

Through informative and provocative presentations, discussions and an examination of innovative and promising practices, attendees at the 2013 Midwestern Higher Education Compact (MHEC) Annual Commission Policy Summit will consider how to position colleges, universities and higher education systems to be prepared for potential changes brought by MOOCs and OER on 1) faculty/teaching; 2) institutions/credentialing; 3) students/learning; and 4) systems/planning.

The policy summit will be held Monday, Nov. 18, at noon, through Tuesday, Nov. 19, at 12:30 p.m., Hilton Omaha, 1001 Cass St. Join colleagues Monday evening for a reception, dinner and viewing of the Joslyn Art Museum. There is NO FEE for the policy summit, but attendance will be capped due to space limitations, so register early [here](#). Questions may be directed to Chris Rasmussen, MHEC vice

president for research and policy analysis, at 612.432.0710 or chrisr@mhec.org.

AWARDS AND HONORS

BIOLOGY MAJOR PLACES FIRST



Dylan Goto, a junior biology major and research student to Carol Fassbinder-Orth, placed first in the undergraduate division at the Nebraska Physiological Society meeting recently. Goto's presentation, "Alphavirus infection impairs growth and digestive function in nestling birds," at the 16th annual meeting earned him a \$100 cash prize and a \$400 credit to attend the American Physiological Society, which is the national meeting for the organization.

SOTL UPDATES

CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

If you were unable to attend the [ISSOTL conference](#) Oct. 2-5, 2013, in Raleigh, N.C., you can review conference highlights. Streamed-live are the five concurrent sessions: Reaching Out to the Wider Audience; Beyond Coverage: Using Threshold Concepts and Decoding the Disciplines to Focus on the Most Essential Learning; What is the Role of "Digital Scholarship" in Higher Education, Faculty Development, and the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning; From a Classroom to Lobby? A Roundtable on Advocacy by ISSOTL; and What Does Research Reveal about Successful Academic Development to Promote Teaching and Learning. [Click here](#) for details and to view recordings of those sessions.



In addition, featured online is the address by Lee Shulman (*pictured at left*), president emeritus of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, and three short TED-like talks: Visual Deaf Space Classroom Ecology: Lessons in Learning from Gallaudet University; The New Voc-Ed: Teaching Life as a Vocation; and Digital Essays: Academic Writing at the Edge. [Click here](#) to learn about and view the plenaries.

FACULTY DEVELOPMENT

CALL FOR GRANT PROPOSALS

The Office for Academic Excellence



and Assessment (AEA) invites proposals for 2014 grants to support newly initiated or "early stage" assessment of student learning and/or Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) faculty development projects. Review of applications will begin Nov. 11 and notification of awards will be made no later than Dec. 23. View the [grant application](#) and [previous granted projects](#).



BROWN-BAG LUNCHES

Brian Kokensparger of the Department of Journalism, Media and Computing will present two workshops focused on quantitative data collection and analysis: "Survey Design, Implementation and Management" on Oct. 30 and "Quantitative Analysis" on Nov. 20. [More information and register.](#)



GRANT LUNCHEON SERIES

The Office for Academic Excellence and Assessment annually sponsors the AEA Development Grant Program to provide "seed" money for early-stage work related to the assessment of student learning or the development of a Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) project. The luncheon series of 90-minute presentations is designed to familiarize the campus with the grant recipients and their projects. **Upcoming presentation:** Nov. 5, "Ignatian Values."

[More Information](#) | [Register](#)



APPLICATION WORKSHOP

The Distinguished Educator Award: Application Workshop will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 19, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Skutt SC Ballroom East, facilitated by Mary Ann Danielson, Ph.D. This informal workshop is designed to answer questions you may have regarding the application packet, review process and ways in which educator-scholars elevate our institutional reputation and "best practices."

[Register](#) | [More Information](#)

BLUELINE ASSESSMENT TOOL



BlueLine²

The Office of Academic Excellence and Assessment announces a self-paced workshop to complement the campus assessment certification/training efforts. Special thanks to AEA associate Brian Kokensparger for developing this BlueLine2 Assessment Tools Workshop. Information on the self-paced workshop can be found [here](#).

E-LEARNING



ACADEMIC IMPRESSIONS

Learn how you can curb cheating and align assessments with learning outcomes in an online environment. View the Authentic Assessment Strategies for Online Learning Webcast, Nov. 8.

INNOVATIVE EDUCATORS

Online Teaching Webinar from Innovative Educators available: "The Online Classroom: Innovative Teaching Practices that Increase Retention, Satisfaction and Performance," Dec. 5.

For more information, contact the [Center for eLearning and Academic Innovation](#) or 402.280.3114.



ONLINE TEACHING COURSE

The Center for eLearning and Academic Innovation (CeLAI) is pleased to announce the availability of the Foundations of Effective Online Teaching and Learning certificate course. The course encompasses foundational knowledge and skills necessary for successful online course facilitation. The next available session is Nov. 4. To register or for more information, contact [Sarah Oliver](#), 402.280.3906.



