The 20th Annual Adjunct Faculty and Lecturers’ Conference (FALCON), hosted by FACET on November 13-15 in Indianapolis, included over 180 registered faculty from six states. The theme of “Student Success: Helping Your Students Develop the Drive to Thrive,” featured concurrent sessions on four main racks: technology, course management, professional development, and student engagement. Friday evening began with the Hass-Birky keynote speaker by Dr. Paul Hernandez, a nationally recognized professor who shared his philosophy on alternative pedagogy, based on his challenging upbringing as a former gang member who was able to overcome those challenges to encourage student empowerment and success. By combining “passion and strategy” in the classroom, he advocates innovative ways to shift the focus from failure to engagement.

Roundtable sessions followed with participants exchanging ideas on their teacher mentors and how they connect to their students on a personal level. FALCON Committee Chair Jon Becker ended the evening by presenting outgoing FACET Director Robin Morgan with a gift to thank her for her exemplary years of service.

Saturday sessions included these presenters from IPFW: Adam Dircksen (COM) on motivating students; Dina Mansour-Cole (OLS) on using team projects; and Marcia Dixson (Assistant Vice Chancellor for Teaching and Learning) on using the DART method (Dimensions of Activities Related to Teaching).

Sunday morning offered another session by Dr. Dixson on using online nonverbal immediacy, as well as Kent Kauffman (Business Law) on legal issues facing college faculty. After lunch, participants were invited to share their “quick hits” or best practices with the group. The event concluded with a speech given by a former IU Northwest student who spoke of the impact adjunct faculty had on her as an undergraduate student. She paid tribute to four specific teachers, mentioning their intelligence, availability, encouragement, and providing her with the “keys to her own success.”

If you would like to lead a reading group using The Pedagogy of REAL Talk by Paul Hernandez, please contact Gail Rathbun at Rathbun@ipfw.edu. FACET has graciously donated 10 copies of the book.

Fort Wayne Teaching Conference
By Marcia Dixson, Associate Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs

The 19th annual Fort Wayne Teaching Conference will be held on Friday, February 26th, 2016 in the IPFW International Ballroom. The conference is a collaboration effort of Ivy Tech Community College, Indiana Tech, Manchester University, Trine University, Huntington University, University of Saint Francis, and IPFW. The 2016 conference theme is “Student Retention and Success.” Session topics may include: 1st year experience, ways faculty and student services partner for student success, teaching in and out of the classroom, and undergraduate research.

This year’s keynote speaker is Dr. George D. Kuh. He is Chancellor’s Professor Emeritus of Higher Education at Indiana University (IU). He was the founding director of IU’s...
The use of the voice is instrumental to effective teaching in the classroom, and because of that, there are numerous key points. Any one of them could be expanded and discussed at length in this article. When I think of all the possible starting points, I keep coming back to what I believe is the most important one...the one thing that forms the foundation for many, if not all, of the others: SLOW DOWN. Tempo, or the rate of speech, is easily overlooked and probably the single most important skill professors should cultivate in their professional tool boxes when it comes to vocal delivery of material. In this age of speed, the internet and ever-changing technological breakthroughs, one thing remains constant: the human brain can only process so much information at a time. In my voice class I used to measure every student’s rate of speech. The interesting thing was that the overall average rates would grow every year. We are so used to speed in this era, that the average person speaks well over 200 words per minute as we fight to get our own words into the conversation interrupting each other over and over again. The human ear/brain can follow 145 – 175 words per minute depending on the complexity of the language. Once you get beyond this, the listener (especially the novice) begins to lose the content and comprehension diminishes. You might see students writing feverishly and then stop completely. It is important to recognize the effect tempo has on comprehension because the last five minutes of any lecture is usually the most important part of the class – where you summarize, synthesize and highlight the points to remember. However, time often flies in the classroom and you find you only have 3 minutes to deliver the most important 5 minutes of the lecture, so you double your tempo and your students lose all or most of what you say. Think about all the legal warnings at the end of commercials. They are so fast that you have no idea what is said. That is what students in these situations comprehend and retain – virtually none of the information you have deemed the most important.

An interesting thing happens when you slow down – you are able to utilize all the other aspects of an effective voice: articulation and clarity, expressiveness, emphasis, phrasing, vocal quality and vocal variety, creating and maintaining a connection to your material, demonstrating your passion for the material, and emotional content that can inspire your students to want to learn. Another benefit of slowing down is that you relax. When you are relaxed, your students are relaxed. Tension is the enemy of an effective voice and often leads to problems in all of these areas as well as vocal injuries. Additionally, when you are tense, your tempo tends to increase. Effective theatre artists understand the concept of tension – we can create tension in the audience by creating tension on stage. But the actors creating that tension must be physically relaxed and flexible in order to take the audience on a journey with multiple twists and turns that excite and engage the audience. That’s what every lecture is – a play with the professor as the writer, director, designer and ultimately the performer with the goal of engaging the audience...your students.
Education met technology at the 2015 EDUCAUSE convention, and the resulting conversations were typically inspiring. Annually EDUCAUSE draws over 7,000 attendees interested in using technology in the higher education environment. This year 10 IPFW faculty and staff attended the convention in Indianapolis through the generous support of the Office of Academic Affairs, the Division of Continuing Studies, and Information Technology Services.

