

October 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



UNIVERSITY-WIDE CALL FOR NOMINATIONS AND PROPOSALS:

Distinguished Educator Award

The [call for nominations](#) for the Distinguished Educator in Teaching as Scholarship Award is now open. Faculty are invited to self-nominate or recommend faculty for this University-wide teaching award, to be granted at the February 2016 Convocation. **The application deadline is Dec. 3, 2015.**

[Instructions for Completing Nomination.](#) | [Online Nomination Application Packet.](#) | [Previous Award Recipients.](#)

2016 AEA Development Grants

The [Office for Academic Excellence and Assessment](#) (AEA) is accepting proposals for the [Assessment of Student Learning/Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Grants](#). The proposals are designed to support newly initiated or "early stage" assessment of student learning and/or Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) projects. **Review of applications will begin November 11**, and notifications of award will be made not later than December 23, 2015. [More information on eligibility, application process and expectations.](#)

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.](#)



Creative Writing Major Published in *F(r)iction*. MFA student **LeeAnn Adams** has a story in the [current issue of *F\(r\)iction*](#) called "When Continents Collide," published under her pen name, L.N. Holmes. Adams' interview and reading of the story will also be featured on [The Other Stories](#) podcast sometime in the future.

Joan Eckerson, and two students from the Department of Exercise Science and Pre-Health Professions, **Nina Allen** and **Allison Lieb**, recently attended the Food and Nutrition Conference and Expo (FNCE) in Nashville, TN where they presented data from a research study funded by ConAgra Foods that examined the effect of an egg white breakfast and isocaloric toaster pastry breakfast on satiety and dietary intake in college-age women. The FNCE conference is the annual meeting of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics.



Gintaras Duda, department of Physics, attended and presented at the 2015 Physics Education Research Conference and 2015 Summer American Association of Physics Teachers Meeting, both in College Park, MD. His presentations included:



"Using Project-based Learning to Teach an Integrated Calculus-Physics Course"

"Evaluating Self-Directed and Self-regulated Learning Skills in Project-based Physics Courses"

"Project-based Quantum Mechanics"

"Modeling the Physical World: An Integrated Freshman Physics/Calculus Class"

Dean Catherine (Matousek) Todero, Ph.D., BSN '72, was a member of the fourth class to successfully complete the AACN-Wharton Executive Leadership Program. Using a competitive process, 40 academic nursing leaders were selected to participate in the AACN-Wharton program.





Creighton Regis Occupational Therapy Collaboration is the first and only partnership of its kind among Jesuit Universities. [Learn more](#). It is the only program offering an entry-level OTD degree in Colorado.

HIGHER LEARNING COMMISSION



Alteration and/or unauthorized use prohibited.

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 fall 2015.

INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH

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Did you know?

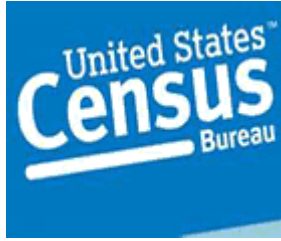
More than one in four Creighton alumni (27%) are emotionally attached to their school, compared with fewer than one in five graduates nationally (18%).*



In 2014, Creighton University and the Gallup partnered to measure the Creighton promise for an opportunity of a life well lived via the Creighton-Gallup survey. All currently enrolled students, as well as alumni who received degrees from Creighton between 1975 and 2014, and whose email addresses are included in Creighton's alumni database, were surveyed. Institutional Data provided by IR facilitated the administration of the Creighton Gallup survey. For more information, contact [Ying Vuthipadadon, Ph.D.](#), Director of Institutional Research at 402.280.1164.

*Source: Creighton Gallup Alumni survey (2014)

U.S. CENSUS STATISTIC INFORMATION PROGRAM



The U.S. Census Statistic Information Program, sponsored by the Health Sciences Library, will provide information on American Factfind, an interface that allows you to search census data quickly and efficiently... once you get the hang of it. Using the census, you can access social and economic data on a very specific population. Learn more at the **Finding Basis U.S. Census Statistic Information program; Thursday, Oct. 22; 3-4; Thune Seminar Rooms A and B.** Registration required. [To register](#). | For more information, contact [Jeanne Burke](#) at 402.280.5143.

MAGIS COMMON CORE ASSESSMENT

ENGAGED IN ASSESSMENT PLANS



The MAGIS Core Curriculum Committee remains actively engaged in new core course approvals and will be reviewing the results of the first annual MAGIS Core Assessment Day (May 2015).

Plans for 2015-2016 Assessments include initial data collection on "Humanistic and Natural and Social Scientific Dimensions of the Jesuit, Catholic Intellectual Tradition" and the introduction of Communities of Practice workgroups for those Foundations courses that will be submitting course-level assessments in 2016. These workgroups are being facilitated by Brian Kokensparger.

FACULTY DEVELOPMENT

COMPETENCY MAPPING

You are invited to identify two to three courses in your program that build on one another, team up with the faculty teaching the courses and attend the series. During the series, participants will identify intended outcomes and design learning activities and assignments that will strategically build



knowledge and competencies across courses.

