Weekly Happenings Newsletter

The CIRTL Network
CENTER FOR THE INTEGRATION OF RESEARCH, TEACHING, & LEARNING

Registration for Summer Events is Open!

Check https://www.cirtl.net/ for updates.

MOOC: An Introduction to Evidence-Based Undergraduate STEM Teaching
Monday June 21 – Sunday, August 15, 2021
The course draws on the expertise of a variety of STEM faculty, educational researchers, and staff from university teaching centers, many of them affiliated with the CIRTL Network. Topics include key learning principles, such as the role of mental models in learning and the importance of practice and feedback; fundamental elements of course design, including the development of learning objectives and assessments of learning aligned with those objectives; and teaching strategies for fostering active learning and inclusive classroom environments. Formats include video content and transcripts, readings, discussion forums, quizzes, and peer-graded assignments where participants will plan teaching and learning activities relevant to their disciplines.

Quote of the week:
“The mediocre teacher tells. The good teacher explains. The superior teacher demonstrates. The great teacher inspires.”
– William Arthur Ward
First Year Faculty Teaching Academy
Note: This is a multi-day course!
2:30-4:30 PM, Tuesday, July 15, 2021
2:30-4:30 PM, Wednesday, July 16, 2021
2:30-4:30 PM, Thursday, July 17, 2021
2:30-4:30 PM, Tuesday, July 20, 2021
2:30-4:30 PM, Wednesday, July 21, 2021
2:30-4:30 PM, Thursday, July 22, 2021
Learn teaching and learning fundamentals in this intensive 2-week course (typically 6 weeks) from the University of Florida's Center for Teaching Excellence. This course is designed for future faculty and early career faculty in their first years of teaching. Learn how to create a great learning experience for your students while developing a solid foundation of best teaching practices and strategies.

Exploring Diversity in Implicit Leadership Theories and Their Role in Inclusive Teaching and Learning
Note: This is a two-day event!
11:00 – 2:30 PM, Monday, July 26 and Friday, July 29, 2021
For grad students and postdocs in any stage of your academic career, understanding your own perceptions of leadership can impact how you teach, how you work within departments, how you mentor, and more. In this workshop, we will explore implicit leadership theories (ILT), the cognitive structures that people use to evaluate leadership characteristics and behaviors in others. Understanding your own ILTs can help you unpack your own experiences around leadership, bring clarity to the formal and informal ways others may look to you as a leader, and shape how your interact with others: your students, your peers, your PIs, and more.

Sign up to Join the Pitt-CIRTL Summer Learning Community
TOPIC: Inclusive and Equitable Teaching
Want to learn more about inclusive and equitable teaching? Sign up to for the 2021 Pitt-CIRTL Summer Learning Community! The 2021 Pitt-CIRTL Summer LC will meet over the summer on Zoom. Feel free to share the link with colleagues outside of the University of Pittsburgh or outside of the Pittsburgh area.
Check [http://dbserc.pitt.edu/] for updates.

Check [https://teaching.pitt.edu/workshops-events/] for updates.

**Developing a Teaching Philosophy Statement**  
1:00–3:00 PM, Tuesday, June 15, 2021  
A teaching philosophy statement is a concise, compelling illustration of an instructor, a useful exercise in the reflexive examination of teaching, and a necessary component of many academic job applications. This workshop will provide the fundamentals of writing a teaching philosophy statement. We will look at previously developed teaching philosophy statements and implement effective revisions.

**Anti-Asian Racism: An Exploratory Conversation**  
1:00–2:00 PM, Thursday, June 17, 2021  
Xenophobic racism and violence directed at Asian and Asian Pacific Islander communities have increased during COVID. This session is designed to facilitate an initial dialogue to understand better the challenges facing our Asian and Asian American colleagues and students, and to explore ways to address and eliminate anti-Asian racism at the University of Pittsburgh.

