Facility Receive Energy Boost at Fall Conference

By Worth Weller, CELT Board Member

CELT’s annual Fall Teaching Conference that opened the 2007-08 academic year set another record for attendance. Held Aug. 16 in the Science Building and Neff Hall, the conference attracted 106 faculty members plus another 20 participants from Ivy Tech. Last year’s conference attracted 85 attendees, all from IPFW.

“Our goal is to help energize you as you start a new school year, and to provide fresh ideas for improving student learning,” declared Gail Rathbun, the director of CELT, in her opening comments for the conference, which promised, by its title, to provide “Solid, Sane, and Successful Strategies for Learner-centered Teaching.” Dr. Todd Zakrjsek, director of the Faculty Center for Innovative Teaching at Central Michigan University, did just that.

Vista 4 Upgrade Training Now Available

Beginning with the Spring 2008 semester, IPFW’s online course management system will be upgraded from WebCT Vista 3 to Blackboard Vista 4. WebCT Vista 3 will no longer be available. Blackboard Vista 4 is an upgrade to our current version of WebCT Vista and not a switch to the Blackboard Enterprise System used at other universities.

During the Fall 2007 semester, in efforts to make this transition as smooth as possible, IT Services will be working with faculty to transfer course templates to the new system and offering dozens of training sessions on Blackboard Vista 4. Even if you are not using WebCT to teach a course in Spring 2008, you should get all your WebCT courses converted to Vista 4. A list and description of topics to be covered, the dates on which the sessions are offered, and the online registration form can be accessed at the following URL: http://www.its.ipfw.edu/training/vista.shtml. All faculty should have received a flyer that contains this training information in their university mailboxes.

In addition to these training sessions, CELT and IT Services will be hosting an open forum in which faculty members who have been using Blackboard Vista 4 this semester as volunteers can share their experiences with other faculty who will soon be using it. This forum will take place in the IT Services training lab (KT205B) on Friday, October 12, from noon to 1:00 pm.

Details about how to access Blackboard Vista 4 and how to navigate to your Course Development area will be emailed to faculty, as well as information about how to request help with transferring course content from WebCT Vista 3 to Blackboard Vista 4.

If you have any questions about the upgrade, free to contact Han Fei (481-6197 - feih@ipfw.edu), (481-6198 - vitzs@ipfw.edu), Mandi Witkovsky (481-0722 - witkovsm@ipfw.edu), or Joseph McCormick (481-5469 - mccormij@ipfw.edu).
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A psychologist, Zakrjaske also told the group that teachers should avoid over-interpreting non-verbal communications from their students. “Like it or not, we are all performers, and we look for cues from our audience to see how we are doing,” he noted. “But what we see can be misleading, because it’s not cool for students to look engaged. The best way to find out is just to ask them.” He also claimed that today’s students really can multi-task, and thus just because students do not appear to be paying attention, that does not mean they aren’t getting the material. “So the key is to multi-task yourself, to keep them more fully engaged.”

Zakrajske practiced what he preached, showing a two and a half minute video while he spent two and half minutes passing out handouts. And, of course, he praised the use of CATs (brief classroom assessment techniques that provide an instant snapshot of how well the class is following the material at that point). “Unless you can get the student to pull the information out and present it, you can’t really know how you are doing.”

Another key issue in classroom planning, he said, is to understand the rhythm of a typical class. “We’re up there walking around and bouncing from one thing to another, while the students’ biggest worry is not falling asleep,” he said, showing a graph that revealed the declining heart rates of students the longer they sit. “Your best, most productive class time is right at the beginning and right at the end, so think of something different to break up the middle,” he urged. In his own case, he always saves class announcements for the middle of the period, and in a 75 or 90 minute class he gives breaks.

