

CTLA Update

November 2006 Newsletter

Upcoming Faculty Development Activities – *on campus*

Brown Bag Seminars:

NOVEMBER 16th, 2006

Topic: *Library Catalog*

Presenters: Ann Kempke, M.S.

Details: Noon-1pm in L3

NOVEMBER 30th, 2006

Topic: *Educause Conference Gleanings*

Presenter: Michael Wiles, D.C., M.Ed.; Anita Manne, D.C.; Monika Rimple, B.A.

Details: Noon-1pm in L3

JANUARY 18th, 2007

Topic: *Conference Reviews*

Presenters: Sher Demeter, M.Ac.; Julia Bartlett, D.C.; Pat Casello, D.C.

Details: Noon-1pm in L3

Please contact Rachel Preisinger or visit the CTLA website to submit a Brown Bag Seminar topic suggestion or to volunteer to lead a seminar.

Other Activities:

The Wolfe-Harris Center for Clinical Studies and the Center for Teaching, Learning and Assessment invite you to attend the first "Case of the Month/Wine and Cheese Gathering", on November 28th, at 4:00-6:00 in L1.

The purpose of the "Case of the Month" series is to share perspectives on how different health care professionals would evaluate, treat, and/or refer cases. We also aim to make clinicians aware of potentially relevant evidence based resources. We see this as one of the first steps in "integration"...where all of Northwestern's programs start to learn more about each other. If we can generate enough interest, we will try and pursue continuing education credits for what we would like to become a regular event.

If you would like further information, please contact Roni Evans at ext.154 or revans@nwhealth.edu.

We look forward to seeing you!

NOVEMBER 28th, 2006

Topic: *Case of the Month/Wine and Cheese Gathering*

Details: 4-6pm in L1

Contact: Roni Evans, D.C., M.S. (x154, revans@nwhealth.edu)

Upcoming Faculty Development Activities – *off campus*

Collaboration Winter Conference:

Transforming Student Learning for a Global Society

February 16-17, 2007

Sheraton Bloomington Hotel

Northwestern has a membership with *The Collaboration for the Advancement of College Teaching and Learning*. As a member institution, we are able to offer our faculty members a discounted rate for Collaboration conferences. More detailed information about the upcoming conference is available on the Collaboration website (www.collab.org). The password for the website is listed in the body of the email through which you received this update. If you are interested in attending the conference, please contact Rachel Preisinger (x143) by Tuesday, January 15th. The CTLA will sponsor three attendees.

Brown Bag Presentation Reviews

Current Concepts in Clinical Assessment

Julia Bartlett

October 5th, 2006

A total of 17 faculty and administrators attended the October 5th Brown Bag Presentation. Dr. Bartlett discussed assessment information she encountered at the August *Current Concepts in Clinical Assessment* conference.

Dr. Bartlett explained the use of Objective Structured Clinical Examinations (OSCEs) in clinical experience. This method of assessment is something that has been implemented on a small scale at Northwestern, but could be expanded and improved on several levels. Dr. Bartlett also discussed the use of Standardized Patients, explaining the advantages of this approach to clinical assessments. Dr. Bartlett's powerpoint presentation is available online through the CTLA website. (<http://www.nwhealth.edu/ctl/bbag2.html>)

Podcasting

Apple Computers, Inc.

October 26th, 2006

A total of 23 faculty and staff attended the October 26th Brown Bag Presentation about Podcasting as a classroom tool. The evaluation response to the presentation was very enthusiastic, with a mean satisfaction score of 3.89 out of 4.0 for the overall lecture presentation.

Representatives from Apple Computer Education and Apple Retail stores demonstrated podcasting and explained its possible uses in the classroom. Podcasts can be used to allow students to download lecture recordings to their computer or ipod through the internet as quickly as a few minutes after the presentation is given. Through a free service called iTunes University, podcasts can be stored online with either unlimited or limited access to users. For examples of how iTunes University can be utilized, visit www.itunes.stanford.edu or www.itunes.berkeley.edu.

The podcast of the Brown Bag presentation at Northwestern can be accessed online as well:

- 1) Download iTunes (Free download for Mac or PC at <http://www.apple.com/itunes/>)
- 2) After installing the iTunes application, go to the advanced menu and select "subscribe to a podcast." A new window will appear.
- 3) Enter the following podcasting location information in the window:
http://homepage.mac.com/ggruba/podcast/profcast_Beta_20061017_082942-0500.rss
iTunes will automatically download the recording.

The Mall of America Apple store has a number of free workshops on Apple applications and technologies. For more information about workshops visit: <http://www.apple.com/retail/mallofamerica/>

Current Initiatives

Faculty Development Journal Article Reviews

The CTL Advisory Group will be initiating a series of journal article reviews beginning in January, 2007. Interested faculty will write Journal article reviews, which will be published on a biweekly basis via email and will then be archived on the CTLA website. If you come across a journal article that might be of interest to your colleagues across program lines, please submit your review along with bibliography information about the article (or a link, if the article is available online) to Rachel Preisinger (rpreisinger@nwhealth.edu). Questions about this initiative can be directed to Rachel or to any member of the CTL Advisory Group.

