



Connections

Connecting Teaching, Learning, Research and Service

Volume 1, Issue 2

November 5, 2010

"Who dares to teach must never cease to learn."

- John Cotton Dana

Hold The Dates

- **Faculty Showcase: Publishing—** Wednesday, November 17, 3pm—4:30pm
- **Tips for Getting Published in Peer Reviewed Journals—** Tuesday, November 30, 2:00pm
- **What is Moodle Anyway?—** Thursday, November 11, 12:30 pm
- **Additional Workshop Dates on page 4.**

Inside this issue:

Calendar	4
HLC Update	3
Mastering Moodle	3
Someone You Should Know	2
Teaching Tips	2
Technology Tidbit	2
Who is the CTRE	3

First Faculty Showcase on Grant Writing is a Success!

The CTRE hosted this year's first of several monthly Faculty Showcases. On October, 20, over thirty faculty members came out to learn

more about the grant writing process from three of their fellow peers and the interim associate vice-president of grants and research administration, Yvonne Harris.

The first faculty member showcased this month was Dr. Michael Mimnaugh, from chemistry and physics. He shared tips for getting your grant funded, such as: 1) researching organizations that may be interested in funding your idea; 2) making sure to communicate your idea up front with the program offi-

cer; and 3) to always double check the requirements to make sure what you are proposing fits the organization's purpose.

Dr. Patricia Steinhaus, from early childhood education, was the second faculty showcased. She brought forward ideas such as: 1) using grants to be able to fund what your interests on campus;

2) partnering with other faculty members to share the writing and work load; and 3) keeping abreast of the current literature in your field.

Finally, Kevin Swier, from biology, provided ideas on how to successfully land one of the seed grants currently available from the CTRE. These ideas included using the basic outline for the research CUE proposal as the structure for the seed grant and planning to use the seed grant as a spring board for larger grants in the future.



Showcase Website:
www.tinyurl.com/csushowcase

This website has information on future showcases and grant writing, including links to the CTRE grant applications.

iPads Taking Off on Campus

Through the vision of CSU's chief information officer, Ce Cole Dillon, CSU and the Illinois Institute of Technology are now the only two universities in the state of Illinois that are issuing iPads to students.

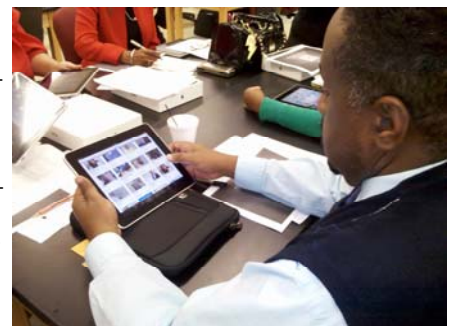
As a pilot project, first-time, full-time freshmen entering the CSU this fall were provided with an iPad. As Ms. Dillon points out, it is important that our students be able to compete technologically with students from other schools.

According to Ms. Dillon, technology is moving away from the

standard equipment we are used to using, such as laptops, and is quickly going towards mobile devices and cloud computing through the use of devices, such as iPads.

In order to help support the students' academic use of iPads in the classroom, The College of Education and the CTRE partnered to provide training for faculty teaching freshmen seminars or selected developmental courses. During the training, faculty were familiarized with basic

operations and pedagogical approaches for using the iPad. Continued training and support will be provided for both faculty and students during the project.



Someone You Should Know: Dr. Michael Edwards, Director of the Counseling Center



Dr. Michael Edwards,
Director of the Counseling Center

Dr. Michael Edwards is currently the Chairperson and Director of the Counseling Department and an Associate Professor here at Chicago State University. The Counseling Department is a multi-faceted office that provides a host of student services to the CSU

community. The Women's Resource Center, Counseling Center, Abilities Office of Disabled Students Services, and a Clinical Training Program are all housed in the Department of Counseling. Dr. Edwards earned a Doctorate of Education in Psychology and Human Development from Harvard University. Entering CSU nine years ago as a staff psychologist, Dr. Edwards interfaces with the CSU community in a myriad of ways. Some Dr. Edwards' responsibilities include his role as the department's clinical manager, which requires him to supervise and provide direction to the staff psychologists and the therapy they provide students. In addition, Dr. Edwards regularly manages cri-

ses and conducts mediations across the campus, serves as the co-chair of the Behavior Assessment and Intervention Team (BAIT) and supervises the daily activities of a staff of close to 20 individuals. In addition to providing critical services to the CSU community, Dr. Edwards has a number of academic publications and professional presentations.

