December Development Opportunities

The CTL and Library wants to make sure you feel supported and prepared for the spring semester! We understand this fall semester has been extremely atypical and it’s also unlikely the spring semester will be “normal.” To ensure you feel supported, confident, and equipped, we have several development opportunities available the first few weeks of December, including extra training for WebEx, CHAT’s with Liz (Conversations Happening Around Teaching), Canvas tools to aid in online collaboration, overviews of Fair Use, and much more. Take a moment and review the available opportunities here.

Required Canvas Course: Faculty Supporting Student Success

In an effort to ensure Marian is supporting students during this difficult time, we administered a campus satisfaction survey twice during the semester. We had a 42% response rate in the most recent survey, capturing valuable data. As a result of the survey data, we developed a brief Canvas course for full-time faculty that should take no more than approximately 90 minutes to complete, which outlines best practices in supporting students. Some of you may be familiar with the information in the Canvas course, as it contains several elements from the Master Class Series. However, it has been refreshed to contain information relevant to the current COVID landscape and to specifically address items from the survey data. All full-time faculty are expected to complete this online Canvas course by January 15, which you can self-enroll into here.

Save The Date: Self-Care Event and Teaching Celebration January 13

Please save the date for Wednesday, January 13, for an event unlike others. We will have several self-care sessions from which to choose in addition to a virtual celebration of teaching where we can all come together and rejoice in our successes. Details will be forthcoming.

Important Change in Canvas This January

One of the most used tools in Canvas will be changing on January 1, 2021. The text entry tool, called the Rich Content Editor, will be updated to a new version and the current one will no longer be available. This tool is used by instructors in content creation and by students in any text entry fields. This new version has more features but will look and act a little differently than what you may be used to. We encourage you to turn on the new version of the Editor in your course right now to try it out. In order to make sure everyone is ready for the transition, Blake Ide, Instructional Technologist of the CTL, has prepared a video to show you how to turn it on, and how to make sure that you can access all of the same tools (and a few new ones) in the new Editor. Check out that video here and if you have any questions, email Blake at bide@marian.edu.

Winter Guide: Help Students Feel Connected

The Exchange put together a Winter Guide full of five events and at-your-own-pace resources to help students stay connected over the extended winter break. Please review it and forward on to your students. Access the Winter Guide here.
Program-Level Assessment Reports are Due March 12th
Marian’s program-level assessment planning and reporting process seeks to be Meaningful, Authentic, Reasonable, Inclusive, Appreciative, and Nimble. Last academic year focused on planning with programs submitting their assessment plans. This academic year, the focus is on reporting with programs providing details about assessment findings and how they are using these findings to improve their programs. In March, reports will be shared with the TLC subcommittee who will review them and provide programs with formative feedback. The report template and rubric used by the TLC subcommittee is available HERE. We also have FAQs from the assessment planning process.

Track Student Progress on Institutional Learning Outcomes and Criteria in Canvas
Canvas allows instructors to track student progress and mastery of institutional learning outcomes and criteria. A video tutorial and step-by-step guide are available HERE. If you have any questions or need any assistance setting up outcomes and rubrics in Canvas for your courses, please contact Tony Ribera.

ACE Webinar: The Science Behind the Art of Teaching
“As instructors embrace new challenges in teaching and learning, particularly in delivering online instruction, questions persist: Is teaching an art or a science? What practices guide and support student learning? How can faculty be supported in their efforts to learn about and practice evidence-based teaching? How can we measure an increase in student success? Join us December 9 at 3:00pm for a conversation with Meghan Snow, executive director of analytics at the Association of College and University Educators (ACUE), about how ACUE employs a logic model to study the impact of professional development on teaching when faculty implement proven approaches.” Learn more and register here.

ACUE Resource: Using Points to Encourage Student Behavior
“We humans like to have a sense that we are progressing toward a goal—even if that goal is a free cup of coffee after purchasing 10 cups. The use of points, sometimes referred to as “gamification,” can be leveraged to encourage the types of learning activities or behaviors you recognize as having a positive effect on student success in your course. Points can be offered for a variety of academic behaviors...” Read more here.