Session 1 Curricular Mapping:

Where Does Your Course Fit?

Session 2 Teaming Up and Breaking
Down Learning Outcomes

Session 3 Designing Learning
Activities to Strategically Build
Skills and Competencies

**Competency Mapping: Creating
Learning Activities Across Courses
to Develop Key Competencies and
Meet Learning Outcomes; Tuesdays,
Oct. 27, Nov. 10, Nov. 17; 11:30-1;
Skutt SC 105. [More information.](#)
[Register for Program.](#) Facilitator: Amy
Mayer, Occupational Therapy
Department, AEA Associate**

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12 - UNIVERSITY ASSESSMENT SYMPOSIUM 2015



The University Assessment Committee annually offers developmental programming to advance curricular and co-curricular assessment efforts. The Symposium will include poster presentations, a keynote presentation by Dr. Gloria Rogers, and spotlight sessions. **Watch for program registration in JayNet and Creighton Today.**

CAI FALL SEMINAR

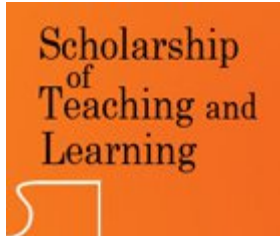
Faculty and professional staff are invited to **The Digital, Innovative, Creative: Creativity in the Classroom program will be held on Friday, Oct. 30; 1-3 p.m.; location to be announced.** During the interactive presentation participant will engage in a range of activities designed to foster reflection on their own creative potential in the classroom and explore ways for fostering creativity in the classes among their students.



The session will cover definitions of creativity, strategies for shaping creative contexts, ideas for engaging students more effectively, and exploring specific teacherly tools for crafting creative assignments and sparking student creativity. Models, examples, and cases of creativity in action will be shared.

For more information, contact [Sarah Oliver](#) at 402.280.3906.

SOTL RESOURCES



STUDENTS' OPINIONS ON INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES

In the *International Journal for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning*, Volume 9, Number 2, the article, [Students' Opinions of Instructional Strategies in a Graduate-Level Creativity Course](#), examines a variety of instructional strategies as impetus for creative thinking and achievement in a graduate-level university course. This empiricism considers students' opinions about the strategies used and the resulting effect of the class more holistically. Results indicate that reading the textbook and writing bi-weekly reflection journals were the most valued strategies by students for elevating creative thinking.

RECOMMENDED READING



JOURNAL ON EXCELLENCE IN COLLEGE TEACHING PUBLICATION

The Journal on Excellence in College Teaching is available as a free download: The acclaimed *Journal on Excellence in College Teaching* special focus issue: [Small-Group Learning in Higher Education—Cooperative, Collaborative, Problem-Based, and Team-Based Learning](#). To access journal, submit a manuscript, or subscribe.

[Scholarly Teacher Blog](#) reminds us all to stop, think critically, and reflect about teaching and learning. New blogs are posted twice monthly. Stay connected - subscribe to the blog mailing list to receive a notification when each new blog posts.

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



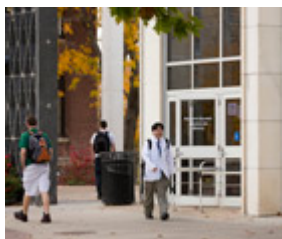
The Virtual Center for Teaching Excellence (vCTE) is a one-stop shop website with information, tools and resources to enhance your classroom/online professional development for both new and seasoned faculty. Visit the [vCTE website](#) to learn more about strategies to actively engage students, assessment 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 October issues of the [Teaching Professor](#) and the [Online Classroom](#). For more information contact [Rick Kerns](#).

REQUESTS FOR MANUSCRIPTS



The **9th Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) Commons Annual Conference** is now accepting proposals. The conference will be held Mar. 31-Apr. 1, 2016 in Savannah, GA. **Proposal deadline: Nov. 1.** [Conference and proposal information.](#)

2015-2016 CONFERENCES

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

[Assessment Institute 2015](#), Oct. 25-27, Indianapolis, IN.

[12th International Society for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning \(ISSOTL\)](#), Leading Learning and the Scholarship of Change, Oct. 27-30, Melbourne, Australia.

[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.

[Association of American Colleges and Universities \(AAC&U\)](#), Crossing Boundaries: Transforming STEM Education, Nov. 12-14, Seattle, WA.

[Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities \(APLU\) Annual Meeting](#), Nov. 15-17, Indianapolis, IN.

[Lilly Conference on College Teaching](#), Nov. 19-22, Oxford, OH.

[Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges \(SACS/COC\) Annual Meeting](#), Dec. 5-7, Houston, TX.

[Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities \(ACC&U\)](#), How Higher Education Can Lead – For Equity, Inclusive Excellence and the Renewal of Democracy, Jan. 20-23, 2016, Washington, DC.

[Virginia Tech Conference on Higher Education Pedagogy \(CHEP\)](#), Feb. 10-12, 2016, Blacksburg, VA.

[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,





creighton.edu/aea

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.

[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.

Creighton University
2500 California Plaza
Omaha, NE 68178

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