Weekly Happenings Newsletter

Quote of the week:
“No matter how hard the past is, you can always begin again.”
–Buddha

FALL 2022

December TAR Meeting
10:00 - 11:00 AM, Friday, December 9, 2022
For the December TAR meeting, I will talk about how to set your TAR project up to be able to publish it – either through a conference poster or peer-reviewed paper. I will then open up the floor for any questions/feedback requests from those working on a TAR project. Email April Dukes (aprla@pitt.edu) for Zoom invitation.

https://www.cirlt.net/ for updates.

Spring registration opens January 10, 2023
Spring 2023 Courses

**Prep for an Academic Career**
*Thursdays, 12:00 – 12:50 PM in 312 Benedum Hall, begins Jan 12th.*
This seminar series is designed for Ph.D. students interested in pursuing an academic career and within 1.5 years of graduating. Experienced faculty provide seminars and discussions on two areas: getting the desired academic position and how to be successful during the early years. Topics include, but not limited to: how to apply for academic positions, preparing for the interview, supervising graduate research, balancing service obligations, the promotion and tenure process, funding avenues, publishing and intellectual property, teaching expectations, and balancing work-life issues. For Graduate Credit: ENGR 3000-1250 (CRN #20699); Audit (Not for Credit) Registration: [https://bit.ly/Sp22_ENGR3000](https://bit.ly/Sp22_ENGR3000)

**Advancing Learning Through Evidence-Based STEM Teaching**
*Thursdays, 4:30 – 5:25 PM in 318 Benedum Hall, begins Jan 12th.*
This course is designed for graduate students and postdocs preparing for academic careers in the STEM disciplines and interested in learning how to apply research principles to their disciplinary teaching. The primary focus of this course is to introduce "teaching-as-research" (TAR) - defined as "the deliberate, systematic, and reflective use of research methods to develop and implement teaching practices that advance the learning experiences and outcomes of both students and teachers." Participants will learn about effective teaching strategies and the research that supports them in addition to learning how to collect, analyze, and act upon their own evidence of student teaching. For Graduate Credit: ENGR 3002-1340 (CRN #22551), BIOSC 3002-1340 (CRN #22599), CHEM 3002-1340 (CRN #22558). Audit (Not for Credit) Registration: [https://bit.ly/Sp22_ENGR3002](https://bit.ly/Sp22_ENGR3002)


**Monday Lunch Discussion**
*12:00 - 1:00 PM, Monday, December 5, 2022*
During this lunch discussion, Kevin Binning from the Department of Psychology will give his second dB-SERC course transformation talk entitled, “Creating Community in Large-Lecture College STEM Courses: An Ecological-Belonging Intervention.”
Check [https://teaching.pitt.edu/workshops-events/](https://teaching.pitt.edu/workshops-events/) for updates.

**Developing A Syllabus**  
*2:00 - 3:00 PM, Monday, December 5, 2022*  
Putting together a syllabus for the first time can be a daunting task. In this workshop, we cover the basic components of a syllabus, as well as practical and stylistic "do's-and-don'ts" of syllabus construction. Participants will leave the workshop knowing how to construct a clear and well-planned syllabus.

**Introduction to Canvas Part 1**  
*1:00 - 2:00 PM, Monday, December 12, 2022*  
Welcome to Canvas, Pitt's new learning management system! This introductory training focuses primarily on the global functions of Canvas (the Course Dashboard, Calendar, and Inbox) as well as course settings and course user management.

**Introduction to Canvas Part 2**  
*1:00 - 2:00 PM, Tuesday, December 13, 2022*  
How can Canvas, Pitt's new learning management system, help out to organize and present your course content? This training will introduce how the Pages, Modules, and Files features work together to give you a flexible, dynamic home for your course online.

**Active Learning with Top Hat Classroom**  
*12:00 - 1:00 PM, Wednesday, December 14, 2022*  
Top Hat's student engagement software is available for all faculty and students at Pitt to use free of charge. This workshop serves as an introduction to Top Hat’s suite of tools, focusing on the most commonly used functionality: student polling and live discussions. No prior experience with Top Hat is necessary for this workshop.

**Introduction to Canvas Part 3**  
*1:00 - 2:00 PM, Wednesday, December 14, 2022*  
How can Canvas, Pitt's new learning management system, help you assess your students both online and off? This training will cover creating assignments, tests, and quizzes in Canvas, use the SpeedGrader tool to read, comment on and grade student work, and use the online gradebook.

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.

None Listed this week.
SCIENCE Career Symposium
3:30 – 5:00 PM, Wednesday, December 7, 2022
Held in the fall, this annual symposium is designed to enhance the professional development of postdoctoral fellows and graduate students by providing you with direct access to PhD professionals who have successfully made the transition to exciting careers covering a range of employment settings and job sectors!

See https://www.hsls.pitt.edu/calendar for more information.

Preparing for the New NIH Data Management & Sharing Plan: Elements, Costs, and Tools
12:00 – 1:00 PM, Tuesday, December 6, 2022
NIH has a new policy going into effect on January 25, 2023 that will require NIH-funded researchers to prospectively submit a plan outlining how scientific data from their research will be managed and shared. This session will cover the plan’s elements and allowable costs as well as tools to help with your own plan creation. Researchers may also wish to attend Introduction to Research Data Management for general best-practices information.

Gene Expression Visualization using PartekFlow and Cytoscape
1:00 – 4:00 PM, Wednesday, December 7, 2022
This workshop is on the visualization of gene expression data using HSLS-licensed Partek Flow software as well as open-access Cytoscape software. Participants will learn:
  • how to import RNA-Seq count matrix data into Partek Flow and identify differentially expressed genes
  • generate publication-quality graphics such as PCA, volcano plots, heat maps, and Venn diagrams
  • how to analyze protein interaction networks and also gene enrichment maps in Cytoscape

Painless PubMed
3:00 – 4:00 PM, Wednesday, December 7, 2022
This one hour workshop, highlighting the new version of PubMed, is designed to quickly introduce or update you about searching in the PubMed database. Offered bi-weekly, the topics include: building an effective search strategy, efficiently locating full text articles, and setting up your personal MyNCBI account. Need information for a grant application or a homework assignment? This painless one hour session offers a quick cure!

Searching for Drug Information
9:00 – 10:00 AM, Friday, December 9, 2022
The class will provide an overview on using HSLS and NLM resources. The class will discuss database searching for drug information, as well as uses for drug encyclopedias such as Micromedex to search for specific properties of drugs. Resources for clinical and research use of drugs will be included. Sources for Drug Evidence Alerts, calculations and interactions will also be covered.
Infographics: Sharing Information Visually  
1:00 – 2:00 PM, Tuesday, December 13, 2022  
In this class, you'll learn what infographics are and how they can make it easier and more engaging to convey your information. The majority of this class will focus on demonstrating an online resource (Piktochart) so you will be ready to create your own infographics.

### Additional Resources:

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