CAMPUS RESOURCES

ASSESSMENT MENTORS

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. This group of individuals is available to assist in those activities, but they are not available to do the work of assessment. When an individual, program or department has needs in the area of assessment, you can request mentoring assistance by completing the [Request for](#)



Assessment Assistance.

AT YOUR FINGERTIPS



The new 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.

ONLINE DEVELOPMENT



Creighton has an institutional membership to [Sloan Consortium](#) and WCET. Both are great resources dedicated to improving the quality of distance education. Sloan Consortium announced changes in the 2013 Institute program of events, which will encompass a certificate program, mastery series, workshop series and webinars.

LIBRARY PARTNERSHIP



The Reinert-Alumni Memorial Library partners with both AEA and CeLAI to offer campus-wide subscriptions. Take advantage of the great resources found in the October issues of the [Teaching Professor](#) and the [Online Classroom](#). Contact Rick Kerns, 280.2228, for more information.

RECOMMENDED READING

EFFECTS OF CUMULATIVE FINALS ON STUDENT LEARNING

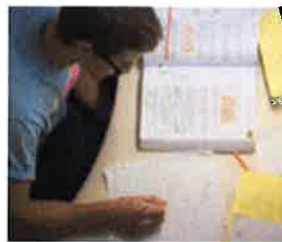


Published in Teaching of Psychology, "[Short- and Long-Term Effects of Cumulative Finals on Student Learning](#)" by Maya Khanna, Amy Badura Brack and Laura Finken, Department of Psychology, explores the benefits of cumulative and noncumulative finals on students. The various experiments and the results make this article a good read.

REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS

RUBRICS WANTED

Do you have a rubric that works



particularly well for assessing student learning of any kind (course assignments, co-curricular, service-learning, etc.)? If so, please consider submitting it to the AEA office for inclusion in a Rubric Gallery and for possible inclusion in BlueLine2. Send rubrics as an e-mail attachment to [Brian Kokensparger](#). (Doc, docx, and pdf formats are preferred; web URLs are also welcome.)

CALL FOR PAPERS



The Conference on Applied Learning in Higher Education (CALHE), scheduled for March 20-22, 2014, is accepting papers that focus on institutionalizing service-learning, funding for undergraduate research, and CUR documents on Characteristics of Excellence in Undergraduate Research. Call for papers deadline is Nov. 1.

[Call for Papers](#) | [Conference Info](#)

PRESENTATIONS REQUESTED



The International Symposium for Emerging Technologies for Online Learning, April 9-11, 2014, Dallas, call for presentations is now open. Presentation submission deadline is Nov. 1. [Call for presentation information](#) and [conference information](#).

ABSTRACT PROPOSALS



The 45th Midwest Student Biomedical Research Forum (MSBRF) provides an exciting opportunity for young researchers from the health sciences, graduate, intern and resident programs throughout the U.S. Midwest and Canada to present their work in the biomedical sciences. Abstract submission information is available [here](#), and includes guidelines for abstract submission, presenter registration form, online registration and more detailed information about the forum. The deadline for abstract submission is Friday, Dec. 13, 2013. MSBRF will be held on Saturday, March 1, 2014, at the Harper Center.

CALL FOR PAPERS AND PROVOCATIONS



The 2014 International Higher Education Curriculum Design Symposia, scheduled for December 2-3, 2014, in Hamilton, New Zealand, is accepting papers and provocations relating to higher education curriculum design, implementation and evaluation. Submission deadline is May 1, 2014. Inquiries and submissions to Trust@nzcdi.ac.nz or nzcdinstitute@gmail.com. [More information.](#)

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2013 CONFERENCES



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

PROFESSIONAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT NETWORK IN HIGHER EDUCATION (POD), Nov. 6-10, 2013, Pittsburgh. [Conference information.](#)

SYMPOSIUM ON SCHOLARSHIP OF TEACHING AND LEARNING, Nov. 7-9, 2013, Calgary, Alberta, Canada. [Conference information.](#)

THE MIDWESTERN HIGHER EDUCATION COMPACT'S 9th ANNUAL POLICY SUMMIT, "Rise of the MOOCs: Foreshadowing the Coming Transformation of Higher Education?" Nov. 18-19, 2013, Omaha. [More information](#). *There is NO FEE for the policy summit, but attendance will be capped due to space limitations, so register early.*

19th ANNUAL SLOAN CONSORTIUM INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ONLINE LEARNING, Nov. 20-22, 2013, Orlando. [Conference information](#).

LILLY INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE, Oxford, Ohio, Nov. 21-24, 2013. [Conference information](#).

ASSOCIATION OF CATHOLIC COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES (ACCU), Feb. 1-3, 2014, Washington, D.C. [Conference information](#).

VIRGINIA TECH 6TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE ON HIGHER EDUCATION PEDAGOGY Feb. 5-7, 2014, Blacksburg, Va. [Conference information](#).

CONFERENCE ON APPLIED LEARNING IN HIGHER EDUCATION (CALHE), March 20-22, 2014, St. Joseph, Mo. [Conference information](#).

INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES FOR ONLINE LEARNING 7TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE, April 9-11, 2014, Dallas. [Conference information](#).

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