Last but not least, Zakrjaske singled out Chickering’s and Garrison’s 1986 study, “The Seven Principles for Good Practice in Undergraduate Education,” as a teaching guide with which every teacher should be familiar. “The research is solid on this,” he stated. “You need to know your students’ names, you need to get them talking to each other, you need to provide active learning techniques, you have to give prompt feedback, you have to spend the right amount of time on the tasks, you must communicate high expectations, and you have to respect the diverse talents and ways of knowing of your students,” he stressed.

Zakrajske also provided a smaller, concurrent session titled, “Using Solid Psychological Research to Build Environments for Learning.” Other concurrent sessions, provided by IPFW faculty, included:

- Assess for Success: Using Classroom Assessment Techniques (CATs) to Enhance Learning, Linda Lolkus, Associate Professor, Consumer and Family Science, and Vince Maloney, Associate Professor, Chemistry
- Critical to Success: Fostering Critical Thinking with Web-based Tools, Tiff Adkins, Reference Librarian, Helme Library, and Stevens Amidon, Assistant Professor, English and Linguistics
- Strategies for Staying Sane and Successful with Online Discussion, Michelle Drouin, Assistant Professor, Psychology, and Lesa Rae Vartanian, Associate Professor, Psychology

Faculty Spotlight

Faculty members Worth Weller, Continuing Lecturer, English and Linguistics, Carrie Stumph, Assistant Professor, Economics, and Glenn Metts, Assistant Professor, Management and Marketing all led CELT events in September. Worth shared the ways he has used the polling feature (an online “clicker”) in Adobe Connect to engage students in his writing courses. Carrie led the popular “Hopes and Dreams, Goals and Objectives” course re-design seminar. Glenn showcased his use of Business Simulation Games that are played with students around the world to simulate real world decision making in large organizations.

Assistant Professor in Management and Marketing Karen Moustafa-Leonard’s “Business Ethics Laboratory” project, involving assessment of ethical workplace environments, won second place in the 2007 competition for Innovation in Teaching Award given annually by the regional AACSB body, Mid-continent East. According to Dean John Wellington, Karen involved students, faculty, and membership of the Better Business Bureau in the two-year plus project. She received wonderful testimonies from the management teams of the subject companies. The award carries a cash stipend to both the faculty member and to the Doermer School of Business. Karen will have the opportunity to present.

Ray Gildner, Visiting Assistant Professor, Geosciences, and Samantha Birk, Instructional Designer, CELT, presented “The Rock Made Me Do It! Quick SCORM and an Online Geology Course” at the seventh annual international Multimedia Educational Resource for Learning and Online Teaching (MERLOT) August 7-10 in New Orleans. They demonstrated the “Pick-and-Click” wizard and the creation of a SCORM compliant exercise based on labeling, matching and identifying. The presentation showed how SCORM can be used to enrich Internet-based teaching and explored the integration of SCORM exercises in an online geology course.

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FACET Corner

Every year the Faculty Colloquium on Excellence in Teaching recognizes outstanding associate faculty by sponsoring a two-day Associate Faculty Conference at IUPUI. The faculty members chosen to attend the annual event have taught for at least three years and can provide leadership on their own campus. This year the IPFW chapter of FACET, led by Yvonne Zubovic, MATH, has chosen the following faculty to attend “Millennial Student Success: New strategies for new students”, October 19-20: Nancy Leinbach, SPEA; Sheila Cuffy, COM; Barbara Kirkwood, CASA; Martha Martin, CASA; Susan Howard, ENGL & First Year Experience; Catherine Dutkiewicz, CASA.

The 2007 conference provides an opportunity to learn about innovative changes that colleagues have made in their classes related to team building in class, effective grouping techniques, new uses of technology, how to facilitate classroom discussions, new uses of technology, and facilitating learning through the use of games and puzzles, and more. We look forward to learning new ways to engage our newest students from IPFW’s contingent. For more information about FACET, contact Yvonne Zubovic, zubovic@ipfw.edu or go to the IPFW FACET Campus page at http://www.facet.iupui.edu/campus/IPFW/ipfw.html.

