

Creighton
UNIVERSITY

TEACHING & LEARNING CONNECTIONS

FROM THE OFFICE FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND ASSESSMENT

September 2014

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](mailto:MaryAnn.Danielson@creighton.edu) 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](#).



ALL EDUCATION IS FORMATION

The relationship between education and formation is rooted in our Ignatian Pedagogical Paradigm which consists of: Context, Experience, Reflection, Action, and Evaluation. Originally expressed by St. Ignatius of Loyola, Peter Felten and colleagues have recently applied "formative development of the whole person" to education outside the traditional Jesuit context, in their book, *Transformative Conversations: A Guide to Mentoring Communities Among Colleagues in Higher Education*. What they have discovered is a long-held truth: all education is formation.

At Creighton, where all are encouraged and developed to be "life long learners," faculty and professional staff are reminded that their ongoing formation experiences are important for our educational excellence and are invited to share perspectives or even challenge traditional assumptions by: joining AEA in an exploration of collaborative and innovative teaching practices; utilizing a variety of faculty/assessment mentoring resources; and celebrating the range of creative methods by which to study and assess our students' learning, as showcased in the 2014-2015 AEA Development Grant Series and the annual Distinguished Educator in Teaching as Scholarship award.

As we begin the 2014-2015 academic year, it is imperative that we come together to support ourselves and our work through Formative Learning Communities. Stated another way, I echo the invitation extended in "Transformative Conversations," "I invite you to participate in a community of respect, regard, acceptance, and trust, in which others want to see and encourage the best in you" (2013, p. 29).

[Read Fall 2014 Newsletter.](#)

Learn more about AEA Teaching and Learning programs in the Faculty Development section of the newsletter.

PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

PUBLISHED ARTICLE ON IGNATIAN PEDAGOGY



The article "[Using Ignatian Pedagogy in a Mediation Course.](#)" written by **Jackie Font-Guzmán**, Werner Institute, was published in the Jesuit Higher Education Journal. In the article, Font-Guzmán describes how she designed a mediation course applying the Ignatian Pedagogical Paradigm (IPP). Included are some examples of the assignments and activities as well as narratives of students evidencing how by combining the five tenets of IPP—context, experience, reflection, action, and evaluation—students achieve professional, spiritual, and personal growth.

CREIGHTON FACULTY ACTIVE IN SOTL CONFERENCE

Ali Whittaker, Assistant Professor College of Nursing-Hastings campus will present the poster "Team-Based versus Traditional Learning in a Blended-Learning Environment: Effect on Self-regulated Outcomes of Nursing Students" at the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) Conference in October. [Read poster abstract.](#)



Associate professor of physics, **Gintaras Duda, Ph.D.**, will serve as one of the keynote speakers at the conference. He will help participants design SoTL studies in their efforts to implement new learner-centered approaches to teaching.

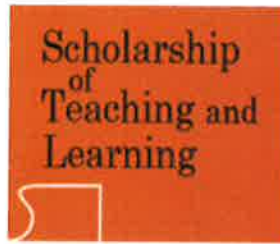
Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) conference, Oct. 10-11, 2014, University of Maryville, St. Louis, MO [More information/Register.](#)

SOTL RESOURCES

THE LANDSCAPE OF SOTL

["Broadening the Horizons of New Instructors to Transform the Landscape of SoTL"](#) by Michael Zhang,

psychology department, Brigham Young University offers new instructors exposure to Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) in their graduate teacher development courses. The exposure is necessary for new instructors to avoid uncritical teaching and to become scholarly teachers who focus first and foremost on their students' learning. The article will broaden horizons and transform the landscape of SoTL for faculty, new and seasoned. The article appeared in the *Transformative Dialogues: Teaching and Learning eJournal*, March 2014 issue.



FUTURE DIRECTIONS AND EMERGING TRENDS IN SOTL



Faculty from the Center for Engaged Learning at Elon University and members of the International Society for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (ISSOTL) explore and discuss the future direction and emerging trends in the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning. [Watch the 17-minute video presentation.](#)

HIGHER LEARNING COMMISSION



ACCREDITATION VISIT

Creighton University is [fully accredited](#) by the [Higher Learning Commission](#). The University is in the planning stages for the 2016-2017 HLC accreditation visit. Please look for campus announcements and conversations in the fall 2014.

FACULTY DEVELOPMENT

FACULTY FORMATION SERIES



The Faculty Formation Series is a unique opportunity for new faculty to learn about university resources, practices and policies and network with fellow new faculty members as they transition to their academic role(s) at Creighton. For more information, contact [Mary Ann Danielson](#).

Upcoming presentation: Friday, Oct. 17, "Ignatian Pedagogical Paradigm"; Friday, Nov. 21, "Federal Regulations and University Policies"

CO-CURRICULAR ASSESSMENT CYCLE



Brian Kokensparger, College of Arts and Sciences, AEA senior associate, will facilitate the Brown-Bag luncheon 5-week series, "Co-Curricular Assessment Cycle" on five consecutive Wednesdays beginning Oct. 29 – Nov. 26. If you are a co-curricular program assessment coordinator and you don't know where to start, or you need a little structure to get you moving in the right direction, this workshop is for you! This workshop focuses on the special needs of co-curricular programs as they assess student learning. [More information](#). Watch for e-mail registration announcement.