New Faculty Orientation

The CTL Advisory Group has begun conversations to develop an orientation for new faculty at NWHSU. The orientation would include a presentation by current faculty and administrators, a folder of handouts, and additional online resources. Watch for updates as we continue to develop this new endeavor. Please direct any suggestions to CTL Advisory Group members.

Journal/Book Review

This month's review was written by Alice Ruleman and published with permission from the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities (CCCU). There are a variety of other book reviews for faculty development resources on the CCCU website.

(<http://www.cccu.org/resourcecenter/ParentCatID.209/resourcecenter.asp>).

Faculty who are interested in writing a book or journal article review for the newsletter should contact Rachel Preisinger (x143) or email their review along with bibliography information to rpreisinger@nwhealth.edu. This is a great way to share valuable resources with your colleagues!

*Reviewed by Alice Ruleman
Crichton College*

Adult Learners in the Academy

Edited by Lee Bash

Bolton, MA: Anker Publishing, 2003

ISBN: 1882982606

The author of *Adult Learners in the Academy* has extensive experience with adult learners as the dean of the Lifelong Learning Division at Baldwin-Wallace College. He clearly states the purpose of the book in the preface: "This book is designed to assist any faculty or administrator who wants to understand how the impact of adult learning programs has already helped transform the academy and how newer initiatives are likely to impact their own campus in the coming decades" (p. viii).

According to Bash, the academy can no longer ignore the adult learner and their particular needs. By 2005, over 50% of college students will be over the age of 25 (p.26). They already make up a significant portion of many schools. This group is often viewed as the "cash cow" because they bring in significant revenue at minimal cost to the school. Adult learners require fewer external programs such as special events, dormitories, and entertainment. Even when adult learning programs have been offered, the academy has looked down on them. Many of the traditional faculty are unwilling to invest in the concept of adult learning or to teach in the programs. In fact, there are some schools with adult learning programs that will not give credit for the classes if the adult learner decides to transfer to a traditional program!

What are some of the characteristics of adult learners? They are autonomous and self-directed, goal oriented, relevancy oriented, practical, need to be shown respect, more assertive than traditional students, and need to feel they "matter" to the school, fellow students, and instructors (p. 28ff). Many of these differences can be attributed to this population being older, more experienced, having higher customer service expectations, and having a sense of urgency to complete the assignment, the class, and the degree. In spite of

their assertiveness, adult learners are also more likely to have a poor self-image and fear of failing. Many have had poor educational experiences in the past or have not been to school at all in a number of years.

All of these characteristics can make teaching adult learners a challenge. A successful instructor can't stick to the tried-and-true methods of the traditional classroom. Faculty must be willing to change their teaching styles to help the students to become active learners instead of passively taking in information. Let's face it; on how many of our campuses do we view the "cash cow" adult learning programs as a necessary, but unwanted stepchild? We can stay in our ivory tower and believe that education doesn't need to change, or we can embrace the adult learner and truly make them part of our campus community. Creating this environment will require financial investment in the program, on-going faculty development to help instructors understand the adult learner and to adapt to a new style of teaching, and a willingness to create adult programs that are flexible, sensitive to the learner, but still intellectually challenging.

Everyone in higher education today should take the time to learn about adult learners and how they are impacting education. This book is an excellent starting point. It provides a clear view of the situation and discusses characteristics of adult learners and good adult learner programs. Bash illustrates his points with case studies of students but I do wish he had used more concrete examples of good instructional techniques instead of generalities.



CTL Advisory Group

If you have suggestions or questions, please feel free to contact any of the Advisory Group members listed below:

Karen Brezinka	ext. 371	Massage Therapy
Dian Larson	ext. 463	Library
Jonathan Williams	ext. 271	Chiropractic
Verena VanFleet	ext. 289	Chiropractic
Pat Casello	ext. 202	MCAOM/Massage Therapy
Greg Steinke	ext. 110	Audio Visual
Noni Threinen (<i>chair</i>)	ext. 277	Institutional Effectiveness
Roni Evans	ext. 154	Research (WHCCS)

University Assessment Committee

Mary Berg	ext. 453	Chiropractic
Pat Casello	ext. 202	MCAOM/Massage Therapy
Renee DeVries	ext. 239	Chiropractic
Don Eggebrecht	ext. 380	Chiropractic
Kren McManus	ext. 363	School of Massage
Jane Richardson	ext. 288	Chiropractic
Noni Threinen (<i>chair</i>)	ext. 277	Institutional Effectiveness
Xianhui Yang	ext. 370	MCAOM