

Learning Communities

Learning communities have become an integral part of many CTLT activities this year. Our learning communities comprise groups of cohorts who share common academic and pedagogical interests. Each group consists of 8-10 enthusiastic faculty or graduate student instructors who meet twice a month throughout the academic year to discuss and share information on relevant teaching topics. Some features of these learning communities are:

- bi-weekly sessions where topics and teaching interests are shared
- structured workshops on a variety of pedagogical topics
- various levels of stipend support for professional development
- senior faculty facilitators from various college departments
- consultants to observe individual classes and provide feedback

In all learning communities, each member has designed plans, projects or courses that they are developing as a result of the learning community experience, and that will contribute to their overall growth as faculty and graduate student instructors at BGSU.

CTLT strives to provide support for the development of learning communities that is both sustainable and practical over time. Funding for these learning communities have come from a variety of sources, including external and internal grants. We support the following learning communities this year:

New Faculty Learning Community
Graduate Learning Community
Mid Career/Senior Learning Community
Rich Media Learning Community
Information Literacy Learning Community
OLN Learning Community



Holiday Greetings

We would like to invite faculty and staff members to the CTLT for our Holiday Party. Stop by on Friday, December 20 from 1:00-4:00 for food and drinks.

Featured Staff Member:

Brandon Suman
VCT



At the CTLT
Brandon assists
with the following:

- Digital Video Production
- Video Editing
- Conducting and developing workshops for faculty



Rich Media Learning Community

CTLT awarded Ohio Learning Network Learning Communities Initiative Grant

The Center for Teaching, Learning & Technology was recently awarded a \$28,000 grant from The Ohio Learning Network (OLN). Thirty-one of these Learning Communities Initiative grants were awarded across the state and are designed to help Ohio educators successfully aid in the learning process and shape how we learn. The Initiative provides the opportunity to develop and support communities that are learning to use technology, to bring together the best of what we know about how people learn, the best of what we know about exciting technology resources, with the best of what we can do with our collective talents, commitment, and goals for education.

The CTLT Learning Community formed for this grant consists of a diverse group of faculty and staff across several departments including: CTLT, Continuing Education, the Graduate College, the Jerome Library, the English Department, and the Division of Teaching and Learning. The CTLT grant project will be to explore a new approach to the development and delivery of online learning materials through the creation and presentation of a series of online teaching modules that focus on the integration of technology into teaching and research. Each module will be an independent piece of a "whole"; that is, an entire online seminar will be developed based on a modular design perspective, with individual pieces or modules of the seminar developed as independent entities. This type of design is applicable to any topic; however, for the purposes of this grant, a model will be created with the intent to develop a technology proficiency or competency for graduate students.

Working with the Graduate College, participants in the Learning Community will implement and deliver the course modules and will document the modular design process from conception to delivery. The program will be delivered in the fall of 2003 in tandem with the GradSTEP program. Graduate students who complete the program will gain a proficiency in technology applications and skills that will allow them to become technology literate faculty of the future.

Sharing information and resources within and beyond a single institution is a fundamental and critical value of this Initiative. Throughout the 2002-03 academic year, these campus-based Learning Communities will share ideas, issues, best practices, and innovations with each other and others around the state. Sharing will be accomplished via publication of the projects on several statewide web resources as well as by attendance at conferences and institutes.

To that end, this group attended a "Kick-Off" conference in October in Columbus where they participated in breakout sessions on current technological practices in education, as well as attended keynote lectures by current leaders in the field. In January 2003, the CTLT learning community will participate in a two-and-a-half day Learning Institute at Kent State University, along with six other learning communities across the state. In addition, BGSU was selected as one of five Learning Institute hosts and will also present a two and a half day program at BGSU in early January. Sponsored by CTLT and ITS, the BGSU Institute will include attendance by six Ohio Learning Communities.

For more information on Learning Communities at the CTLT, visit the CTLT web site at <http://ctlt.bgsu.edu>.

January Workshops

All workshops will be held on site at 201 University Hall. Register for workshops online at: <http://ctlt.bgsu.edu/workshops/registration.php>, call the CTLT at (419) 372-6898, or email request to Kris Sautter at ksautte@bgnet.bgsu.edu.

Online Tools

Using Blackboard to Develop Online Courses

Th January 16 9:00-11:00

T January 28 9:00-11:00

Effective Use of Online Communication Tools

Th January 30 9:00-11:00

Enhancing Classroom Presentation Using PowerPoint, level 1

W January 22 9:00-11:00

Document Sharing

F January 24 10:00-10:45

Presentation & Performance

F January 31 11:30-1:30

Video

Introduction to Videography

W January 15 1:30-4:00

Introduction to Video Editing using iMovie

F January 17 10:00-1:00

CD-Rom Burning

M January 20 1:30-2:30

Video Compression

M January 20 2:45-3:30

