



LEARNING TECHNOLOGIES & ASSESSMENT

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 2

APRIL 2010

Upcoming Events

**Department Assessment
Reports Due**
June 30

Focus on Teaching Proposals
Due
Friday, May 28
[http://www.luc.edu/learningtech/
FOT2.shtml#Proposals](http://www.luc.edu/learningtech/FOT2.shtml#Proposals)

Focus on Teaching Proposal
Acceptance
Monday, June 7

Focus on Teaching
Posters Due
Friday, August 13
[http://www.luc.edu/learningtech/
FOT2.shtml#Posters](http://www.luc.edu/learningtech/FOT2.shtml#Posters)

Focus on Teaching Fall 2010
Thursday, August 19, 2010
LSC, Information Commons

Activities and Projects Update

Part of the mission of LTA is to provide faculty with updates on programs involving both teaching with technology and assessment issues. We hope this brief overview of our activities serves to inform and also pique interest in new topics on teaching and assessment.

FALL FOCUS ON TEACHING: THE MANY FACES OF DIVERSITY

Plans for the fall 2010 Focus on Teaching are taking shape. The event, scheduled for Thursday, August 19, will again take place in the Information Commons on the Lake Shore Campus. The objective for this session is to raise awareness of the many aspects of diversity on our campus and discuss how our diverse populations impact our classrooms, curricula and mission.

The keynote address will be delivered by Beau Basel Beaudoin, Ph.D., Coordinator, Culture, Race and Media at Columbia College; the address, entitled "A Focus on Learning," will cover the challenges of working with diverse students with an emphasis on learning styles. Dr. Beaudoin was named the 2009-10 Distinguished Teaching Fellow and is the Carnegie Foundation Illinois Professor of the Year for 2008.

The day will open with a panel of LUC faculty and staff discussing several types of diversity encountered on campus. Panelists include Rise Nelson Burrowes, Coordinator of Student Life, Diversity and Multicultural Affairs; James Faught, Associate Dean of Student Services, School of Law; Mark Bosco, S.J., Associate Professor of English and Theology, Director of Catholic Studies.

The remainder of the program will be comprised of breakout session by faculty members. We have opened the call for proposals and encourage faculty to consider sharing their ideas on any aspect of diversity and higher education. Panels are well received and provide the opportunity for multiple perspectives, so consider working with several colleagues to submit a session topic. Proposals are due by Friday, May 28. FOT will also feature a poster session. Please check the website for information outlining suggestions for both proposals and posters:
<http://www.luc.edu/learningtech/FOT2.shtml>

In response to comments made by fall 2009 participants, we have moved FOT back one week so there is more time to implement ideas into fall courses. As a result of this date change, FOT will serve as the culmination of New Faculty Orientation coordinated by the Center for Faculty Professional Development. The planning committee is also hopeful that the earlier date will eliminate conflicts with pre-semester department meetings.

Registration is now open, so take a few minutes and sign up today. The fall 2010 FOT event is sponsored by the Center for Faculty Professional Development, the Center for Experiential Learning, the Graduate School, the Office of Learning Technologies and Assessment, the Office of Research Services and the University Libraries.

FOT information and registration: <http://www.luc.edu/learningtech/FOT2.shtml>



Keynote Speaker for Focus on Teaching Fall 2010, Beau Basel Beaudoin, Ph.D., Coordinator, Culture, Race and Media, Columbia College; 2009-10 Distinguished Teaching Fellow; Carnegie Foundation Illinois Professor of the Year.



Cracker Barrel Session at Focus On Teaching Spring 2010. Many great discussions took place and ideas shared.

Exploring POSSIBILITIES

"We envision the Loyola University Chicago teaching environment as a forum for implementing excellence in pedagogically-sound methods for teaching students and assessing their learning."

INTRODUCING SHANNON MILLIGAN

LTA welcomes Shannon Milligan, Coordinator of Assessment, to our staff. Shannon is a three-time alumnus of Oklahoma State University, where she received a Bachelor of Science in Psychology, a Master of Science in Research, Evaluation, Measurement, and Statistics, and a Master of Science in College Student Development. She previously held positions as a graduate Hall Director at Oklahoma State and as the Resident Director for Administration and Assessment in Campus Housing at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Her duties at LUC include working with academic units with their assessment efforts and advising the units in Student Affairs with their assessment planning.



Shannon Milligan, Coordinator of Assessment

SLOAN-C BLENDED LEARNING CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP

Staff from LTA attended the Sloan-C Blended Learning Conference and Workshop held in Oak Brook, IL on April 19-20. Sarah Dysart, Terry Moy and Carol Scheidenhelm collaborated on a conference session informing others of the process LTA is using to create the Teaching with Technology Guide, an online resource for faculty planning to use technology in their on-ground and online courses. The response to the group's presentation was overwhelmingly positive, with many faculty and learning-technologies professionals from other institutions interested in Loyola's response to the need for online, on-demand training for instructors wanting to incorporate technology into their teaching.

The conference and workshop also proved to be a valuable learning experience for the members of LTA. One highlight was an informative workshop on assessment in blended learning environments put on by Dr. Norm Vaughan from Mount Royal University, Calgary, Alberta, Canada. There were many useful conference sessions on best practices in online and blended learning environments, covering topics such as assessment in blended learning programs, faculty development, instructional design and pedagogy, and institutional strategies for online and blended learning. LTA staff intend to use the information gained at the conference to help build upon and improve the Teaching with Technology Guide and add to faculty support initiatives on and off campus.



SLOAN-C Blended Learning Conference and Workshop. Carol and Sarah presented at the 7th Annual SLOAN Consortium Blended Learning Conference and Workshop. Participants from the US and 8 countries attended.

DEPARTMENT ASSESSMENT REVIEWS

Spring 2010 marks the inauguration of the Office of Learning Technologies and Assessment three-year cycle of program assessment reviews. Last spring, LTA provided information to academic units regarding our plan to work with individual departments every three years to review the program's student learning outcomes, assessment methods and results, and how those results might impact curriculum.

In preparation for unit meetings, we embarked on a mission to digitize the documents already on file with LTA, allowing easier and more immediate access of files by academic units and our office. Concurrently, we were setting up meetings with our "year one" units. As appointments were made, any materials we had on file were emailed to the unit representative for consideration.

The response to our meeting requests has been very positive; we have already met with the majority of identified units and seen tremendous growth in understanding how assessment can impact department goals. In these meetings, we have assisted with the following:
 Learning outcomes—review of existing outcomes or help with their creation.
 Assessment plans—including suggestions for how to measure these outcomes, how to report results of these measurements, and how to use these results for program improvement.
 Annual assessment reports—creation format and reminder of due date, June 30th.

Units do not have to wait until their year in the cycle to seek assistance from our office as we also offer continuous assistance through various means, including initial and follow-up meetings and resources on the LTA website.

If your unit has questions about assessment, your assessment report or the unit plan, please contact us at assessment@luc.edu.



*SLOAN-C
 There was an impressive turnout for the LTA presentation.*

Contact Us:

We are always interested in hearing from you regarding what you or your faculty are doing in the virtual and physical classroom. Please let us know how we can assist you in moving your department goals forward.

<http://www.luc.edu/learningtech>

learningtech@luc.edu