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Growth is the only evidence of life.  _John Henry Newman

**Director’s Message from the Canopy**

The CET’s new Instructional Services Coordinator is Stacy Kluge who started working in the CET in early January. Stacy is available to work with faculty on a wide range of pedagogical topics, including course design and development, as well as effective uses of instructional technologies for student learning. For Stacy’s website, go to http://personal.georgiasouthern.edu/~skluge.

The CET’s Faculty Series begins this semester where faculty give presentations or seminars on topics related to teaching, learning, scholarship, and the academic life. The Faculty Learning Community on Service Learning & Civic Engagement will give a presentation on February 22nd. The Faculty Learning Community for Assessing Student Learning will present a session on March 4th on the nature and uses of direct and indirect means of assessing student work and, on April 3rd, Danny Dixon will give a seminar on effective ways to create and use course syllabi. If any faculty (individuals or a collaboration) would like to offer a session in the Faculty Series, please contact aaltany@georgiasouthern.edu.

The CET hosted the inaugural **The SoTL Commons: An International Conference for the Scholarship of Teaching & Learning** in November 2007. Faculty from 11 countries and 6 continents attended and most indicated they wanted to return for the next conference. There were 10 presentations by 17 Georgia Southern faculty, as well as 66 GS faculty serving as chairs for the concurrent sessions. The Conference Proceedings are available at http://www.georgiasouthern.edu/ijsotl/conference/proceedings/2007/.

The **2nd Annual SoTL Commons Conference** will be March 11-13, 2009 in Nessmith-Lane. Keynote speakers will be Randy Bass (Georgetown University), Kathy Takayama (Brown University) and Laurie Richlin (Claremont Graduate University).

In April the CET will begin a new, annual publication that features the members and work of each of the Faculty Learning Communities (FLCs) for the academic year. Entitled **FLC Forum**, it will be in electronic format with a limited number of paper copies published. The purpose of the FLC Forum will be to recognize the professional commitment and work of the faculty in the FLC program, to inform colleagues about the program and the good work of the FLCs, and to stimulate interest among all faculty to considering joining an FLC for 2008-2009.

"Good teaching is more a giving of right questions than a giving of right answers."  _Josef Albers

Intelligence is like a four-wheel drive. It allows you to get stuck in more remote places.  _Garrison Keillor

"One of the beauties of teaching is that there is no limit to one's growth as a teacher, just as there is no knowing beforehand how much your students can learn."  _Herbert Kohl

When you come to a fork in the road, take it.  _Yogi Berra
CET Web Site
Visit the CET web site regularly at http://academics.georgiasouthern.edu/cet/.

International Journal for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning

The 3rd issue of the CET’s peer-reviewed, open access, academic journal, *International Journal for the Scholarship of Teaching & Learning* (IJ-SoTL) is available at http://www.georgiasouthern.edu/ijsotl/current.htm. People can receive email alerts when new issues are published and currently over 3,350 people from 99 countries have requested such notification. And there are some 465 international subscribers on the IJ-SoTL listserv.

Reading Roundtables
Each semester the CET sponsors a faculty book discussion group called Reading Roundtable (RR). The RR meets several times during the semester, according to the schedules of its members. This spring there are 47 faculty (from 22 different departments) in 7 separate RRs for these books: *The Courage to Teach: Exploring the Inner Landscape of a Teacher’s Life* (Parker Palmer), *The Advancement of Learning: Building the Teaching Commons* (Huber & Hutchings), *Learner-Centered Teaching: Five Key Changes to Practice* (Weimer), and *My Freshman Year* (Nathan).

Faculty Learning Communities
(http://academics.georgiasouthern.edu/cet/programs/flc.htm)
It is not too early to begin thinking of joining an FLC for 2008-2009. If you have an idea for a topical or cohort FLC, or if there is a group of colleagues who would like to form an FLC for next year, please contact Alan Altany at aaltany@georgiasouthern.edu. We’d like to see over 100 faculty participate in 2008-2009 (about 80 members this year).

Grants, Awards & Educational Leave
For guidelines and deadlines, go to http://academics.georgiasouthern.edu/cet/grants.htm.

- **Grants for Professional Travel**: applications due 3/21/08
- **Faculty Development Summer Award**: applications due 2/8/08
- **Educational Leave** (for spring 09): application due to department chair by 6/1/08

... that is what learning is. You suddenly understand something you’ve understood all your life, but in a new way. _ Doris Lessing

Featured Books from the CET Library
Faculty are invited to check out books from the CET’s lending-library. Any of the books may be borrowed, including the following:

- *How People Learn: Bridging Research & Practice*
- *Humor as an Instructional Defibrillator* (Berk)
- *Learning and Motivation in the Postsecondary Classroom* (Svinicki)
- *Learning to Think: Disciplinary Perspectives* (Donald)
- *The Call of Stories: Teaching and the Moral Imagination* (Coles)
- *Engaging the Online Learning: Activities and Resources for Creative Instruction* (Conrad & Donaldson)

Faculty Retreat Showcase for Improving Student Learning
On Monday, May 12, 2008, from 3:30 – 5 pm in the Professional Development Center on the 3rd floor of the CIT building, there will be a Retreat Showcase of the work of the faculty who participated in the December 2007 retreat (Betty Nelson, Brenda Matzke, Debbie Allen, Kymberly Harris, Don Slater).

NEW! New Time Faculty (NTF)
The CET has formed a faculty-led group, New Time Faculty, for better faculty time management by reading and applying Doug Robertson’s book, *Making Time, Making Change*. 30 faculty from 22 different departments/units are participating.

