"I'm not afraid of storms, for I'm learning to sail my ship."

- Aeschylus

Upcoming Events

3/2
"Best Practices in Developmental Math"
12:00 - 2:00 PM
(LIB 301)

3/6
"Pizza with the Provost"
12:30-2:30PM
(LIB 318)

3/9
"Matching Technologies to Learning Styles"
12:00-2:00PM
(LIB 301)

See page 4 for more!

Inside this issue:

New Online DAC Recommendations

In the spirit of the CTRE's goal to continually improve and support online education, "Recommendations for DACs for Online and Hybrid Courses at Chicago State University" was officially unveiled on February 24. A joint effort of the CTRE and Distance Education Committee, the document is mandated by the CSU faculty contract, and outlines procedures for evaluating online and hybrid courses, as well as approving new ones.

With the new recommendations in place, Departmental Applications of Criteria (DACs) for online instructors will be based on the Illinois Online Network rubric for online courses, and address the areas of content, pedagogy, and appropriate use of technology. The new evaluation template will be used by department chairs, as well as faculty members in the Distance Education Committee, and members of the CTRE. DACs are used to assist in deciding on faculty retention, pro-

Provost's Colloquium Coming in April

On April 18, there will be a Provosts' Colloquium to showcase the achievements of all faculty who have been awarded CTRE grants over the past two years.

Given the number of recipients of Faculty Enrichment, Seed, and Student Engagement grants—55 in all—the event will be a poster session to allow attendees to absorb as much as possible, and to get to speak with the awardees themselves.

CTRE grants have enabled some remarkable achievements at Chicago State, thanks to the intellectual rigor, creativity, and dedication.

Faculty Enrichment Grants help faculty to attend conferences to present a lecture or simply to learn; Seed grants assist in getting original research underway; and Student Engagement grants encourage faculty to interact with students in innovative ways.

The Provost's Colloquium will take place on **Wednesday, April 18 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. in the Library Auditorium**.

Additional details will be coming soon.

Images: Research

Pizza with the Provost

Don't forget to RSVP for **Pizza with the Provost**!

Come to the CTRE (LIB 318) on **Tuesday, March 6 from 12:30 to 2:30** to meet CSU's Provost, Dr. Sandra Westbrooks, and enjoy some delicious pizza. Stay for the whole time or just to say hi and grab a slice!
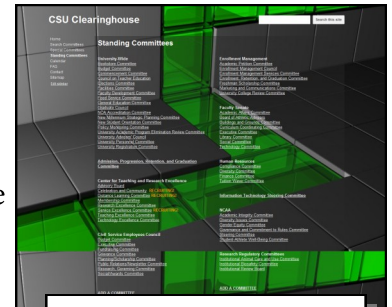
Click here to RSVP

Clearinghouse Website

Don't forget to log on to the CSU Clearinghouse website! Faculty have begun submitting information about their respective committees, but there are still many that need attention.

Go to the Clearinghouse website now and take a few minutes to send information on your committee: http://bit.ly/QNYp0

Standing Committees page of the Clearinghouse website

At Your Fingertips: News from LIS   Compiled by Prof. R. Fielder

This year, National Library Week will be observed April 8-14, 2012 with the theme, "You belong @ your library." National Library Week, sponsored by the American Library Association, will be a week for Chicago State University library users, staff, and friends to celebrate the valuable contributions of the library. Together with libraries across the country, we will celebrate this national observance by organizing various events and activ-

ities such as the Annual Book Sale, Book Chat, Poetry Night, and other activities throughout the week.

The week-long book sale starts Monday, April 9 and ends Friday, April 13. Used books, magazines, CDs, videotapes and

DVDs donated by CSU faculty, staff, and community members will be on sale for very low prices. All book sale proceeds go to a fund to purchase media materials for the library in honor of Prof. Jesse Johnson, a library faculty member who passed away in 2009. Prof. Gabrielle Toth, reference and instruction librarian, is the Annual Book Sale coordinator. Toth will accept donations of materials for the sale through the start of National Library Week. Contact her at

gtoth@csu.edu or x2562. Toth says, arrangements can be made for pick up of donations "if spring cleaning yields an abun-
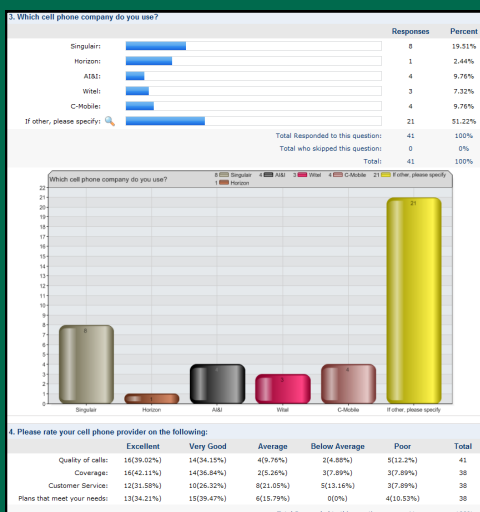
dance of books looking for a new home."

Additional details on the book sale will be included in the next issue of the newsletter as well as the library web site.

