

The Center for Academic Excellence invites you to

2011 FOCUS ON FACULTY

An annual faculty development event to kick off the academic year.

1:00 to 2:30 - Focus on Faculty

Register for one of three concurrent skill-building sessions:

- ***Greening PSU's Curriculum: Addressing Challenges Inherent in Sustainability Courses***

with John Rueter, Lis Charman, Kevin Kecskes, & Leslie McBride in SMSU 327

Faculty face two main challenges when translating "sustainability" into active learning experiences: 1) Designing learning outcomes, activities, and assignments that encourage active learning; and 2) Collaborating with campus and community partners to more deeply engage students in sustainability work. In this session, participants will explore these challenges with PSU faculty who have revised sustainability courses to incorporate active and community-based learning strategies.

- ***Using Clickers to Increase Attendance, Retention, and Engagement in Your Courses***

with David Vakil, El Camino College, in SMSU 328

This session will focus on best practices for using classroom response systems ("clickers"). Instructors will participate using technology that has increased attendance, retention rates, and success rates. Instructors will also learn research-based best practices on how to create a more engaging classroom experience for students.

David Vakil has been teaching astronomy and physics in the California community college system for twelve years, where his innovative use of classroom response systems has been widely recognized. He has been teaching with clickers and has led and coordinated his college's clicker usage since 2005. Currently he serves as the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs at El Camino College, Compton Center while teaching an astronomy class at Santiago Canyon College. David is a four-time nominee for teacher of year, and has served as President of Academic Senate.

- ***Audiovisual Literacy and Participatory Media Online***

with Sarah Berry, Center for Online Learning, in SMSU 329

Students live in a world of multimodal communication; they are immersed in audiovisual and interactive media but often don't have the analytical skills to understand how the formal language of media may affect them. Multimedia is increasingly used in online courses, but may not be used to its fullest potential for engagement and learning. Formats like lecture-capture video rely on a "transmission" model of communication rather than engaging students in a participatory conversation with and about the media. This workshop will: present a course on film studies—run on a blog—in which students were challenged to "speak" the audiovisual language they were studying by posting and analyzing images and videos; demonstrate ways to create simple, topic-based videos; and present current perspectives on cognitive load and how to maximize the positive effects of multimodal teaching within an accessible framework of Universal Design for Learning. *Sarah Berry is an Instructional Designer in PSU's Center for Online Learning, and is also an Adjunct Assistant Professor of English.*

~ ~ Break for refreshments ~ ~

3:00 to 4:30 - Carnegie Conversation in SMSU 338

Teaching in the Age of Twitter with **Richard Miller**

- What is the future of higher education in the Web 2.0 world?
- How have reading and writing across the disciplines been transformed by the web?
- Can the educational system rise to the challenge of preparing students to live, work, think, and thrive in an environment of ceaseless change?

Dr. Richard Miller, Professor of English at Rutgers University, is the author of As if Learning Mattered: Reforming Higher Education (1998) and Writing at the End of the World (2005), co-editor of The New Humanities Reader (2006) and the web site www.newhum.com.

4:30 to 5:30 - Cheese & Wine Reception

Enjoy informal conversation with PSU colleagues and keynote speaker Richard Miller in SMSU 338

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2011



Register now for your selected sessions:

caestaff@pdx.edu or (503)725-8327