Choose a job you love, and you will never have to work a day in your life. _ Confucius
"There are two kinds of teachers: the kind that fill you with so much quail shot that you can’t move, and the kind that just give you a little prod behind and you jump to the skies."  _Robert Frost

Focus on Excellence Lecture Series for 2007 - 2008
This annual series of 6 lectures is facilitated by the CET and the campus is invited to attend presentations by the previous year’s recipients of the Awards for Excellence in Contribution to Instruction, Research/Creative Scholarly Activities, and Service. All lectures begin at 4 pm in Room 3301 (Professional Development Center), College of Information Technology and are followed by a reception. Spring Lectures:

February 12, 2008  |  Research
"Phosphorence and Nanotechnology,” Dr. Xiao Jun Wang

March 11, 2008  |  Instruction
"I Teach, Therefore I Am,” Dr. Patricia Humphrey

March 25, 2008  |  Service
"But You Can’t Do That! Public Adventures in the Psychology of Religion,”
Dr. Michael Nielsen

"The pupil who is never required to do what he cannot do, never does what he can do.”  _John S. Mill

Innovative Teaching Strategies Retreat
The CET sponsors a faculty retreat to enhance innovative teaching strategies. The retreat is held twice a year, early May and December and provides dedicated time with CET staff and colleagues for course development and work on a variety of pedagogical and technological issues in a friendly, resource-rich environment. The spring retreat will be held May 13-16, 2008 in the CET. The deadline for proposals is March 28, 2008. If you’d like to learn more, contact Steve Bonham at the CET.

"The object of education is to prepare the young to educate themselves throughout their lives.”  _Robert Maynard Hutchins

Featured Faculty
On a regular basis the CET features a variety of faculty members through web pages developed by those faculty in collaboration with the CET. The pages contain backgrounds, ideas about teaching and learning, and illustrations of those ideas put into practice with students. Visit the Featured Faculty page regularly: http://academics.georgiasouthern.edu/cet/featured_fac/index.htm.

Opportunity is missed by most people because it comes dressed in overalls and looks like work.
_Thomas Edison
CET SEMINARS FOR SPRING SEMESTER: To register for a seminar go to: http://academics.georgiasouthern.edu/cet/calendar.htm and click on “Event Registration,” or call the CET at 681-0049 or email phenix@georgiasouthern.edu. All seminars are in room 1205, College of Information Technology Building.

January 29  A Taste of MERLOT: 9-11 am (Steve Bonham)
February 4  Creating Illustrations with PowerPoint: 10 am-12 noon (Steve Bonham)
February 6  A Taste of MERLOT: 3-5 pm (Steve Bonham)
February 7  Organizing an Online Course in Vista: 3-4:30 pm (Stacy Kluge)
February 11  Creating Courseware & Simulations w/ PowerPoint: 10 am-12 noon (Steve Bonham)
February 20  Organizing an Online Course in Vista: 2-3:30 pm (Stacy Kluge)
February 21  Creating Illustrations with PowerPoint: 2-4 pm (Steve Bonham)
February 26  Blogs, Wikis & Social Networks: 12-2 pm (Steve Bonham)
March 3  Designing Instructional Games: 10 am-12 noon (Steve Bonham)
March 4  Organizing an Online Course in Vista: 10:30-12 Noon (Stacy Kluge)
March 6  Creating Courseware & Simulations w/ PowerPoint: 2-4 pm (Steve Bonham)
March 12  Blogs, Wikis & Social Networks: 9-11 am (Steve Bonham)  
Aligning Course Objectives, Activities & Assessment with Bloom’s Taxonomy  
2-3:30 pm (Stacy Kluge)
March 25  Aligning Course Objectives, Activities & Assessment with Bloom’s Taxonomy  
10-11:30 am (Stacy Kluge)
April 3  Aligning Course Objectives, Activities & Assessment with Bloom’s Taxonomy  
2-3:30 pm (Stacy Kluge)
April 8  Aligning Course Objectives, Activities & Assessment with Bloom’s Taxonomy  
10-11:30 pm (Stacy Kluge)
April 11  Organizing an Online Course in Vista: 9:30-11 am (Stacy Kluge)

2008 Conferences
March 26-28: SoTL 2008: On The Subject, a Conference on the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning  
Coastal Carolina University, Myrtle Beach, South Carolina  |  http://www.sotlconference.org

April 3-5: Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Conference  
Missouri State University, Springfield, Missouri  |  http://adc.missouristate.edu/conference.htm

April 14-18: 19th International Conference on College Teaching & Learning  
Florida Community College at Jacksonville, Jacksonville Florida  |  http://www.teachlearn.org/final.html

April 17-18: Lilly-East Conference on College & University Teaching: “Learning by Design”  
University of Delaware, Newark, Delaware  |  http://www.udel.edu/lillyeast/

May 15-16: The London Scholarship of Teaching & Learning (SoTL)  
7th International Conference, London, UK  |  http://www.city.ac.uk/ceap/sotlconference/index.html

September 19-22: Lilly Conference on College & University Teaching  
Central Michigan University, Traverse City, Michigan  |  http://www.facit.cmich.edu/lilly/

September 25-27: Innovative Collaborations: Partnerships for Student Learning  
Illinois State University, Bloomington-Normal, Illinois  |  http://www.partnershipsconference.ilstu.edu/index.shtml

October 16-19: International Society for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning  
“Celebrating Connections: Learning, Teaching, Scholarship,” Edmonton, Alberta  |  http://www.indiana.edu/~issotl08/