

Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning

October 2007

GTA Certificate Program

The Karen L. Smith Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning invites current and aspiring Graduate Teaching Assistants to enroll in our GTA Certificate Program. Students will receive group and individualized instruction by Faculty Center staff and experienced UCF professors, as well as textbooks and materials. GTAs will attend a 12 week, non-credit program. Interested graduate students should register online and follow the instructions.

Participation is limited, so please enroll early.

Topics include:

1. Presentation skills and practice
2. Balancing the many roles of TAs
3. Course design
4. Delivery of instruction, teaching strategies
5. Learning differences among students
6. Active learning strategies and collaborative learning
7. Giving assessment and soliciting feedback
8. Professional survival skills, ethics, legal issues
9. Classroom management

The Certificate course offers a stipend of \$500 to those who complete the class requirements and meet the eligibility criteria. 12-month employees of the university may attend the course but are not eligible for the stipend. Note that the amount of the stipend paid is dependent upon attendance (full attendance is required for the full stipend).

Outcomes of the course include a teaching portfolio, an entire course planned from start to finish, and a poster session to present the course that has been created.

Priority admission to the course will be granted according to these criteria:

1. Graduate Teaching Associates (instructors of record)
2. Graduate Teaching Assistants
3. GTA-Graders
4. Others

Spring 2008 classes will be held:

Wednesdays, 1:30pm–5:00pm

CL1-307

January 16 - April 9

Register online: <<http://www.fctl.ucf.edu>>



Stands For Opportunity



Adjunct Faculty Retreat

This winter, the Adjunct Faculty Retreat will be held on Saturday January 5. The event runs from 9:00–4:00 and is held at the Faculty Center (CL1-207).

We will examine multiple aspects of the adjunct experience, including the “nuts and bolts” like finding rosters, posting grades, and using WebCT to house content online.

We also dedicate a significant amount of time to pedagogical strategies. Topics include

- classroom management
- disruptive conduct
- academic dishonesty
- legal ways to post grades
- syllabi and lesson plans
- assessment techniques
- course design
- goals and objectives
- philosophy of teaching
- learning theories
- learner differences
- collaborative learning
- developing a teaching portfolio

The retreat is free and open to all adjuncts. Participants who are teaching in Spring 2008 will receive a \$150 stipend for attending this workshop, if they have not received this stipend in the past.

Attendance is limited, so please register online early:

<<http://www.ftcl.ucf.edu>>

Jacksonville Conference

April 14th–18, 2008

Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront

The Nineteenth International Conference on College Teaching and Learning seeks proposals dealing with successful practices and research to improve higher education learning. We are especially interested in proposals that combine innovative learning strategies, such as constructivist, immersive and cooperative learning, as well as learning communities, with uses of the Web and advanced technologies. All proposals must be submitted electronically either via the Web or e-mail.

CONFERENCE TRACKS

Proposals must be identified as ONE of six tracks as follows:

Track 1: Innovative Teaching/
Learning Strategies in the
Classroom

Track 2: Online Learning in the
University

Track 3: Online Learning in the
Community College

Track 4: New Horizons:
Immersion Learning/New
Technologies

Track 5: Online Support Services

Track 6: Assessment/Evaluation
of Learning Outcomes

Track 7: Graduate Student
Teaching/Research Projects

The deadline for submissions is
November 30, 2007.

<[http://www.teachlearn.org/
callforpapers.html](http://www.teachlearn.org/callforpapers.html)>

Invited Speaker David Sokoloff

*Building a New, More Exciting
Mousetrap is Not Enough!*

Math & Physics (MAP) 318
Monday, October 1, 2:30pm

Two exciting, parallel streams of advancement in the last 2–3 decades have significantly changed the introductory physics course at many universities, colleges and high schools. These were (1) expanding interest in Physics Education Research (PER), and (2) development of computer-supported pedagogical tools—MBL, digital video analysis, WWW, clickers, etc. Interest in applying the results of PER and availability of robust tools have resulted in a proliferation of new approaches. Yet true reform of physics teaching requires a five-step approach including (1) research, (2) development, (3) evaluation, (4) refinement and (5) dissemination. This lecture will detail the importance of these steps in the reforms made possible by active learning curricula like RealTime Physics and Interactive Lecture Demonstrations that were developed by the author and his colleagues, Ronald Thornton of Tufts University and Priscilla Laws of Dickinson College.

David Sokoloff is Professor of Physics at the University of Oregon. He has conducted research into students' understandings of physics, and used the results of this research to develop active learning approaches to enhance student understanding. He was awarded the Distinguished Service Citation by the American Association of Physics Teachers in 1997 and the Robert A. Millikan Award in 2007.



Workshops in the Center

These workshops are held in Classroom Building 1, room 207, and are open to all faculty. No advance reservation is required.

Blooming Course Design

Develop your course and/or program cognitive learning outcomes, teaching/learning strategies, and assessment strategies based on Bloom's Taxonomy. A correlated system improves course organization and strengthens learning, especially with respect to the critical thinking levels.

Tuesday, October 16, 1:30-3



Calling All Program Assessment Coordinators!

This workshop focuses on the latest version of the Program Assessment (IE) website and process changes instituted for 2007-2008. We will also provide assistance with individual plans as needed.

Monday, October 1, 3-4:30

Thursday, October 11, 3-4:30

Thursday, October 18, 3-4:30

Core Commitments Campus Dialogues

How can we educate students for personal and social responsibility? How can we promote the value of liberal and liberating education? What is a citizen in a diverse democracy? Please come to dialogue on these questions and bring your suggestions for engaging (re-engaging) the campus with these themes.

Friday, October 5, 1:30-3:30

Friday, October 12, 1:30-3:30

Monday, October 15, 1:30-3:30

Tuesday, October 30, 1:30-3:30

Creative Teaching Techniques

We will share some interactive strategies that encourage student involvement in class and facilitate active learning.

Friday, October 19, 10-11

Monday, October 29, 3-4

Halloween Open House

Drop by for our famous Halloween Open House, when we'll snack on refreshments and show off our costumes. Come for the food, fun, and door prizes!

Wednesday, October 31, 12-1:30

Preventing Plagiarism with Turnitin.com

Come sign up for a Turnitin account, learn how and when to use it, and engage in a discussion about its effectiveness in preventing plagiarism and promoting academic integrity.

Tuesday, October 2, 2:30-3:30

Thursday, October 18, 1:30-2:30

Tuesday, October 23, 10:30-11:30

Strategies to Internationalize Teaching & Learning

We will discuss curricular and instructional techniques that add an international dimension to your teaching and student learning.

Tuesday, October 16, 10-11

Thursday, October 25, 3-4

Teaching/Learning Strategies

Are you ready to try a new teaching strategy? Are there best strategies for teaching particular content? Join us to share your favorite strategies and to engage in several you may never have used previously. Use them this semester or plan for next.

Friday, October 26, 10-11:30



