Weekly Happenings Newsletter

Quote of the week:

“Every moment is a fresh beginning.”
– T.S Eliot

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.

Check [https://www.cirtl.net/](https://www.cirtl.net/) for updates.
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
3:00 – 4:00 PM Wednesdays and 4:00 – 5:00 PM Fridays from June 30-August 13
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 sign-up link with colleagues outside of the University of Pittsburgh or outside of the Pittsburgh area.

Culture-Based Equitable Approaches
12:00 – 1:00 PM Monday, June 28, 2021
Dr. Clausell Mathis from the University of Washington will give a talk titled "Culture-Based Approaches to Physics Teaching". The abstract is below:

Dr. Clausell Mathis will describe research he has done on strategies and methods that physics teachers can use to achieve equitable based instruction through cultural relevance. Clausell will describe research he has done with secondary physics teachers who attempt to incorporate culturally relevant pedagogy features in their classrooms. Findings show that teachers showed the strongest indicators of culturally relevant pedagogy willingness to address sensitive topics, consistent encouragement of students toward academic excellence, and the ability to adapt the curriculum to students' strengths. Findings from Dr. Mathis's research give implications for physics teachers who wish to become more equitable in their instruction. He will also discuss the challenges and affordances that may occur when making pedagogical changes that support culturally relevant instruction.

Check http://dbserc.pitt.edu/ for updates.
Check [https://teaching.pitt.edu/workshops-events/](https://teaching.pitt.edu/workshops-events/) for updates.

**LGBTQIA+ Inclusion in Course Content and Interactions**

1:30-3:00 PM, Wednesday, June 30, 2021

Students' ideas and expectations about higher education students have been shaped by their worldviews, participation in social systems, and connections with instructors and fellow students at Pitt and beyond. The breadth and depth of the student experience - whether it's virtual or in-person - may affect how they interpret and respond to intellectual challenges posed by new material or interactions with their peers.

This workshop invites participants to practice proactive ways to address and mitigate resistance to LGBTQIA+ topics in the classroom. Successful integration of LGBTQIA+ topics into your classroom requires intentional course content design and learning experiences to cultivate an environment that invites exploration of these topics.

**Developing a Teaching Portfolio**

10:00 - 11:30 PM, Thursday, July 1, 2021

A teaching portfolio is a key component of any job application packet. This workshop presents some guidelines and basic strategies you can use to ensure that your portfolio will illustrate your best teaching abilities. Whether you are just beginning to teach or about to enter the job market, this workshop will help you compile and develop your teaching portfolio.

**Virtual Diversity Book Club**

6:00 PM, Wednesday, June 30, 2021

Please join the Department of Medicine Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion another robust Virtual Diversity Book Club. Our book of choice this month is Real Queer America: LGBT Stories from Red States by Samantha Allen.
### Additional Resources:

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