



Connections

Connecting Teaching, Learning, Research and Service

Volume 1: Issue 4

March 7, 2011

*People don't care
how much you
know, until they
know how much
you care.*

- Unknown

Hold The Dates

- **Apple in Education: Podcasting and iPads**—Thursday, March 10, 10:30 am—2:30 pm
- **Assessment Coordinator Meeting**—Tuesday or Wednesday, March 22 or 23
- **Advisors Conference**—Monday or Tuesday, March 28 or 29, noon to 3:30 pm
- **Additional Workshop Dates** on page 4.

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Advising Moves from Banner to CSU Express

Yes, it is true.

Beginning in the Fall, all advisors will be using CSU Express to access student information for advising.

The need for this change is based on increased security regulations for student information.

This is a major transition that will impact how all advisors function. In order to make sure that CSU Express has the information needed in a format that is useful for advisors, the Center for Teaching and Research Excellence is working closely with Information Technology to guarantee needed information is present, smooth out the work flow, and make sure all tasks can be completed within CSU Express so there is no jumping between systems.

A team comprised of freshman, undergraduate, and graduate advisors will be part of the transition process.

We are currently reviewing the process advisors use to advise students, identifying the screens used in Banner and the accompanying screen in CSU Express.

We have already determined a number of screens that need to be added to CSU Express and other screens that need to be modified.

Beginning in late April, we are planning to begin to pilot test the CSU Express advising process. At that time, advisors will be asked to participate in focus groups to provide feedback on our progress.

Once all processes are finalized, training will be available to all advisors through a variety of channels.

NOTE: While advisors will be advising through CSU Express, we realize that other administrators (e.g. chairs, program coordinators, etc.) may still need access to Banner for their jobs and plans are being made to accommodate these needs.



Advisor of the Year Nominations

This year the Center for Teaching and Research Excellence are seeking nominations from students for the Advisor of the Year award.

Given the importance that advising plays in the success of our students, we wanted to celebrate and showcase the efforts of the advisors who are making a difference in our students' lives.

Students can nominate their advisor at www.tinyurl.com/csualadvisoroftheyear. Flyers announcing the program have been posted.

A committee will evaluate the nominations based on the statement provided by the students and the advisor's adherence to policies such as the use of CAPP and participation in the academic early warning system.

The winners of this year's award will be announced during the advisors conference scheduled for either Monday, March 28 or Tuesday, March 29 from noon to 3:30 on the fourth floor of the Library.

Someone You Should Know: Stella O'Keke, Director of Housing and Residence Life



Stella Okeke is the Director of Housing and Residence Life. A native of Chicago, Ms. Okeke is returning to Chicago after completing her Master's degree at Iowa State University and has spent the last three years working at University of Maryland. With her support staff, Ms. Okeke

is responsible for managing the day to day operations of Residence Hall and also assists with caring for the needs of the 300 students, who live on campus. The students in the residence hall range from first time full time freshmen to graduate students.

Ms. Okeke enjoys working with students. By attending school out of the state, she can relate to the distinct needs of students who live on a college campus. Her position, although challenging at times is also very rewarding.

Stella's goal is to make sure all students who live on campus maintain a balance between academics and social activities as well as providing them with the opportunities to develop leadership skills and self confidence. She states

that balance is needed to "help students make good behavioral choices" which equates to student's academic success.

Housing and Residential Life

Residence Hall Main Office
Room 105

773-995-3676

24 Hours a Day

Her department focuses on making sure first the time full time freshmen matriculate successfully. Her department collaborates with various other departments on campus to make sure students understand and can connect to the resources that are available to them. The R.I.S.E academy, an

in house program, geared towards helping first time full time freshman who are facing academic challenges, was founded through collaboration with the Counseling Center, the Academic Success Center.

What does the future hold? Well the department is hoping to turn the R.I.S.E academy program into a preventative program that will help first time full time freshman during the first 6 weeks of class as well as increasing student involvement in the dorm. Also, there may be a possibility of another resident hall being built. She just wants to continue assisting with the campuses mission of helping retain first time full time freshman and making sure her students are okay.