IMPLEMENTING OUTCOMES FOR ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT LEARNING



Christina Murcek, College of Nursing, AEA Electronic Learning and Assessment Systems Fellow will facilitate "Implementing Outcomes for Assessment of Student Learning." Learn how to fully utilize and implement outcomes in BlueLine (Course Management System) by actively participating in an individual or small group session. During each session participant(s) will move from: (1) adding outcomes to program account in BlueLine; (2) copy outcomes to courses; (3) adding outcomes to rubrics; and (4) extracting grading/learning data to evaluate class performance on learning outcomes. For

more information contact [Michele King](#) or [Christina Murcek](#).

TEACHING WITH SIMULATIONS AND GAMES



Experiential learning, utilizing educational simulations and games for student engagement and content learning, is a well-established teaching tool in some fields, and a relative newcomer (or anomaly) in others. In this session, “**Teaching with Simulations and Games**” facilitator Noam Ebner, School of Law, Werner Institute, AEA associate will discuss the educational rationales for using simulation and games in the classroom, share some basic principles for design and conduct of such activities. [More information](#). Watch for e-mail registration announcement.

GRANT SERIES LUNCHEON



The Office for Academic Excellence and Assessment annually sponsors the AEA Development Grant Program to provide “seed” money for a work in its early stages that is relevant to the assessment of student learning or develops a Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) project. This luncheon series of 90-minute presentations is designed to familiarize the campus with the grant recipients and their projects.

Upcoming presentation: Friday, Dec. 12, “**Reflective Practices: Developmental Exercises to Maximize Student Learning.**” [More information](#). Watch for e-mail registration announcement.

BLUELINE ASSESSMENT TOOL



The Office for 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](#).

CAMPUS RESOURCES

ASSESSMENT MENTORS

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. 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](#). For questions, contact [Katie Huggett](#), School of Medicine, AEA Assessment Mentoring Program Fellow.



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 education.

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 August issue of the [Teaching Professor](#) and the September issue of the [Online Classroom](#). For more information contact [Rick Kerns](#).

RECOMMENDED READING

THE POWER OF WE



Featured in *The Teaching Professor Newsletter*, the article "The Power of We" highlights the importance of networking for college faculty. Faculty from Iona College in New York collaborated with new faculty from all disciplines and as a group enhanced pedagogical practice. Learn what they have done together, and, most important, what they have gained from the experience of networking with other faculty. [Read full article.](#)

REQUESTS FOR PAPERS AND PROPOSALS

Proposals are being accepted for the **15th Annual Texas A&M Assessment Conference**. Proposal deadline: October 10, 2014. The conference will be held Feb. 22-24, 2015, College Station, TX. [Proposal and conference information.](#)



The 8th Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) Commons Conference is accepting proposals. The conference to be held March 25-27, 2015 in Savannah, GA. Proposal deadline: Nov. 15, 2014. [Proposal and conference information.](#)

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 email attachment to [Brian Kokensparger](#). (Doc, docx, and pdf formats are preferred; Web URLs are also welcome.)

2014-2015 CONFERENCES

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR EXPLORING TEACHING AND LEARNING (ISETL), Oct. 16-18, Denver. [Conference information](#).

LILLY CONFERENCE SERIES ON COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY TEACHING AND LEARNING, Oct. 16-19, Traverse City, Mich. [Conference information](#).

ASSESSMENT INSTITUTE, Oct. 19-21, Indianapolis. [Conference information](#).

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR THE SCHOLARSHIP OF TEACHING AND LEARNING (ISSOTL) 2014, "Nurturing Creativity and Passion in Teaching and Learning," Oct. 22-25, Quebec City, Canada. [Conference information](#).



PROFESSIONAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT NETWORK, Nov. 5-9, Dallas. [Conference information](#).

COUNCIL FOR ADULT AND EXPERIENTIAL LEARNERS (CAEL) 2014 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE, "Mobilize Learners. Revolutionize Assessment," Nov. 12-14, Chicago. [Conference information](#).

LILLY FALL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE, Nov. 20-23, Oxford, Ohio. [Conference information](#).

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON TEACHING AND LEARNING IN HIGHER EDUCATION (TLHE) 2014, "Innovation in Educational Approaches: Theory, Practice and Research," Dec. 9-11, Singapore. [Conference information](#).

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

(AAC&U) SYMPOSIUM, Jan. 21, 2015,
Washington, DC. [Conference
information.](#)

ASSOCIATION OF CATHOLIC
COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES
(ACCU), Jan. 31-Feb. 2, 2015,
Washington, DC. [Conference
information.](#)

VIRGINIA TECH 7th ANNUAL
CONFERENCE ON HIGHER
EDUCATION PEDAGOGY (CHEP),
Feb. 4-6, 2015, Blacksburg, VA.
[Conference information.](#)

15th ANNUAL TEXAS A&M
ASSESSMENT CONFERENCE, Feb.
22-24, 2015, College Station, TX.
[Conference information.](#)

8th SCHOLARSHIP OF TEACHING
AND LEARNING (SoTL) COMMON
CONFERENCE, March 25-27, 2105,
Savannah, GA. [Conference
information.](#)

8th ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL
SYMPOSIUM EMERGING
TECHNOLOGIES FOR ONLINE
LEARNING, Apr. 22-24, 2015, Dallas,
TX. **Call for proposals to open
October 1, 2014.**

THE 12th ANNUAL TEACHING
PROFESSOR CONFERENCE, May
29-31, 2015, Atlanta, GA. [Conference
information.](#)

ASSOCIATION FOR THE
ASSESSMENT OF LEARNING IN
HIGHER EDUCATION (AALHE), June
1-3, 2015, Lexington, KY. [Conference
information.](#)



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