Weekly Happenings
Newsletter

Quote of the week:
“When I see you through my eyes, I think that we are different. When I see you through my heart, I know we are the same.”
– Doe Zantamata

NEW Summer Learning Community

Creating Assessments
1:00 – 2:00 PM, Wednesdays, June 22– August 3, 2022
Join Pitt-CIRTL’s virtual summer learning community on creating fair and equitable assessments in the college classroom. Creating assessments that measure your intended student learning goals is critical to the success of students in undergraduate courses. This six-session (5 synchronous and 1 asynchronous) learning community will engage participants in readings and discussions on:

• alignment of learning objectives with assessment and class activities
• basic classroom assessment terminology and best practices
• advantages and disadvantages of various assessment types (formative, summative, reflective, and diagnostic)
• inclusive and equitable assessment goals
• strategies that support academic integrity

This LC will be particularly useful for those who have taught or TA’ed at the college level. Graduate students, postdocs, and faculty are welcome to join and participate, regardless of teaching experience.
Summer Course

**MOOC: An Introduction to Evidence-Based Undergraduate STEM Teaching**

*Registration Opens May 30, 2022
Asynchronous Course: June 20 – August 14, 2022*

An Introduction to Evidence-Based Undergraduate STEM Teaching is a massive 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. Past participants are overwhelmingly satisfied with the course (nearly 90% of Summer 2019 students were satisfied or extremely satisfied).

Check [https://www.cirtl.net/](https://www.cirtl.net/) for updates.

**dB-SERC Lunch Discussion**

12:00 – 1:00 PM, Tuesday, July 5, 2022
Check [https://teaching.pitt.edu/workshops-events/](https://teaching.pitt.edu/workshops-events/) for updates.

**Teaching With, And Without, PowerPoint**
2:00 - 3:00 PM, Tuesday, June 28, 2022
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.

**Encouraging Student Participation**
2:00 - 3:00 PM, Wednesday, July 6, 2022
Fostering effective class participation requires planning. Instructors can implement specific strategies to encourage meaningful, distributed participation through a variety of modalities. These strategies can address in-class participation issues, such as lack of participation or over-participation and others.

**Fundamentals of Teaching Inclusively**
12:00 - 1:30 PM, Thursday, July 7, 2022
This workshop introduces several principles of inclusivity and offers practical advice for fostering an inclusive classroom environment through your teaching in both face-to-face and remote learning contexts. Through discussion and workshop exercises, you will learn how promoting and practicing inclusivity can improve learning outcomes and your relationship with your students, and how the two are closely related. This workshop also addresses ways to effectively articulate your philosophy of inclusion in teaching on job applications and in interviews.

**Writing a Diversity Statement**
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM, Friday, July 8, 2022
A diversity statement articulates concisely your values, experiences, and commitments to equity, inclusion, and diversity. Similar to teaching philosophy, it communicates to institutions the ways in which your pedagogical practices will support diverse learning populations. In addition, you can speak to future plans related to equity and inclusivity that can help institutions achieve their stated diversity missions.

**Best Practices in Online Teaching**
2:00 - 3:30 PM, Tuesday, July 12, 2022
Faculty who teach online or hybrid classes want to know how to design and teach courses that are pedagogically effective. This workshop will summarize and synthesize research about the most effective practices in teaching learner-centered courses and point to CourseWeb tools that can help you implement engaging teaching strategies. Topics covered will include strategies and tools for planning sequenced assignments and activities, managing the course, and evaluation. The workshop will be of interest to faculty who teach online or who are interested in incorporating online components into their traditional courses. Bring your questions, ideas and experiences to share.
Check [https://www.diversity.pitt.edu/](https://www.diversity.pitt.edu/) or [https://calendar.pitt.edu/department/office_of_diversity_and_inclusion](https://calendar.pitt.edu/department/office_of_diversity_and_inclusion) for updates.

**QBurgh – Pittsburgh Pride 2022**
*June 1–30, 2022*

Learn more about Pittsburgh Pride 2022

**Drag Bingo w/ Alora Chateaux**
*6:00 – 8:00 PM, Monday, June 27, 2022*
*WPU Ballroom or Virtual (Zoom)*

Hosted by Alora Chateaux (She/Her), one of Pittsburgh’s premier drag artists, Drag Bingo is just like regular bingo—but more fun! In addition to winning any one of our fabulous prizes, Alora will provide witty banter and drag performances for entertainment! Drag Bingo will be hosted in a hybrid format, so you can win prizes from campus or a place you feel most comfortable. Entry is free for participants; limit one bingo card per participant.

**SOGIE 101 presented by Hugh Lane Wellness Foundation**
*10:00 AM – 12:00 PM, Tuesday, June 28, 2022*

Facilitated by Jule Arney (Xe/They), Director of Training & Research at Hugh Lane Wellness Foundation, SOGIE 101 (Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Expression) seeks to provided participants with introductory cultural competence addressing LGBTQ+ terminology and experiences with the goal of creating more inclusive spaces for LGBTQ+ community members.

**In Our Own Write: An LGBTQIA+ Community Open Mic**
*7:30 PM, Wednesday, June 29, 2022*

In celebration of Pride Month, the Center for Creativity will host an LGBTQIA+ community open mic night on Wednesday, June 29. The C4C invites writers of all ages and experience levels to share their poetry and prose. Beginning writers are welcome! Performance slots are 5–7 minutes each, but you don't have to read that much: share just a haiku or two if you like. The program starts at 7:30 p.m. on Zoom and is held in conjunction with the In Our Own Write program, a creative writing initiative for LGBTQIA+ elders ages 50+. This event is deliberately intergenerational and open to everyone who identifies as part of the community.

**Transforming LGBTQIA+ Health Quality at UPMC**
*12:00 – 1:00 PM, Wednesday, June 29, 2022*

Check out the LGBTQIA+ Resources page from the Teaching Center. Faculty can also use the Inclusivity Consultations page to book consultations with Teaching Center staff to revise syllabi, activities, and assignments for inclusivity.

**Diversity Forum 2022**
*July 25–28, 2022*

This year’s theme is "Rewiring Our Systems: Transforming the Intersections of Inequity." The forum will feature a dynamic array of keynote programs and community-led sessions that aim to develop social equity consciousness and systems thinking approaches. Programs will address the intersections of social identities and cultivate models for advancing social justice.
See https://www.oacd.health.pitt.edu/content/professionalism-series for more info.

**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)
- Office of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion calendar: [https://calendar.pitt.edu/department/office_of_diversity_and_inclusion/calendar](https://calendar.pitt.edu/department/office_of_diversity_and_inclusion/calendar)
- 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)
- AME website: [www.ame.pitt.edu](http://www.ame.pitt.edu)