The Faculty Center is pleased to continue its support of the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) at UCF with a second annual “Faculty Showcase” event, keynote address, and faculty poster session on March 24, 2006.

Please mark your calendars for March 24, from 10:00-3:00 in the Cape Florida and Garden Key rooms of the Student Union. Also, please register by March 10, 2006; online registration can be found at <http://www.fctl.ucf.edu>. Follow the link in the Announcements section.

We welcome noted SoTL expert Dr. Laurie Richlin from Claremont Graduate College as our keynote speaker, and we again invite UCF faculty to create posters about their SoTL projects that have been completed, are underway, or are merely planned.

Printer-ready poster layouts should be submitted to Kevin Yee (kevin@cie.ucf.edu) by March 10 to be printed in time for the event. The Faculty Center is pleased to underwrite the entire cost of printing the posters, and we will have them mounted on trifolds for the Showcase. Early submissions are encouraged.

Information, samples, and models of posters preformatted to the correct size can be found at: <http://www.fctl.ucf.edu/soTL/posters.html>, and either the Faculty Center or OIR staff members are happy to consult with you about poster content and layout.

We hope to see you at this exciting event.
The Office of the Provost has released the 2005-2006 procedures for the UCF Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) Awards, Faculty Excellence Awards, Research Incentive Awards (RIA), and Teaching Incentive Program (UCF-TIP).

For academic year 2005-2006, UCF will sponsor 10 new SoTL awards, 40 new UCF-TIP awards, 20 new RIA awards, and multiple Excellence awards in various fields.

Winners of the Faculty Excellence Awards will receive a $2,000 award. Winners of the UCF-TIP, RIA, and SoTL Awards will receive a $5,000 increase to their base salary retroactive to August 8, 2005, the start of the 2005-2006 contract, per the UCF BOT/UFF 2004-2007 Collective Bargaining Agreement. The actual dollar amount awarded for the academic year 2005-06 will reflect the employee’s FTE for the year.

Information about the eligibility and award criteria, required application materials, nomination/evaluation process, and a timeline of important dates, all of which may be different for each award, can be found on the Provost’s website at <http://www.provost.ucf.edu/awards>.

In the Center

101 Tips for Teaching Large Classes
How do we maintain our standards for excellent teaching and effective learning when we teach very large classes? Come to this workshop to share your ideas and learn new perspectives. Friday, February 10, 10:30-12:00

Brain Compatible Learning Strategies
This session will examine the advances of neuro-science and cognitive science and the implications for instructional delivery given what we know about brain based research. Concrete practical teaching applications will be provided. Thursday, February 2, 1:30-3:00

Designing Communication Assignments That Promote Information Fluency
You may have heard about UCF’s Information Fluency initiative, which encourages students to use technology more effectively, better understand quantitative concepts and relationships, and improve their research, speaking, writing, and visual communication skills. In this workshop, you will get ideas for including the written communication components of the information fluency initiative into your existing courses. Both minimally assessed assignments (“writing to learn”) and more formal graded assignments (“writing to perform”) will be discussed. Monday, February 13, 10:00-11:30

Developing a Portfolio for Promotion and Tenure
This workshop will discuss, in a general way, the “do’s and don’ts” of promotion and tenure portfolios. We will discuss the “more work/less work” rule, as well as the value of finding a tenure mentor. Tuesday, February 7, 11:00-12:30

How to Develop, Strengthen and Maintain a Healthy Voice
This workshop will cover exercises from the Linklater Technique. Kristin Linklater is one of the leading Vocal Experts in the world. Tips from her technique will help you develop volume and endurance, without damaging your voice. Please come dressed in warm-up clothes and have something committed to memory ready to speak. Monday, February 6, 2:00-3:30

Implementing Design-Based Research in a University Setting
The focus of this session is design-based research conducted within a college class. Lessons learned through the course of the project will be highlighted and the potential impact on practice will be shared. Participants will engage in discussion related to reducing barriers in conducting university-specific design-based research. Wednesday, February 15, 3:00-4:30

Life as an Adjunct: Issues and Solutions
Adjuncts don’t always know where to find the help they need, from nuts & bolts like rosters and grade books, to theoretical pedagogical issues like course design and classroom management. We can help! Tuesday, February 23, 11:00-12:30

Mentoring and Being Mentored
In this session we will discuss the ways in which faculty and administration can mentor each other and how best to find effective mentors in and outside of your department. Thursday, February 2, 1:00-2:30

The Role of Desire in Teaching and Learning
As teachers embrace the growing need to document their scholarship, more objective measure student learning, and to align their practices with standards, it is important not to forget that the passion for learning, the desire for growth, and the ethos of the learning environment are intangible and ineffable energies. This session will be about making small enhancements to the curriculum that will encourage students to find, express, and channel their desire for learning creatively. Tuesday, February 14, 1:30-3:00

SoTL Project Designs
The Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) is a concept so new that there are few “standard” definitions of it. Together we will explore what SoTL is (and isn’t), and come to an understanding of what SoTL projects would look like in our various fields. Thursday, February 27, 12:00-1:30

Teaching as a Non-Native Speaker
Educators who speak English as a second language face unique linguistic and cultural challenges. We will discuss strategies to ease the transition to a new language and a new culture.

Tuesday, February 21, 2:00-3:30
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Monday, February 20, 1:00-2:30

Effective Presentations: Overcoming All Fears

Presenting to students or colleagues is a tough task that requires not only a calming of the nerves, but an audience-centric approach. This session will help you identify the stages of anxiety as well as how to use technologies, such as PowerPoint, more effectively.

Thursday, February 27, 10:00-11:30

Expeditionary Learning: Ideas for Practice

Within the larger movement of experience-based learning, expeditionary learning asserts the primacy of self-discovery and creativity. The students explore their personal, social, and environmental worlds. They work toward responsibility, empathy, success, and service. They reflect in solitude and share their reflections with others. Learn how to innovate portions or all of your curriculum around this process.

Friday, February 24, 10:00-11:30

Tuesday, February 28, 1:30-3:00

Globalization - Female Artists and Theatre for Social Change

The workshop will explore the increasing role of women in world culture and global politics. In particular, the workshop will look at the ways in which women artists have embraced the notion of the use of social change in order to subvert dominant political ideology, cultural chauvinism, and gender politics.

Monday, February 20, 11:00-12:30

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Useful Assessment Practices

An overview of how to plan and implement useful strategies that assess student learning for multiple purposes: evaluating student progress in your course, part of course and program evaluation (for QEP and ALC objectives and accreditation needs) and for your SoTL projects. Wednesday, February 1, 10:00-11:30

Thursday, February 9, 10:00-11:30

Thursday, February 16, 10:00-11:30

March 11 - 12, 2006

Walt Disney World, Orlando

March 11 - 14, 2006

Hyatt Regency Hill Country Resort & Spa

The annual teaching and learning conference in nearby San Antonio offers unique opportunities for UCF faculty to engage in important issues in classroom teaching and research.

The proposal deadline for paper and poster sessions has been extended to February 21: <http://teachlearn.org/callforpapers.html>.