The Week We’ve All Been Waiting For

On November 12-14, Chicago State University will be welcoming an accreditation review team from the Higher Learning Commission (HLC). Receiving accreditation and reporting. But those leading the effort at CSU, particularly the HLC Steering Committee, are confident about the upcoming visit.

You can do your part by staying informed of what is involved in the review process. Visit the CSU Accreditation Website’s FAQs and the Higher Learning Commission website to learn more.

If you have any questions about the accreditation process, contact the HLC Steering Committee at hlc@csu.edu.

A Wealth of Webinars

Professional development webinars have grown exponentially over the past five years. Some require memberships and fees, but many are free, and of excellent quality.

Below is a list of free webinars for you to explore. Some are synchronous, others are archived, but all can be accessed at your own computer and are worth checking out. (Please note that faculty are welcome to use the computers in the CTRE’s Faculty Tech Lab.)

Getting to Know iTunes U
Tues, Nov 13 at 8:00 a.m.

Driving Retention and Student Feedback
Weds, Nov 14 at 2:00 p.m.

The Future of Video in Education
Friday, Nov 16 at 11:00 a.m.

U.S. Distance Learning Association Archived Webinars
On-Demand

EDUCAUSE Live! Webinar Archive
On-Demand

APPEALING APPS & SITES

App: Trello
Price: Free!

Help your students work together with Trello. It’s a collaboration tool that organizes projects into boards, identifying who’s working on what, and how far along various tasks are.

Images: Webinar icon, Higher Learning Commission, Trello
Looking Forward

Faculty Workshop

On Wednesday, November 14, there will be a faculty workshop in the CTRE:
“Teaching with Technology II: More Applications to Make Teaching Easier”

Theodis Garth of the CTRE will be leading a follow-up to his popular “Teaching with Technology” workshop which took place in September. For his new workshop, Mr. Garth will be guiding faculty through some applications that are easy to use, free, and great for the classroom.

Apps can help you engage your students in new, exciting ways; connect with faculty from around the globe; do research easily and quickly; keep track of documents, assignments, and activities; and allow students to work and collaborate in ways previously unimagined.

Mr. Garth is the CTRE’s Systems Administrator, and a skilled presenter.

This workshop will take place on Wednesday, November 14 from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. in LIB 301. To register, please contact James Kowalski at jkowalsk@csu.edu or x2498.

Lunch will be served.

Pearson’s Project Blue Sky

For traditional textbook publishers like Pearson, the advent of open educational resources (OER) has brought to bear a thorny issue. Pearson, which has historically relied on selling premium authored content, has arguably lost revenue due to educators sharing free, homegrown OER content.

In an effort to combine the battle of premium vs. OER content, Pearson has created Project Blue Sky, which “allows instructors to search, select, and seamlessly integrate” OER with Pearson learning materials. The OER materials are collected from over 25 major databases, such as MIT OpenCourseWare, OER Commons, and Connexions.

Learn more about Project Blue Sky at pearsonbluesky.com.

Flipped Classroom Events

On November 28 and 29, the CTRE will be hosting a two-day workshop event to help you flip your classroom.

On 11/28, Brian Roberts and Michael Garver will be on campus from 8:30-4:00 in the Library Sun Room for a full day of learning.

On 11/29, Ryan Eash of TechSmith will be here from 10:30-2:30 in LIB 301 for hands-on training with flipped classroom software.

To register or to learn more, contact James Kowalski at jkowalsk@csu.edu or x2498.