CELT Takes on Test Scoring and Data Analysis Services

Test scoring and data analysis services are now available at the CELT office located in Kettler Hall, room 234. CELT Secretary Stephanie Handline is responsible for running the service, assisted part-time by Aisha LaRoche, a senior majoring in General Studies.

Self-service Scantron test scoring equipment will remain in the same locations in the following buildings:

- Classroom Medical Building, near the first floor lounge
- Fine Arts Lounge
- Kettler Hall Faculty Lounge
- Neff Hall, second floor, near the stairwell and copy machine

Self-service Scantron forms are green or purple (forms 882 or 882-N). The self-service scoring machine will print the test scores directly on the form, but does not provide statistical analysis of the results.

The Red test forms (F228 ERI or F289 ERI) must be processed by CELT. Scores and item analysis for the red forms are provided in a printed report. A student identification number, whether it be their actual Student ID or a number assigned to them by the instructor, as well as the test form letter, are required for scanning the red forms. Please note that the Student ID numbers must contain the same number of digits for all students within the same class.

The Teal combo forms (X-101864) can be scored by the self-service machines, where they will be marked but no statistics are given. They will also work with the main Scantron machine located in CELT, which gives you a printed report of the data. Scantron forms for all machines are available through Stores (481-6190).

Data analysis results include test response, item analysis, reliability coefficient, test item statistics, enhanced item analysis, score distribution, grade distribution, histogram of scores, and error log.

As in the past, CELT will also process paper Scantron survey forms and provide descriptive statistics. For example, course evaluations may be done on the Pink form (415). Using these forms requires that specific data be brought in on a disk. If you have never worked with this particular form before, please contact Stephanie Haneline at the CELT Office (x16354 or scantron@ipfw.edu) for assistance.

When leaving any job to be processed, you will complete a short order form that allows CELT staff to schedule and track your order. It also provides CELT with the data it needs to determine future staff and equipment requirements.

From the Director...

It’s been a very busy start to the Fall semester as CELT meets new challenges. We were first delighted by Todd Zakrjansz at our Fall conference, who sent us all into the semester with high spirits and new instructional tactics to try. Todd returned for a virtual brown bag session which you can view by going to the CELT web site.

Next, CELT stepped up to the challenge of meeting rapidly expanding demand for digitizing analog video materials. CELT now has 3 part-time multimedia lab assistants and is in the process of buying additional equipment to double our digitizing capacity. At the same time, we are reviewing our operating procedures with a view to increased efficiency and compliance with fair use copyright guidelines. CELT’s video streaming server, a pilot project, has been reorganized and is steadily filling up. CELT appreciates the help of Division of Continuing Studies in funding additional equipment and staff. We also appreciate your patience as we navigate the changes we are making to this service.

As you know, CELT is now responsible for Scantron services. We have asked our test scoring and survey clients to help us track the use of equipment and staff time by completing a brief order form for each job. It is our hope that with this data we will be able to determine what resources will be needed to maintain and improve this service. Many thanks to all of our clients for their patience and understanding.

Studio M has expanded its hours into the weekday evenings (M-TH until 11 pm, and F until 9 pm) thanks to the addition of three more talented student assistants. Due to the high interest from students and faculty, funds have been allocated for a second location which has yet to be decided. See samples of student work at http://www.ipfw.edu/studion/StudioMLibrary/GalleryM.html.

As you know CELT has been seeking a full-time Instructional Consultant/Designer, and is in the process of concluding the search. The new position will initially focus on providing support for the design and delivery of online courses, and will enable CELT to restructure to better fulfill its role in managing instructional technology for the campus.

