It’s Open Education Week!

The OpenCourseWare Consortium, a collaboration of higher education institutions from around the world, has declared March 5—10 Open Education Week.

Open Education Week is an effort to raise awareness about “the benefits of free and open sharing in education.” This includes Open Educational Resources (OER), which are free, high-quality resources for anyone in the world to use. Think of MIT making available lecture notes, exams, and videos for virtually every one of its courses, all free of charge—that’s the spirit of OpenCourseWare.

Throughout the week, there will be a series of lectures, webinars, discussions, and white papers all about the value of making education free and available to everyone. To join in on the discussion and learn more, visit the official Open Education Week website at www.openeducationweek.org.

Submit Your Ideas for New Workshops

The CTRE is always delighted to receive input from faculty regarding what they’d like to see in terms of faculty development. But that might seem easier said than done. In order to get you better acquainted with the channels available to you, here’s a brief FAQ:

**Whom do I contact about workshops I want to see offered?**

Send all workshop requests to James Kowalski, Faculty Development specialist: jkowalsk@csu.edu or x2498.

**What if I want a specific speaker to come?**

Just be sure to send us the speaker’s name and any contact information you have.

**What if I want to lead a workshop myself?**

We’re always thrilled when faculty wish to present a workshop!

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**APPEALING APPS**

App: [AppMiner](#)

Price: Free!

You know that there are dozens of great apps out there for you to use, but where on earth are they hiding?

Enter AppMiner, an app whose sole purpose is to help you find apps that are perfect for you.

Images: [Google Apps Guide](#) [Open Education Week]
Don’t Forget!

Pizza with the Provost will take place tomorrow, Tuesday 3/6, from 12:30-2:30 in LIB 318. Swing by anytime for a slice of conviviality!

Click here to RSVP

Looking Forward

Friday Faculty Fest

What: Technologies that Meet the Diverse Learning Styles of your Students: A Hands-On Workshop

Who: Dr. Regina Dixon-Reeves & Mr. Michael Sukowski

When: Friday, March 9 from 12:00 to 2:00 PM

Where: LIB 301

Ever find yourself teaching a student or group of students and realize that you could easily reach them in ways that they would love - IF you knew the right technology to do it with? This workshop will help you do precisely that, giving you tips and advice for connecting with students.

Click here to RSVP

Rev. Otis Moss III Draws A Crowd at Friday Faculty Fest

On Friday, February 17, Rev. Otis Moss III was the presenter for the CTRE’s weekly Friday Faculty Fest series of workshops. Titled, “From Bebop to Hip-Hop, From Google to Facebook: Teaching Today’s Generation,” the workshop drew a strong turnout, with many faculty members actively engaging in questions and discussion about reaching today’s youth by drawing on the four key components of hip-hop culture that Rev. Moss outlined: deejaying, breakdancing, graffiti, and rap.

By embracing these elements in a positive way, he argued, students can be shown that they are vibrant, creative, artistic problem solvers. Rev. Moss also made the connection to jazz improvisation, wherein a player is part of a larger whole, but is encouraged to step outside and find their individual voice.

By reaching youth culture as it exists, and extracting the positive traits that exist within it rather than excoriating its negative qualities, a teacher can engage a student in ways that are relevant and energizing. The same goes for Google and Facebook; it is easy to criticize them in academia, but much more valuable to draw on them as ways to activate students on new levels.

Watch newsletters for future CTRE workshops.

Images: Rev. Moss photo by James Kowalski;