Welcome home Stella!

CTRE Initiatives

In conjunction with the Office of the Provost, the CTRE is starting two initiatives to help streamline processes and provide consistent data.

Student Evaluations

Currently, there is no standard approach to the processing of end-of-semester student evaluations. This makes it difficult to provide consistent data across the departments. In order to try to provide congruency, a team of faculty will be charged with looking at the end-of-semester evaluation process and make recommendations for improvement.

ePortfolios

We continue to look at how we can put the faculty portfolio evaluation process online in order to simplify it for faculty and reviewers. At this time, the committee is researching how other schools manage the retention, promotion, and tenure process and documenting the requirements for an electronic system.

@ Your Library

Save the Date! **National Library Week** will be observed **April 10-16, 2011** at CSU. This year's theme is "Create your own story @ your library." A variety of activities have been planned, including the following:

Monday, April 11-Friday, April 15: Annual Book Sale.

Monday, April 11: Afternoon roundtable highlighting recent Library/academic department collaborations.

Monday, April 11: Evening screening of the film *The Spook Who Sat by the Door*, based on the novel of the same name by novelist, poet, journalist, screenwriter, Sam Greenlee.

Tuesday, April 12: Afternoon screening of the film, *The Spook Who Sat by the Door* followed by a reception, a talk by Sam Greenlee, and an open question and answer session.

Wednesday, April 13: Afternoon

roundtable focused on recent and current library research.

Thursday, April 14: Book Chat: *For colored girls who have considered suicide, when the rainbow is enuf: a choreopoem* by Ntozake Shange.

Friday, April 15: Last day of Book Sale.

All events are free and open to the public. Faculty, staff, and students are invited to donate items to the book sale. Additional details about National Library Week are forthcoming over the next several weeks. Visit the **library home page** (<http://library.csu.edu/>) and **library blog** (<http://library.csu.edu/blog/>) for periodic updates. Information will also be disseminated via *Up to the Minute* and campus email. It promises to be an interesting and exciting National Library Week. We look forward to seeing you there!

Advisors' Conference

Monday, March 28

- OR -

Tuesday, March 29

If you are an advisor, it is important to attend this training.

Please register at
<http://tinyurl.com/csu-advisorconference>

Supercomputer Opportunities for Students and Faculty

CSU is a founding member of the **Great Lakes Consortium for Petascale Computation (GLCPC)**, a non-profit multi-institutional effort to promote petascale computing and applications. GLCPC will work with the Blue Waters petascale computer coming online at the National Center for Supercomputing Applications (<http://www.ncsa.illinois.edu>).

As such, unique opportunities are available for CSU's faculty, staff and students to learn more about advancing computational and computer science engineering, technology research and education, and their applications to important regional and national problems.

You have two unique opportunities to learn more about GLCPC and the Blue Waters petascale computer:

GLCPC NEWS MAILING LIST. We recently created an email list for people interested in receiving news about GLCPC and Blue Waters. Anyone can subscribe by sending an email to: major-domo@ncsa.illinois.edu. Do not put anything in the Subject line. In the body, type: subscribe glcpc-news

BLUE WATERS UNDERGRADUATE PETASCALE INTERNSHIPS. The Blue Waters project will be funding 17 undergraduate research internships this year. This program provides for: 1) a \$5000 stipend for the student; 2) participation in a two-week intensive Petascale Institute at the National Center for Supercomputing Applications (NCSA); and, 3) travel to the SC11 confer-

ence in Seattle in November. Because this program is run nationally, Shodor, a GLCPC institution, is soliciting student applications from across the country. In addition, Shodor is seeking faculty with research or educational projects involving high-performance computing to post intern positions through its site. Positions can be created for a particular student, or open to qualified applicants. To learn more about the program and for information on how you can become involved, please visit Shodor's website at <http://shodor.org/petascale/participation/internships/>.

For more information on the above opportunities, feel free to contact Dr. Ayyash at mayash@csu.edu or by phone 773.821.2441.