Dr. Edwards stated that he loves working at CSU because, "we have a unique academic environment and our students are so gifted in so many ways and they have so much potential. We have to look at them as leaders, activists, and entrepreneurs."

Counseling Center

773-995-2383
Student Union Building 190

Monday—Friday 8:30 am—5pm
Extended Hours on
Thursday to 7 pm

Advice to Faculty

"We have to be sure that we see the student as a whole person, they are more than just students. If ever in doubt about a student, their grades, attendance, or mood don't hesitate to call the Counseling Center for advice or assistance."

Tidbits—Teaching, Technology, and other Thoughts

Learning Moodle with Lynda.com

If you are looking for a way to learn how to use Moodle, check out the video series available to all CSU instructors. This video tutorial series contains over twenty hours of videos that are specific to the tasks you need to accomplish.

To access the video tutorials, log into Moodle and click on the course CSU-INSTRUCTOR. The training is the first item available.

Google Forms—Online Surveys

<http://docs.google.com/>

To create online surveys or forms, look towards Google. Through their Google Docs application, you can quickly create surveys or forms that can be emailed to the intended audience. Google provides several themes, question choices, and saves the data in a spreadsheet that can be easily downloaded to Excel for analysis.

Seed and enrichment grant applications are available online at the showcase website:

www.tinyurl.com/csushowcase

Grants Now Available for Faculty

The Center for Teaching and Research Excellence in conjunction with the Office of the Provost and the Office of Distance Learning, are pleased to announce availability of \$25,000 in funding to support faculty development and research interests.

There are two types of grants available: Research Seed grants and Professional Enrichment grants.

The Research Seed grants are for faculty to create the foundation for new research initiatives or continue with established research projects. There is up to \$15,000 available to support three individuals up to \$5000 each.

The Professional Enrichment grants are to provide faculty the funding necessary to support professional development opportunities when other funding

may not be available. This would include items such as travel for conference presentations, software, equipment, etc.

The due dates for the grants are:

Seed Grants due Dec. 15

Enrichment Grants due Jan 14

Applications are available on the Showcase website at www.tinyurl.com/csushowcase

HLC Criterion and their Campus Co-Chairs:

Mission and Integrity

Dr. Rachel Lindsey and Dr. Sarah Austin

Preparing for the Future

Dr. Richard Darga and Mr. Derrick Collins

Student Learning and Effective Teaching

Dr. Sylvia Gist and Dr. Bernie Rowan

Acquisition, Discovery, and Application of Knowledge

Dr. Joseph Balogun and Dr. Richard Milo

Engagement and Service

Dr. Miriam Mobley-Smith and Dr. David Kanis

HLC Update: CSU is Revising its Core Values, Vision and Mission

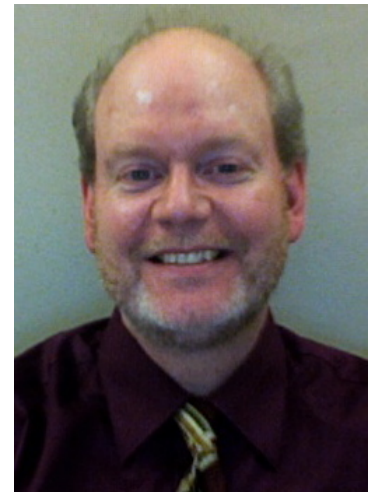
CSU has begun the process of revising its Core Values, as well as its Vision and Mission Statements. Core Values are the beliefs that guide an institution's decision making. The Vision Statement gives the direction that the institution is heading. The Mission Statement states what business the institution is in.

Proposed revisions to these statements were developed at a retreat in July, 2010. Please logon to Cougar Connect and view the HLC Accreditation Channel to view the proposed revisions and to make comments.

Who is the CTRE: Mark Erhart

Mark Erhart is a Professor of Molecular Biology in the Department of Biological Sciences at CSU. He has been at CSU since 1990. Dr. Erhart received his Ph.D. from UIC in 1987. His Ph.D. thesis project used DNA sequence analysis to address questions about the molecular genetic mechanisms affecting the evolution of gene families in mammals. His postdoctoral work allowed Dr. Erhart to expand his skill set to include classical genetic analysis as a means of addressing larger questions about mammalian genome evolution. He brought this NSF-funded project to CSU in 1990, and has worked on different aspects of this project for the past two decades. More recently, Dr. Erhart has discovered a novel genetic mutation responsible for a late-onset, progressive ataxia in the mouse. He has funding from the NIH to map the mutation responsible for the disorder and to characterize the disease phenotype.