Atefeh Mohammadpour, Bob Bailey, Betsy Berry, Ludy Goodson, Marv Haugk, Aleshia Hayes, Debrah Huffman, Dina Mansour-Cole, Mike Phillips, and Kathie Surface represented various interests across our campus, such as learning management systems, security, learning spaces, online learning, and teaching with technology.

“So many single words stand out, like, educational, outstanding, overwhelming, energizing, motivating, inspirational, and enjoyable,” said Surface. “Very appreciative of the EDUCAUSE Community and their multifaceted support of education. It’s inspired me to get more involved with EDUCAUSE in the coming year.”

Three days full of concurrent sessions and an exhibit hall with over 300 vendors kept the IPFW crew engaged and thinking about how we can do what we do better (and enjoying a plethora of vendor freebies and entertainment). Berry discussed innovative use of learning spaces with many vendors, and Goodson “was surprised and inspired by EDUCAUSE general sessions.”

Many presentations did promote specific technologies, and at least two IPFW faculty attending were disappointed in finding few scholarly sessions. However, even those such as myself who have been guarded about technology in education found much to appreciate, not the least of which was a better understanding of what technology services do for our campus and students.

EDUCAUSE makes information available online for all sessions, and a virtual conference is available for those unable to make it to the conference city. Find out more about the sessions at http://www.educause.edu/annual-conference/2015.

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**Director’s Message**

These days CELT is all about “news.”

Michelle Lussier will be CELT’s new Technology Support Specialist starting on December 17. She’ll be taking over Ron Lewis’s old position with a few new duties added in. Some of you may know her from Studio M where she worked while a VCD student. At CELT Michelle will digitize video, help faculty plan and produce instructional videos, be CELT’s webmaster, and assist Regina with the Scantron processing. CELT will have a new main web page soon. Styled after the Admissions home page the new design makes CELT’s services and resources more visible and accessible. The address will still be http://www.ipfw.edu/celt. And you can follow CELT on Twitter @CELTipfw and #CELTWorkshops.

Our workshop registration system is changing, too. You will read descriptions of our offerings on our Workshops page as usual but to register you will be taken to the browser-based CELT dashboard to sign in to the new, friendly (we hope) calendar interface. You will also now be able to pull your own CELT activity report using the dashboard. The new software saves CELT time-consuming steps in its record-keeping. We thank IT Services for building this customized database, and Travis Brumm and Wenting Shen for bringing this long-term project to its end.

Be sure to take a break and visit CELT’s Open House on Wednesday, December 16 from 11 am to 1 pm in Kettler 238. You will also want to congratulate Ron Lewis on his new full time faculty position at University of St. Francis, which he will start in January.

We’ll be expecting to hire a new Instructional Consultant/Designer in the new year, so the news will just keep flowing. Have a relaxing and joyous winter break. May our new year be peaceful full of great “news.”

Gail Rathbun  
Director, CELT

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Michelle Lussier
Upcoming Events

January

Annual COAS Symposium on Teaching and Learning: Deep learning Through Decoding the Disciplines
Thursday, January 7
10:00 am - 11:30 am in LA 159
Co-presenters: Joan Middendorf and Arlene Diaz, IU Bloomington

February

CELT Certificate Showcase
Friday, February 5
12 noon - 1:15 p.m in LA 35C
Presenters: Jeong-il Cho, Edu., Adolfo Coronado, CS, Rachel Hile, Eng., Pam Reese, CSD
Flipping, Dipping, and Dunking: Using Blackboard to Support Classroom Activities
Friday, February 12
12 noon - 1:15 pm in LA 35C
Facilitated by Ludy Goodson, CELT
SID Faculty Showcase
Friday, February 19
10:30-11:45 am in KT 119
Facilitated by Kerrie Fineran

March

Rubrics for Learning and Grading
Friday, March 18
12 noon-1:15 pm in LA35C

April

Hunks, Chunks, and Bites: How to Get Your Writing Projects Planned so You Can Get Them Completed
Friday, April 1
8:00 am - 3:00 pm in Walb 126
Keynote speaker: Meggin McIntosh, Textbook & Academic Authors Assc.

June

2016 Summer Writing and Project Development Institute
Thursday, June 2, and Friday, June 3
9:00 am - 4:00 pm in Honors Center

A workshop denoted as “Certificate Eligible” (CE) means that a participant may apply to receive a certificate in recognition of the time spent attending the event and the effort expended toward applying the content to enhance the participant’s teaching.

https://www.ipfw.edu/celt/