Lee Peitzman is now CELT’s Manager of Instructional Video Operations with responsibility for technical support for two-way and TV classrooms, as well as satellite feeds and DVD duplication. He is ably assisted by Cathy Dunmire, Video Coordinator, Saw Kapaw and Samantha Rupert, Media and Technology Support Technicians. This semester’s Helmke B35 TV studio schedule now runs until 7:15 pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Don’t forget to visit the CELT web site for teaching resources or to sign up for a workshop. Our calendar is on the back of this newsletter, as always. Have a great semester.

-Gail
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needs. You can keep a supply of these forms in your office, or you can complete the form online at http://www.ipfw.edu/cealt/forms/scantron.shtml and submit it prior to dropping off your order. Orders will be completed in no more than 24 hours, unless other arrangements are made.

CELT staff can process tests while you wait if you call ahead or use the online form to arrange an appointment. CELT staff members frequently have commitments outside of the office. By planning ahead, it will help to ensure the staff can be available to process your job immediately.

Events for October 2007

Using Polling Pods as a Motivational Tool for Online Learning
Presenter: Worth Weller, ENGL
Friday, October 5, 12 Noon to 1:20 pm
Attend virtually from your desktop. Log into https://breeze.itap.purdue.edu/r8455523/ as a “Guest”
Polling is not only an effective classroom assessment technique, it also engages and motivates students. Through interactive polling you can uncover student attitudes, preparedness, and subject mastery, at the same time encouraging students for further exploration and learning. Worth Weller will demonstrate effective techniques he has used to connect with Internet students. Registration is required.

Video Editing from the Desktop
Presenters: Darlene Miller, CELT and John Ladd, Studio M
Please select one session only.
Friday, October 12, 10 am to 12 Noon, in KT 234 OR Friday, October 19, from 1 pm to 3 pm in KT 234 OR Wednesday, October 31, 5:30 pm to 7 pm in KT 234
Find out the basics of getting footage from your camera into your computer with free software. With Movie Maker you can capture pre-recorded video from your camera, edit, and share instructional media via the Web, e-mail, or CD. You will learn to edit a movie, add titles and make clips with a few simple drag-and-drops. You will also learn to use Audacity, a free, open source software for recording and editing audio. Audacity can be used to record lectures, convert audio to mp3 format for podcasting, upload to WebCT or PowerPoint, or download from the web. Audacity can also convert tapes and record into digital recordings or CDs. Registration is required.

Developing Effective PowerPoint Lectures for the Internet with Adobe Connect
Presenter: Samantha Birk, CELT
Wednesday, October 24, from 12 Noon to 1:20 pm in KT 234
In this workshop you will see examples of strategies and best practices in the layout of Power Point lectures destined for the Internet, including basic animation techniques. You will work with Adobe Presenter, a plug-in for Power Point via Adobe Connect that transforms the presentation for web delivery. You must have a Purdue computing account enabled to access Adobe Connect. For more information on this, see http://www.its.ipfw.edu/resources/breeze/default.shtml. Please bring an existing Power Point presentation to the workshop.

Engaging Students in Collaborative Work Using Adobe Connect
Presenters: Samantha Birk, CELT, and IPFW Faculty Members
Friday, October 26, from 12 Noon to 1:15 pm in KT 234
Learn to facilitate real-time collaboration with students and student-to-student collaboration over the internet with Adobe Connect. In this workshop you will learn about collaboration features in the software that will most effectively engage students, see a demonstration, and practice with this exciting new software. To participate, you must have a Purdue computing account with access to Adobe Connect enabled. For more information about getting and setting up your account, see http://www.its.ipfw.edu/resources/breeze/default.shtml. Registration is required.

Getting Started with SoTL
Facilitators: Michael Bendele, PSY and Gail Rathbun, CELT
Friday, October 12, from 1:30 pm to 2:50 pm in KT 119
The aim of this workshop is to help you get started with SoTL. You will learn how this type of research differs from disciplinary research. Participants will have the opportunity to discuss and get feedback on ideas they might have for research projects. Resources for designing, implementing, and publishing SoTL research will be shared. Registration is required.