Upcoming Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>University Closed</td>
<td>1/2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course Design</td>
<td>1/13</td>
<td>12:00-2:00PM</td>
<td>LIB 301</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curriculum Reform</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workshop</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LiveText Workshop</td>
<td>1/17</td>
<td>2:00-4:00PM</td>
<td>LIB 144</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

World Campus, World Vision

In 1998, just as online distance education was beginning to take flight, Penn State University launched its World Campus. Specializing in adult education, World Campus offers more than 70 degrees and certificates to learners across the globe.

But World Campus also features a wealth of faculty development resources, many of which can be accessed for free. Here are a few you should know about:

1) Faculty Development Videos—Over 275 videos on various topics, from the practical (“Grading Discussion Forums”) to the theoretical (“What Is Worth Knowing?”). Also includes the Competency for Online Teaching (COTS) series.

3) Huddle Workspace—Find likeminded collaborators for your teaching and/or research.

4) Groups and Fora—These give discussants a chance to learn from each other’s successes, failures, and insights regarding online teaching.

5) Resources—Includes helpful instructional strategies, links, and examples.

Heads in the Cloud

By now you’ve probably heard of the cloud. But what exactly is it?

Simply put, the cloud is where information is stored that is not physically on your computer. Think of it as a service, not a product. It may strike some as a bit fringe, but if you’ve used applications like Facebook, Wikipedia, or Gmail, you’re officially a cloud user.

Cloud computing is revolutionizing higher learning in a number of ways. For one, it provides instructors and students much greater flexibility. With files, resources, and media available from any place and any device, a myriad of possibilities has been opened up.

And not only teaching, but research is benefiting, too. If you want to collaborate with a colleague in another state, or even another country, applications like Google Docs, ResearchGate, and Adobe Connect make that not only possible, but easy.

If you want to learn more about the cloud and how it can benefit your endeavors at CSU, click HERE.
Looking Forward

Course Design for Curriculum Reform

On January 13, the spring season for the CTRE’s Friday Faculty Fest will officially commence, with the eminent Dr. Edmund J. Hansen, Director of the Center for Teaching and Learning at Northeastern Illinois University.

Dr. Hansen will be leading a workshop titled “Course Design for Curriculum Reform,” which will focus on the concepts he outlined in his recent book, Idea-Based Learning (2011), which is a guide “to developing college instruction that has a clear purpose, is well integrated into the curriculum, and improves student learning in predictable and measurable ways.”

Be sure to join us on January 13 at 12:00PM in LIB 301 to join the conversation.

A Tale of Four Disciplinarities

The idea of blurring the traditional lines separating academic disciplines is nothing new. Interdisciplinary research, for example, began to take off in the U.S. during the 1960s, with many institutions, like George Mason University, allocating significant resources—even founding new departments—to develop its foundations.

But now trends are moving in a new direction with transdisciplinarity. So what makes it different—and worthwhile? According to Basarab Nicolescu, author of the article, “The Transdisciplinary Evolution of Learning,” rather than focusing on the contribution of each discipline, it focuses on the inquiry or issue itself. This is key in the development of new ideas and approaches toward old problems.

Of course, transdisciplinary inquiry is not meant to replace the established approaches; it is simply meant to augment them. If you’re interested in further exploring transdisciplinary inquiry, click on the link HERE for resources and networking communities.

EDUCAUSE Call for Proposals!

If you have some insight into using educational technology, then consider submitting a proposal to present at the next EDUCAUSE Annual Conference in November 2012.

Proposal materials and deadline information can be found HERE.