One of Dr. Erhart's passions is the training of CSU students as experimental scientists. Toward this end, he has trained over 75 students in his CSU research lab, and trained 100 more students as part of the NIH funded TILT Program, a summer workshop for CSU undergraduate science majors that he has directed for ten years. Finally, he was co-PI on an NIH training grant with colleagues from Northwestern University designed to increase the number of minority students transitioning from the CSU Biology MS Program to PhD programs at Northwestern and elsewhere. Ten students from this program were admitted into PhD programs from 2005 to 2010.



Professor Erhart became a Faculty Associate of the CTRE in 2009 with the goal of helping other CSU faculty in their scholarly endeavors by sharing his experiences and expertise in the areas of grant writing and carrying out productive research and student training in the CSU environment. Over the past year as a member of the CTRE, Dr. Erhart has made a number of presentations to faculty groups on strategies for effective grant proposal writing, conducted an on-line survey of CSU faculty to identify areas of concern related to faculty research, helped to implement the awarding of SEED grants to CSU faculty, and met individually with a number of faculty colleagues to discuss a myriad of issues related to research activities at CSU. He is looking forward to expanded efforts by the CTRE to reach even more CSU faculty, across all disciplines, with the goal of improving scholarship at CSU.

Mastering Moodle: Getting a Grip on Moodle

While some faculty have jumped into Moodle with both feet; others, however, are asking "What is Moodle" and "What would I do with it?" This is especially true for those who teach face to face and have not used online course management tools in the past.

The CTRE wants to help all faculty see the benefits Moodle can have for them by providing a variety of workshops and resources.

We will offer a session, "What is Moodle Anyway," targeted at faculty who have never used a course management system. This will show various features of Moodle and how it can be used to save time and keep students engaged.

Another workshop will be Moodle Q&A. In this session, we will address specific questions faculty have about using Moodle. These questions can be specific tasks you want to complete, ideas on how to move face-to-face activities online, or assistance with tasks that

just seem to be difficult to complete.

Finally, in addition, to all other workshops, we have purchased and installed a full video training series in the CSU-INSTRUCTOR course within Moodle. This will allow faculty to learn what they need, when they need it.

Moodle Tip of the Month

Create a contract with your students..

Use the quiz feature to create a single short answer question. In the body of the question list the expectations you have for your students and yourself. Ask the students to "sign" the contract by entering their name in the field and hit submit.

November 2010 CTRE Events

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
8 Open iPad Session (Bring questions and ideas)	9 Moodle Gradebook Noon—Library 301	10 Leveraging Discussions in Moodle Noon—Library 301	11 What's Moodle Anyway 12:30—Library 301	12 Moodle Q&A Noon—Library 301
15 Moodle Q&A Noon—Library 301	16 Creating Assignments in Moodle Noon—Library 301	17 Faculty Showcase 3:00 pm—Library 301	18 Open iPad Session (Bring questions and ideas) Noon—Library 301	19 Moodle Gradebook Noon—Library 301
22 Using Elluminate Noon—Library 301	23 Moodle Gradebook Noon—Library 301	24	25 Thanksgiving	26 Campus Closed
29	30 Tips for Getting Published in Peer-Reviewed Journals 2pm—Library 301	1 Portfolio Workshop: Putting it Together 12:30pm—Library 301	2 Moodle for Non-Moodlers (Basic Course Requirements) 12:30 pm—Library 301	3

Center for Teaching and Research Excellence

The purpose of the Center for Teaching and Research Excellence (CTRE) is to build a community among the faculty at Chicago State University, where best practices and current research is shared with the intent to improve the quality of teaching and learning; promote involvement in areas of service, integrate 21st century tools and technologies into instruction, and encourage and support research.

Director: *Open Position*

Faculty Associates:

- Tiffany Davis
- Mark Erhart
- Rosilind Fielder
- Brandon Taylor

Office: Library 318
Phone: 773-995-2960

Mark Your Calendars

Faculty Showcase: Publishing

Wednesday, November 17

3:00 to 4:30 pm

Library 301

Join us to celebrate the accomplishments of Leon Hendricks, Pancho McFarland, and Abir Elalfy and learn from them tips and ideas on how to improve your own ability to publish.

Light refreshments will be served.