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Go2Knowledge: A New Campus Resource for Faculty and Staff

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Upcoming Sessions

Go2Knowledge Group: Creating an Active Learning Environment
1/29

FERPA Training
1/31

Blackboard Training, various times

Go2Knowlege 24/7

register at: http://www2.winthrop.edu/tlc/TrainingCalendar/default.asp

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Go2Knowledge: A New Campus Resource for Faculty and Staff

One of the enduring frustrations for faculty and staff development through the Teaching and Learning Center has been the demand on all our time that keeps many people from attending sessions. The TLC often organizes very interesting and useful sessions that end up with relatively light attendance—even though faculty and staff have requested a particular topic. Many times, a session will fill up, but on the day of the session, people have to cancel: a committee meeting or an appointment with a student or other business takes precedence. The TLC has tried to schedule multiple times for some sessions, and we have posted materials like PowerPoints (check out the revamped Resources page for some helpful information!), but the problem of the demand on our time remains. In the future, we have plans to tape more sessions and post the videos, but now, another solution has been provided for the campus community.

Debra Boyd, Vice President for Academic Affairs, announced this week an exciting new resource, Go2Knowledge. In case you missed her email, here it is again:

In order to provide our faculty and staff with additional professional development resources, the Division of Academic Affairs purchased a one-year subscription (2013) to Go2Knowledge. This training product (a series of pre-recorded webinars led by experts on a range of topics relevant to those of us in higher education) is online and on-demand.

- Use is unlimited, 24/7.
- Professional development trainings are in six categories (At-Risk Populations, Campus Safety, Organizational Development, Student Success, Teaching & Learning, and Technology).
- The site also includes a directory of Open Educational Resources.

Our use of Go2Knowledge is flexible.

- It can be self-directed (so you can watch any of them in which you have interest at any time).
- Department chairs, program coordinators, faculty, staff, or others may assign specific, collective viewings with follow-up discussion sessions or meetings to determine applicability of the materials on our campus.
- The Teaching & Learning Center also plans to create hybrid opportunities to incorporate these Go2Knowledge resources.

(Cont. p.2)
“Everyone on campus will find something of value at this site, and the opportunity to watch when you are able gives us the kind of flexibility we all need."

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To take a closer look, simply go to the Academic Affairs Division homepage (http://www.winthrop.edu/academic-affairs/) and click on the Go2Knowledge button (under the Global Learning Initiative button on the right-hand side of the page). This button is also available on the TLC website under Resources. You may also type in the address: www.go2knowledge.org/withrop.

(You can find login information at those sites—for security purposes, it is best if I do not publish that information in The Weekly Reader.)

Everyone on campus will find something of value at this site, and the opportunity to watch when you are able gives us the kind of flexibility we all need. As Debra mentions, the TLC will create hybrid opportunities for faculty and staff development. With that in mind, we are announcing the creation of the Go2Knowledge Group. Throughout the semester, the TLC will suggest a presentation to watch on your own time, then set up a discussion session so that we can gather and share our ideas and responses to the presentation. If a presentation is of a proper length, we might sometimes arrange a session at which a number of us can meet to watch. (Some people like to go to the movies, while others like to pop in the DVD at home—Go2Knowledge gives us both opportunities.

The first Go2Knowledge Group will meet Tuesday, January 29 at 11:00 am in Dinkins 103. The topic will be “Best Practices in College Teaching: Creating an Active Learning Environment.” Go to the Training Categories page at Go2Knowledge, click on the Teaching and Learning button, and this session will be third on the list. It is 73 minutes long, but you can pause, rewind, and fast forward as you need. When you finish, you can print out a certificate if you want—who doesn’t love badges? If you see a topic on the site that you think we ought to explore together, please let the TLC know.

Many thanks to Debra Boyd and Academic Affairs for providing us with this excellent new resource! Winthrop has purchased a one-year trial subscription, and we should make as much use of it as we can.

TLC Resources Page

Check out the new TLC Resources page. You will find videos, PowerPoints, and handouts from recent TLC sessions, as well as teaching and technology resources. Thanks to Dana Bruneau for this ongoing effort! http://www2.winthrop.edu/tlc/NewDesign/resources_mainpage_old.htm

Next Week in The Weekly Reader

Next week, look for a column based on a TLC session Dr. Amanda Hiner, Department of English, gave this week. “The Employable Graduate” draws on research Amanda has conducted on recent studies of employer needs and college student achievement. Very interesting and intriguing!
XXITE 2.0 ------ The Virtual Gathering Place for WU (The Reboot!)

Jo Koster and I invite you to join XXITE (Twenty-first Century Teaching Excellence)—or if you have already joined, to check it out again as it grows and develops. Maybe you have not been there in a long time—if not, you will see many changes in look and content. For example, XXITE now has groups dedicated to HMXP and CRTW, with those of us who teach those courses sharing ideas and materials. Talk to Jo about setting up your own interest group. Jo is particularly interested in recruiting a few people to blog regularly about their teaching.

Jo set up this interactive site to give Winthrop faculty a virtual gathering space to share ideas about teaching and technology. You’ll find blogs and discussion forums on various topics—and we urge you to add your own ideas. Visit again at http://wuxxite.ning.com/

Or email Jo Koster for an invitation to join: kosterj@winthrop.edu

The TLC website also has links to navigate your way there or to join: http://www2.winthrop.edu/tlc/

A New Service From the TLC: Teaching Consultation

The Teaching and Learning Center is offering a new service: teaching consultation. At the instructor’s request, I (or another agreed-upon person) will visit your class to observe and consult with you afterwards about your successes and challenges. This consultation has nothing to do with the tenure and promotion process, and no reports will be made to department chairs or deans (unless you so request). The invitation to the consultant can only come from the instructor, not from a dean or chair or any other person. All conversations will be private and confidential. If you don’t want me to visit your class and observe your teaching, we could just meet and talk about your teaching. If I am not available to visit your class because of my schedule, I will find a qualified person to do the consulting. So please let me know if you would like to invite me into your class or for a consultation. Call or email me at (803) 323-3679 or birdj@winthrop.edu.

Thought for The Week

“The rain is famous for falling on the just and unjust alike, but if I had the management of such affairs I would rain softly and sweetly on the just, but if I caught a sample of the unjust out doors I would drown him.” —Mark Twain