Online and On Sabbatical

The 2008-2009 academic year was a busy one for the LTEC. Topics included Assessment, Advising, Blackboard, Clickers, Learning Communities, Posters, Grants, Suicide Prevention Training, and more! See page 3 for details.

While all of this was going on the LTEC website changed to the new CMS (with limited access). You will notice a variety of changes; most notably there are only a few pictures. The site will eventually be back to what it was thanks to the hard work of my assistant Noele Brabon.

With the new web site I decided it was time for the LTEC to try being “greener” so the spring newsletter was completely online. For those preferring paper a version was on the site for download. This will continue for now, saving paper, ink, and money.

Finally I will be on sabbatical during the 2009-2010 academic year. Dr. Michael Schaff will be director of the LTEC during my absence. Be sure to give him your support with ideas for programming and, of course, attending events.

Cheryl Chute Miller

Front Row: Nancy Alzo, Karn Collins, Lucille Waterson, Kathryn Koscho, Cheryl Miller.
Back Row: Carol Franck, Keith Compeau, Carol Downing, Wilda Rowe, Libbie Freed, Elvira Sanatullova-Allison, Michael Schaff.

I want to thank Karen Collins for all of her work as she leaves the LTEC Advisory Board.

Also my thanks go to Rebecca Thompson as she retires. Rebecca has been a strong supporter of the LTEC and will be missed.
Faculty Fellow Awards

The Learning and Teaching Excellence Center’s Faculty Fellow Award grant program supports, innovative teaching, the development of instructional leaders and scholarship of teaching (Boyer 1990) and learning, and a student-centered academic culture.

For more information about the Faculty Fellow Award Guidelines go to www.potsdam.edu/ltec and follow the link for Faculty Fellow Awards.

2008 – 2009 Faculty Fellow:  Peter Brouwer

Due to budget constraints, the LTEC chose not to name a Faculty Fellow for the 2009-2010 year, despite qualified applicants. Hopefully funding will return to a better level in a year or two, allowing us to make an award again.

Facul-TE Awards

During the 2008-2009 academic year the LTEC funded 18 faculty members, many of them different from last year’s awardees. This year we helped fund wonderful projects from each of the three schools. Some examples are:

James Hall - Associated Writing Programs (AWP) Conference. He participated in roundtable discussion groups regarding creative writing pedagogy in prose and poetry.

Sarah Hersh - Starling-DeLay Violin Symposium at The Juilliard School in New York City. She participated in master classes and pedagogy sessions with Itzhak Perlman and others.

Anjali Misra - “Toward culturally responsive disability services: An international conference”. The theme of her presentation was “understanding how our professional and personal identities—as cultural beings—intersect and affect pedagogy.”

For Award Guidelines and Application see www.potsdam.edu/ltec.

Technology Professional Development Awards

The LTEC administered the Technology Professional Development Awards (TPDA) again this year. The money for the awards is not from the LTEC budget, but members of the LTEC Advisory Board served as a TPDA committee. The TPDA committee evaluates the proposals and contacts the recipients when a decision is made about the proposal. The online application and evaluation forms are on the LTEC website.

This year 11 awards were made, but funding may not be available next year.
2008-2009 LTEC Events

There were 356 participants, with at least 148 different people throughout the year. In addition 13 New Faculty Seminars were in the LTEC. See what happened below!

**Fall 2008**
- Opening Reception
- The New Blackboard Grade Center
- Learning Communities Luncheon
- The SUNY Center for Collaborative Online International Learning
- Study Mate
- What can you Learn from BootCamp for Profs©?
- Open session with Linda Suskie
- Coordinating Short-Term Faculty-led Experiences Overseas
- Faculty Fellow Presentation
- IRB Workshop
- A New way to get students to Do the Reading AND Engage in Collaborative Learning
- Grant Writing
- What is Blackboard Scholar?
- LiveText Demo
- Vista Program
- Learning Communities Reception

In addition, Assessment Workgroups met four times with Bruce Brydges and Rick Miller.

**Spring 2008**
- CUR Gants: Q&A
- Our Experience Using i>Clicker
- Creating Posters for Professional Meetings
- Academic Advising 102: Making the Advising Connection
- Title III Faculty and Student Travel Program
- Academic Advising Special Session
- Fulbright Scholars
- Grants: SPIN demonstration
- QPR, Suicide Prevention Training
- Presidential Scholars Final Presentations
- Digital Copyright
- i>Clicker training
- Learning Communities

Three other events were scheduled but were cancelled for a variety of reasons.

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Student Response Systems

During the summer of 2008 a subgroup of TLTR along with other interested faculty and staff had presentations (in person or via the web) of several Student Response Systems, also known as “Clickers”. From those presentations there were 5 products chosen for faculty to test in their classrooms, H-ITT, TurningTechnologies, i>Clicker, Interwrite PRS, and CPS from e-Instruction.

The choice to support i>Clicker on campus was made based on criteria such as ease of use, cost, and independence of platform. One strength noted by testers was that any software could be used to create and present questions, it did not rely on PowerPoint or its own complicated software. Another strength was its ability to work as easily and as well on both Macintosh and PC computers.

To Learn more about i>Clicker see their website:


Two events about Clickers were held in the spring as well as a session at TLT day just before classes began. Watch for others this fall.

If you are interested in using them in your classes, contact Ali Shahidi in CTS, and let the bookstore know you plan to require students to buy them in your class.

Coming Events

The calendar for the fall is not complete, but some of the topics you should expect to see:

- Grant Writing Workshop
- Assessment
- Undergraduate Research
- Courage to Teach Workshop
- Blackboard
- Learning Communities

And hopefully many more! Be sure to send your ideas for events to me at ltec@potsdam.edu!