

Learning Communities

This spring, the Mid-Career Learning Community will be sponsoring a series of workshops that focus on professional growth. The first workshop, “Performing: The Teacher as Communicator,” was facilitated by Dr. Michael Ellison (Assistant Professor of Theatre) on January 31. Michael teaches acting and directing at BGSU, and has recently directed *Berlin to Broadway* at BGSU. Michael commented that for many faculty and graduate teaching instructors one of our biggest challenges has always been how to communicate effectively with our students on a consistent basis. “Without good communication between students and their instructors, student learning and pedagogical practice suffers.”



*Dr. Michael Ellison,
Assistant Professor of Theatre
“Performing: The Teacher as Communicator.”*

To find out more about joining the Mid-Career Learning Community and more about this workshop series contact Julie Lengfelder at jlengfe@bgnet.bgsu.edu.

**Have Questions about Blackboard?
Go to the CTLT’s FAQ page:
<http://ctlit.bgsu.edu/Blackboard/index.php>**

Featured Staff Member:

Julie Tressel

Integrated Language Arts

At the CTLT Julie assists with the following:



- Database input
- Newsletter
- Managing workshop schedules
- Assisting CTLT staff in miscellaneous projects

In this interactive and experiential workshop, Michael addressed such questions as:

- How performance relates to teaching?
- What are the biggest challenges you have faced in communicating with your students?
- What tools (words, body, emotions and facial expressions) are at a teacher’s disposal for communicating effectively with students?

Michael explored with participants how we as teachers say what we say and the idea that teaching is not always just about content, but about methodology of expression. Participants also examined and expanded their own personal communication styles as teachers, and became more aware of the possibilities of how teachers communicate physically and vocally through their teaching. Finally, participants learned about strategies and activities for communicating more effectively in their classrooms and to now become more conscious of how and what we communicate.



General Information:

Each semester, Blackboard courses are created for every BGSU credit-course offered for that term. In addition, faculty and instructors who are officially registered to teach these courses are loaded into the courses, and students who are registered for classes at BGSU are added to these courses. Listed below are some Blackboard informational tips to frequently asked questions about Blackboard courses:

Making courses available:

When your Blackboard courses are created, they are set to be *unavailable* by default. This is to ensure that students do not see your Blackboard course online until you want them to. When you are ready for students to use your Blackboard course, you will need to make the course *available*. To do this, enter your course and click on the *Control Panel* button. Select *Course Settings* and then *Course Availability*. Click on the *Yes* button and then the *Submit* button and your Blackboard course is now available to the students enrolled in the course.

Adding a graduate teaching assistant to your Blackboard course:

Adding a teaching assistant to your Blackboard course is a two-step process: 1. Click on the *Control Panel* and select *Add Users*. Select *Enroll Existing User*; then enter the TA's last name and click *Search*. Click on the check box next to the TA's name under the *Add* column and then the *Submit* button. This adds the TA as a student. 2. Now you need to change the TA's role to *Teaching Assistant*. Return to the control panel and select *List/Modify Users*. Enter the TA's last name and click *search*. Click on the *Properties* button to the right of the name. Click *Teachers Assistant*, type yes, and click on the *Submit* button and your TA is now enrolled as a TA in your Blackboard course.

Getting your Course Roster:

There are two places you can go to view your course roster: 1. *My Official Class Roster*, located on the *My BGSU* tab of the main portal page. Click on this link, enter the term and class and then click *Get Roster*. If you don't see the *My Official Class Roster* link on your page, then click on the *Content* button near the upper right of your screen. Under *Available Modules* select *My Faculty/Staff Services*. Click the *Add* button to add this to the left or right of your screen; then scroll down and click *Submit*. Return to the *My BGSU* tab to find the *My Official Class Roster* link. 2. You can also list the students in your Blackboard course by going into the control panel, select *List/Modify Users*; then select the *List All* tab and click on the *List All* button.

For online help with these topics as well as additional Blackboard tips, go to: <http://ctl.t.bgsu.edu/Blackboard>.

For a list of Blackboard seminars for faculty, go to: <http://ctl.t.bgsu.edu/workshops/list.php>

February/March Workshops

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

Online Tools			Navigating the Information World		
Using Blackboard to Develop Online Courses			F	February 7	9:00-12:00
T	February 11	10:00-12:00	W	February 26	1:00-4:00
W	February 19	10:00-12:00	Th	March 27	9:00-12:00
M	February 24	9:00-11:00	Video		
Th	March 6	10:00-12:00	Introduction to Videography		
Effective Use of Online Communication Tools			F	February 14	1:30-4:00
W	February 26	9:00-11:00	Easy CD Burning		
Enhancing Classroom Presentation Using PowerPoint, level 1			TH	February 6	2:00-2:45
W	February 12	9:00-11:00	W	February 12	1:00-1:45
T	March 18	9:00-11:00	F	February 21	4:00-4:45
Enhancing Classroom Presentation Using PowerPoint, level 2			Th	February 27	10:00-10:45
T	March 25	9:00-11:00	T	March 4	11:00-11:45
Creating Online Quizzes and Using the Gradebook in Blackboard			W	March 19	11:30-12:15
Th	February 13	10:00-12:00	T	March 25	2:00-2:45
M	February 17	10:00-12:00	DVD Burning		
Th	February 27	10:00-12:00	W	February 12	2:00-2:45
W	March 5	10:00-12:00	F	February 21	3:16-4:00
Th	March 20	10:00-12:00	Tenure and Promotion Portfolios		
Shared Document Editing			F	February 14	11:30-1:00
Th	February 6	10:00-10:45	Th	March 20	12:30-2:00
W	March 19	2:00-2:45	F	March 28	11:30-1:00