Consortium of Illinois Learning Communities Annual Best Practices Symposium

Friday, April 29th
Malcolm X College

Faculty interested in learning more about learning communities are invited to participate in the symposium. The CTRE will cover the registration fee for the first 20 faculty members interested in attending.

Please email Liz Osika at eosika@csu.edu, if you would like to attend.

www.consortillc.org

Mastering Moodle: Single Sign On Coming in April

Beginning in April, Moodle will be another system that is added to the campus' single sign-on system. This means that once students log into Cougar Connect, they will then be able to click on the link to Moodle and get immediate access, without having to log in a second time.

This will mean that students and faculty will need to access Moodle through Cougar Connect, the CSU portal.

More information will be coming soon.

Moodle Tip of the Month

Download a Copy of the Gradebook.

If you are using Moodle's gradebook, it is critical to make back up the info regularly. Simply, access the gradebook and select Export to Spreadsheet from the "Choose an Action" drop down.

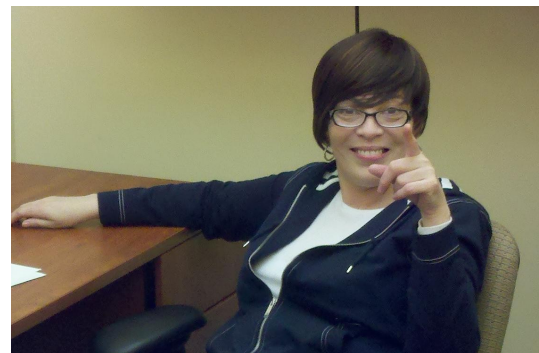
Follow the prompts to save a copy to your hard drive. A back up is a life saver should you accidentally drop a student or there is a system failure.

Who is the CTRE: Introducing Rochelle Johnson

Rochelle Johnson has been at Chicago State University since 1999. Having received her Bachelors and her Masters degree in Technology and Education, she began her career in the Library's Technology and Learning Resource department and has been working full time with CTRE in various functions for the past three years. She is currently pursuing her Ed.D in Instructional Technology at Northern Illinois University with a focus on Distance Education.

If you have called the Office of Distance Learning seeking assistance with "Moodle" you may have had the chance to speak with her.

Ms. Johnson assists faculty, staff, and students with resolving issues with



Moodle. She also facilitates the "Moodle" workshop series during the week, provides one on one Contribution training, and creates documentation to assist faculty with using Moodle effectively and efficiently.

Ms. Johnson's goal is to provide everyone who calls or stops by the office with excellent customer service. Her professionalism and cheerful personality is an asset to the CTRE.

March 2011— Faculty Events

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
7 Moodle Q&A Open Forum 12:30 LIB301	8	9	10 Apple in Education 10:30 to 3:30 Pencasting—NCLC Online Presentation	
14 Spring Break	15 Spring Break	16 Spring Break	17 Spring Break	18 Spring Break
21 Moodle Q&A Open Forum 12:30 LIB301	22 Assessment Coordinator Conference noon—2:00	23 Assessment Coordinator Conference noon—2:00	24 Moodle for the Non- Moodler 12:30 LIB301	25
28 Advisors Conference noon—3:30	29 Advisors Conference noon—3:30	30	31 Moodle for the Non- Moodler 12:30 LIB301	1

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:

- Mark Erhart
- Rosalind Fielder

Staff Associates:

- Theo Garth
- Rochelle Johnson

Office: Library 318

Phone: 773-995-2960

Faculty Summer Institute 2011

Big - Better - Best

Call for Proposals

Due Wednesday, March 23

www.tinyurl.com/fsi2011

Big Ideas

Discover the new! Innovative new tools and technologies seem to appear every day. What's out there now, and what's on the horizon?

Better Ways

Change for the better! Excellent teachers seek out, imagine, develop, and pioneer better ways of engaging and educating their students. Come share what you have learned.

Best Practices

Share your results! This brings together a focus on informed teaching through learning analytics, formal and informal feedback, scholarship of teaching and learning, and stories of successes in the face-to-face and virtual classrooms.