**Teaching With and Without PowerPoint**  
1:00–2:30 PM, Monday, June 21, 2021  
When effectively planned and designed appropriately, PowerPoint can enhance the quality and effectiveness of teaching and learning. In this workshop, we will cover best practices for designing slides for instruction that encourage student engagement with course material.
Black Emancipation: A History of Celebration
12:00-1:00 PM, Tuesday, June 15, 2021
Freedom celebrations are essential to understanding the history, culture, and politics of the African American experience. While the emancipation from enslavement varied over time and in place in North America, freedom celebrations have been consistently as a source of pride and demonstration of culture. Whether in the Haiti, other nations in the West Indies, or in states in the United States, the celebration of Black Emancipation has been serves as a tool to uplift and progress the collective history of Black people.

While a number of states and regions celebrate Emancipation, Juneteenth is the oldest nationally celebrated commemoration of the ending of slavery in the United States. With origins that date back to 1865, it was on June 19th that the Union soldiers, led by Major General Gordon Granger, landed at Galveston, Texas with news that the war had ended and that those enslaved were now free. It should be noted that this occasion was two and a half years after President Lincoln’s Emancipation Proclamation - which had become official January 1, 1863.

The celebration of June 19th was coined "Juneteenth" and grew with greater participation from descendants and communities around the country. Juneteenth celebrations today, celebrate African American freedom and achievement, while encouraging continuous self-development and respect for all cultures.

We encourage you to join our panel as the discuss the history of Black Emancipation celebrations including Juneteenth, and the legacy and impact on the greater Pittsburgh community.

From Swing Low To Strange Fruit: The Sounds Of Liberation
12:00-1:00 PM, Friday, June 18, 2021
“From Swing Low to Strange Fruit” is a Juneteenth retrospective of the music of African American culture. From the laments of spirituals to songs of pride, protest and freedom, music has been a major means of communication in Black culture. It has been the soundtrack of plans of escape from enslavement to celebration of freedom, and protest discrimination, lynchings, and police brutality. Featured acts will include gospel choirs, soloists and hip-hop artists.

CUESEF 2021: Forging Futures Through Black Educational Histories
9:00 AM - 5:00 PM, Wednesday, June 16 – Saturday, June 19, 2021
Co-sponsored by the Heinz Endowments, in CUESEF 2021, we aspire to public study: What can we learn from histories of Black knowledge traditions and educational movements in the U.S.? How do Black communal responses to schools and schooling reflect struggle toward justice and freedom? How do these histories inform and shift our current educational commitments and practices? The Akan people of what is now known as Ghana and the Ivory Coast define Sankofa as a return to the past to move forward. Our theme invites historians to join us in exploring Black educational imaginations over time as essential to forging futures of self-determination, collective responsibility, and freedom. This year's focus on Black education traditions assumes Blackness as expansive and not a category exclusive of ethnic and cultural realities. Participants will engage dynamic historian dialogues, study groups, and webinars to foster thinking about the reparative practices and systems that rectify ongoing educational injustice and inequity and build futures.
PEOPLE’S PRIDE PGH 2021 – RECLAIMING PITTSBURGH PRIDE
Friday, June 18 – Sunday, June 20, 2021

This year, in 2021, People’s Pride PGH will be celebrated June 18-20 and will be centered around the theme “Reclaiming Pittsburgh Pride.” Now more than ever, TLGBQIA+ and other marginalized communities must stand together, firmly rooted in equity and radical honesty, and take back the celebration of our lives. We are proud to be partnering with the Pittsburgh Equality Center to bring other leaders, organizations, and allies to the table, to not only work together on supporting this year’s events but future Pittsburgh Pride celebrations as well.

Additional Resources:

- Pitt-CIRTL website: [www.cirtl.pitt.edu](http://www.cirtl.pitt.edu)
- CIRTL website: [http://www.cirtl.net/](http://www.cirtl.net/)
- dB-SERC website: [http://www.dbserc.pitt.edu/](http://www.dbserc.pitt.edu/)
- UCTL website: [www.teaching.pitt.edu](http://www.teaching.pitt.edu)
- OACD website: [www.oacd.health.pitt.edu](http://www.oacd.health.pitt.edu)
- OACD Video Library: [https://www.oacd.health.pitt.edu/video-library](https://www.oacd.health.pitt.edu/video-library)
- Postdoc Career Club: [www.uppda.pitt.edu/postdoc-career-club-0](http://www.uppda.pitt.edu/postdoc-career-club-0)
- AME website: [www.ame.pitt.edu](http://www.ame.pitt.edu)