Weekly Happenings Newsletter

Quote of the week:

“The test of a good teacher is not how many questions he can ask his pupils that they will answer readily, but how many questions he inspires them to ask which he finds it hard to answer.”
— Alice Wellington Rollins

January Teaching-As-Research Learning Community Meeting
12:00 – 1:00 PM, Tuesday January 25, 2022
Zoom
During this TAR LC meeting, all individuals who are working on their TAR project will have an opportunity to share their TAR project idea and where they are in the process of completing their TAR project. Participants can also open your idea up for feedback during this meeting. Please email April Dukes (apriladukes@pitt.edu) to receive the Zoom invitation.
Check [https://www.cirtl.net/](https://www.cirtl.net/) for updates.

Courses

*Advancing Learning Through Evidence-Based STEM Teaching*

Advancing Learning through Evidence-Based STEM Teaching is an open, online course (MOOC) designed to provide graduate students, postdoctoral scholars, and other aspiring faculty in STEM disciplines with an overview of effective college teaching strategies and the research that supports them. This course is also suitable for other interested university staff, faculty, and administrators. The goal of the eight-week course is to equip the next generation of faculty to be effective teachers, thus improving the learning experience for the thousands of students they will teach.

Series

*How CIRTL Impacted My Career: Alumni Reflections (Spring 2022)*

Alumni from CIRTL programs go on to many different kinds of careers. This four-part event series features alumni from different career paths reflecting on their current work, how CIRTL prepared them for their career trajectories, and how their CIRTL experiences helped shape their professional interests and activities. We will give you a chance to submit questions when you register. Join us on:

- 2:00 – 3:00 PM, Wednesday, March 9, 2022: [How CIRTL Impacted My Career: Hearing from Academic and Research Staff](#)
- 2:00 – 3:00 PM, Wednesday, March 16, 2022: [How CIRTL Impacted My Career: Hearing from Teaching Faculty](#)
- 2:00 – 3:00 PM, Wednesday, March 23, 2022: [How CIRTL Impacted My Career: Experiences in Academia from Underrepresented Groups in STEM](#)
- 2:00 – 3:00 PM, Wednesday, March 30, 2022: [How CIRTL Impacted My Career: Hearing about Positions beyond Academia](#)
Imagining Post-PhD Career Possibilities: Advocating for your Professional Skills and Value (Spring 2022)

- This four-part series supports graduate students and postdoctoral researchers at all levels, especially those nearing transitional phases, to articulate and build upon professional skills acquired within and outside of academic experiences. Participants will: identify skills and competencies developed in multiple settings; determine areas for additional development; and develop self-awareness and agency in pursuit of diverse post-graduate careers. In support of the professional development of equity-deserving communities, this series increases equitable and inclusive participation by uncovering the hidden curriculum of graduate education and by highlighting post-PhD career possibilities and diverse academic institutions and populations served. The first three sessions will emphasize strengths and skill development, and the fourth will be an opportunity for reflection and integration as part of a career plan. Participants will recognize and express their unique and marketable professional skills and value. In addition, they will gain self-awareness and agency regarding their employability.

  - 1:30 – 3:00 PM, Monday, March 14, 2022: **Graduate Skills and Competencies: What Have I Really Learned?**
  - 1:30 – 3:00 PM, Monday, March 28, 2022: **Mentoring and Advising Relationships: What Skills Am I Developing?**
  - 1:30 – 3:00 PM, Monday, April 4, 2022: **Building My Networks and Engagement in Communities: What Connections Am I Growing and Why?**
  - 1:30 – 3:00 PM, Monday, April 11, 2022: **Putting It All Together: How Do I Articulate and Implement a Career Development Plan?**


**dB-SERC Lunch Discussion**
12:00 – 1:00 PM, Monday, January 24, 2022
The discussion will be virtual, so please sign up using the link below to receive the Zoom link. During this dB-SERC lunch discussion, Dr. Ben Rottman from the Psychology Department will lead his third course transformation discussion on flipped online classrooms for Research Methods in Psychology.
Delivering Effective Feedback
1:00 – 1:45 PM, Tuesday, January 25, 2022
This short, 45-minute workshop focuses on evidence-based practices for delivering feedback that helps students improve their learning. We will discuss strategies and tools for improving feedback efficiency and how to encourage students to engage with feedback in a meaningful way.

Equity and Inclusion Faculty Learning Community
12:00 – 1:00 PM, Thursday, January 27, 2022
The Equity and Inclusion Faculty Learning Community (FLC) welcomes all instructors (including faculty from all campuses and graduate student teaching assistants) to collaboratively explore topics related to equitable and inclusive teaching and mentoring. Josie Rush, Ph.D., Visiting Assistant Professor of Communication and the Arts at Pitt Bradford will lead the first FLC meeting. In this session, participants will discuss strategies for equitable and inclusive teaching during times of uncertainty. We will focus on individual and professional boundary-setting as an inclusive teaching and learning practice. We invite participants to share their own inclusive practices and learn from one another.

How to Create Personal Effectiveness and Impact
12:00 – 1:00 PM, Thursday, January 27, 2022
What skills and strategies can help each of us to be more effective in achieving our individual professional goals and having an impact? This workshop will feature a panel of faculty from different units and disciplines who have each achieved professional success and had a substantial positive impact through their scholarship, teaching, and service in a variety of roles and projects. They will share their views, advice, and strategies in a wide-ranging discussion of various aspects of personal effectiveness.

Instructional Design Partners January Meeting
12:00 – 1:00 PM, Friday, January 28, 2022
ID Partners, a supportive platform for many instructional designers across the university, was temporarily halted, like many collaborative events during the pandemic. It’s time to change that! This initial meeting will consist of introductions, networking, and the sharing of our collaborative Canvas site.

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

Check https://www.diversity.pitt.edu/ or https://calendar.pitt.edu/department/office_of_diversity_and_inclusion for updates.

None listed, see calendar link above for updates.
See [https://www.oacd.health.pitt.edu/content/professionalism-series](https://www.oacd.health.pitt.edu/content/professionalism-series) for more info.

**Introduction to the Faculty Role**
3:30 - 4:30 PM, Wednesday, January 26, 2022

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**Developing a Successful Fellowship Application: A Primer for Postdocs & Graduate Students**
3:00 - 4:30 PM, Wednesday, February 2, 2022

Attend this session to learn how to write a successful fellowship (F30, F31, and F32) applications! The purpose of the NIH F-type training grant is to provide support to promising graduate and post-doctoral applicants who have the potential to become productive, independent investigators in health-related research fields relevant to the missions of participating NIH institutes.

This session will start with an overview of the F-award and then illuminate the grant submission/review process, outline how to prepare a successful grant, describe a mock study section, and cover scoring and funding. It will be presented by Nick Giannoukakis, PhD, a member of the Division of Experimental Pathology and a member of the Cellular and Molecular Pathology Graduate Training Program, who has a successful track record mentoring graduate students and postdocs who have forged independent research careers.

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**Additional Resources:**

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