Images: Clearinghouse; National Library Week; CSU Library; Pizza Slices

And the Survey Says…

Surveys can be powerful tools, and the advent of various online programs has made data collection possibilities wider than ever.

For faculty who are looking for ways to get started, this article is for you. Perhaps you're looking to collect data on student achievement or looking to employ new tools for research. Whatever the

program of the ones mentioned in this article. It allows for the greatest flexibility, control, and analytics capabilities. It's great for instances that require strict privacy and quality control. If you're looking to use surveys for research purposes, then this one is strongly recommended. It's free for educational institutions, but conditions apply.
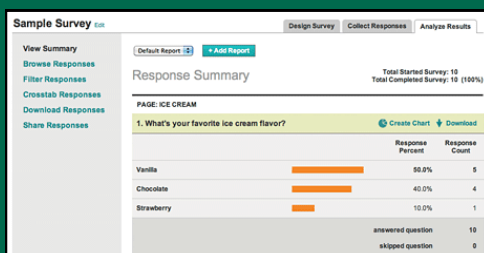

case may be, surveys are flexible tools that can fit a number of tasks. The trick is to pick the right tool box. With that in mind, here are some survey programs to consider:

1) Survey Methods

Survey Methods is the most powerful

2) Survey-Monkey

A middle-of-the-road option, Survey-Monkey is not as powerful as Survey Methods, but the tradeoff is that it's easier to use. Plenty of analytics tools and question types are at your fingertips, and the BASIC Plan is free, so it's no wonder that a number of large companies use

DAC Recommendations

motion, and tenure.

With the new recommendations in place, faculty will have a more solid, transparent, and useful means of improving their own online instruction. And as the quality of online instruction improves across the institution, more students will understand that CSU is

keeping pace with current educational trends and the needs of students. And as online learning continues to grow across the country, providing a meaningful, high-quality experience will become more important as time goes on.

If you have any questions about the new recommendations, contact Mike Sukowski or George Williams.

SurveyMonkey, including Samsung, Toyota, and Dannon.

3) Google Docs

Under Google's Documents page, you can create simple surveys called Forms. If you're looking for the option that's easiest to use, then this is it. Forms has just what you need to create basic surveys. But therein is the tradeoff: it's simple, but not nearly as powerful as Survey Methods and SurveyMonkey. Making a wise choice all depends on what your goals are for using surveys.

NOTE: Once you have decided upon a survey program and project scope, you'll need to contact CSU's Institutional Review Board for prior approval to proceed. You can learn more on the IRB website.

Images: Survey Methods; SurveyMonkey; Google Docs;

March 2012—CTRE Events

MON	TUES	WEDS	THURS	FRI
27	28	29	1 CTRE Advisory Board Meeting 1:00-2:30PM (LIB 301) Moodle Workshop 3:00-4:00PM LIB 144	2 "Best Practices in Developmental Math" RSVP 12:00-2:00PM (LIB 301)
5	6 Pizza with the Provost 12:30-2:30 (LIB 318) RSVP Moodle Workshop 11:00-12:00 / 3:00-4:00 Online	7 Meet with an IRB Member 11:00-12:30 (Faculty Tech Lounge) RSVP	8 Moodle Workshop 3:00-4:00PM LIB 144 Dept. Chair Leadership Webinar 10:30-12:00 (Faculty Tech Lounge)	9 "Matching Technologies to Learning Styles" 12:00-2:00PM (LIB 301) RSVP
12	13 Moodle Workshop 11:00-12:00 / 3:00-4:00 Online	14	15 Moodle Workshop 3:00-4:00PM LIB 144	16 NO FRIDAY FACULTY FEST WORKSHOP
19	20 Moodle Workshop 11:00-12:00 / 3:00-4:00 Online	21	22 Moodle Workshop 3:00-4:00PM LIB 144 Dept. Chair Leadership Webinar 10:30-12:00 (Faculty Tech Lounge)	23 "Leading a Socratic Seminar" 12:00-2:00PM (LIB 301) RSVP
26	27 Moodle Workshop 11:00-12:00 / 3:00-4:00 Online	28	29 Moodle Workshop 3:00-4:00PM LIB 144	30 "Using Assessment and Pre-Assessment" 12:00-2:00PM (LIB 301) RSVP

From the Director's Desk
By Mike Sukowski

A current discussion on LinkedIn asks the question: "I observe students using laptops in class for everything but studying. Should student technology be allowed in the classroom?"

I am enjoying the responses from educators around the world. Every-thing from the authoritarian instructor who demands that students "pay attention while I am lecturing" to my response asking educators how students are keeping engaged with them, the con-tent, and each other—it is a lively discussion.

The staff of the CTRE encourage faculty to utilize all the tools available to them to help them with student engagement and use of technology. It is important to remember that students have different learning styles, and perhaps lectures are not the best way to keep the students engaged. Consider using tools that will engage learners that appeal to all kinds of learners: auditory, kinesthetic, and visual. The CTRE is here to work with you to provide opportunities to use technology to address different learning styles. Feel free to come in and discuss how we can work with you.