


For new and veteran faculty in 2008-2009: How can the CFC help with your eTeaching and eCourse design?

eLearning Faculty Mentors



Welcome to our eMentoring service of peers for online teaching. Please use the pull-down menu below to identify a challenge in online teaching that interests you. This menu lists the kinds of assistance available and takes you to Web sites of the WCU faculty willing to work with you on shared concerns. The eMentors are prepared to work with you in a manner described on their Web sites (e.g., one-on-one consultation, OCAT peer review, small group work, etc.)

Please signify your particular interest in eMentor assistance here. If you do not see what you are looking for, please select 'Other' from the pull-down list and enter your interest in the box provided below the pull-down list.

- Select your Interest -

The Coulter Faculty Center offers several programs to support eTeaching, eLearning and online course design. For 2008-2009 the CFC staff and four eLearning Faculty Fellows (ELFFs) stand ready to help you. The four ELFFs are: John LeBaron (2454), Dixie McGinty (2296), Carlie Merritt (2170), and Mary Teslow (3513). The following CFC services are available to all WCU faculty members either by appointment, on a walk-in basis, or by special arrangement with an individual consultant.

eTeaching Water Cooler. The eTeaching Water Cooler has been exceedingly successful since its launch in 2007. All WCU faculty are automatically enrolled in this electronic meeting space. The Water Cooler is accessed by logging into the WebCat course named "CORE – Water Cooler" from the list of courses that appear in your log-in page. Before the end of the previous academic year over 1800 discussions had already been exchanged. Thus, the Water Cooler has emerged as a powerful resource for peer-to-peer professional development to support excellence in eTeaching. (Please contact Dr. Mary Teslow, 3513 or mteslow@email.wcu.edu.)

eLearning-eMentor project. This service was rolled-out in April 2008. At this moment, eMentor pages appear on the CFC server for nine WCU faculty and staff. Pages are now under development for two additional resource people. This project offers teaching faculty with access to in-depth peer consultations about eTeaching and online course design. The eMentor Web site may be found at: <http://www.wcu.edu/7515.asp>, and in-depth guidelines for using this service is located at: <http://www.wcu.edu/facctr/InstructionalTechnology/OnlineTeachandLearn/ementor/guide/ementorinstructions.pdf> (Please contact Dr. John LeBaron at 2454 or jlebaron@email.wcu.edu for more information.)

The eLearning Faculty Learning Community. The EL-FLC promotes faculty scholarship in eTeaching and eLearning. Its membership exceeds forty and is open to any WCU instructor. In early 2008, this group split into three special interest groups (SIGs): student engagement/transformation, eTeaching tools, and course design. The full FLC typically meets three or four times per academic year. Each SIG meets two or three times in the same period. Last year, guest speakers included Buddy Tignor of Haywood Community College, Ed Gehringer of NC State, and the CFC's own Chris Snyder and Neil Torda. (Contact Dr. John LeBaron at 2454 or jlebaron@email.wcu.edu.)

Online Course Assessment Tool (OCAT). OCAT is available to all faculty members as an online course peer assessment tool. It is found at http://www.wcu.edu/WebFiles/PDFs/facultycenter_OCAT_v2.0_25apr07.pdf, and may be used for peer- or self- assessment of online course design and teaching. Peer assessment is undertaken through a formal, confidential, one-on-one partnership arranged via the CFC (contact CFC Director Anna McFadden to launch this process). Additionally, faculty members have found OCAT helpful as a "roadmap" of curriculum elements when creating or restructuring new online courses. (Dr. Dixie McGinty may be contacted at 2296 or dmcginty@email.wcu.edu.)

Passages 2008. WCU's fourth annual *Passages* Retreat will take place November 7-8, 2008 where Mark Milliron will be the featured keynote speaker. The *Passages* Retreat is offered in cooperation with Haywood Community College. Approximately 50 faculty from WCU and HCC participated in 2007. Other events last year included a student panel and a variety of break-out sessions. The 2007 *Passages* Web site is located at: <http://wiki2.wcu.edu/groups/passages/> where many event-related resources may be found. (Contact Dr. John LeBaron, 2454 or jlebaron@email.wcu.edu.)

Online Course Development Day (OCDD). OCD Day is designed to help faculty get launched with their online courses and eTeaching. On average, thirty participants attend each OCDD session. Participants bring electronic versions of their instructional materials, and then receive help configuring these for their courses. CFC staff and faculty are on-hand to assist. CFC support includes online pedagogy, digital media assistance, and WebCat. (Contact Robert Crow at 2761 or rcrow@email.wcu.edu for more information.)

Jay M. Robinson eTeaching Award. The annual university-wide JMR eTeaching Award recognizes excellence in online teaching and course design. Eleven individuals were nominated in 2007, producing four finalists, and winner Dr. Sharon Dole. A peer review panel is drawn from each college or school, the graduate and undergraduate student associations, and other key stakeholders. The next review cycle will terminate in spring 2009. (Contact Dr. John LeBaron at 2454 or jlebaron@email.wcu.edu or Amy Martin at 2762 or amartin@email.wcu.edu.)

Faculty Sandbox. The Faculty Sandbox is a space dedicated to providing faculty the latest, most innovative instructional technology and support. We specialize in digital media, web-based software programs and support the creation of web-ready documents. The Sandbox, coordinated by Laura Chapman (lchapman@email.wcu.edu), prides itself in providing an oasis for faculty to come and play with educational technologies. (To contact Laura Chapman, please call 227-3023).

Digital media. The use of digital media is growing significantly at WCU. The Coulter Faculty Center's Digital Media Lecturer, Neil Torda, is available to work with you on your Digital Media Projects. From Podcasting and Wikis to Blogs and Second Life, Neil will assist you with integrating these technologies into your courses. Neil can be contacted via email at torda@email.wcu.edu, or put in a request for consultation through the Help Desk, 828-227-7487.

Please stay tuned for new and improved programs and services as they emerge from the Coulter Faculty Center.