

CTE This Week August 29 – Sept. 2, 2005

"A good teacher has been defined as one who makes himself [or herself] progressively unnecessary."

~Thomas J. Carruthers

Teaching Tip of the Week - Teaching Goals Inventory

The Teaching Goals Inventory (TGI) is a self-assessment of instructional goals. Its purpose is threefold: (1) to help college teachers become more aware of what they want to accomplish in individual courses; (2) to help faculty locate Classroom Assessment Techniques they can adapt and use to assess how well they are achieving their teaching and learning goals; and (3) to provide a starting point for discussion of teaching and learning goals among colleagues. College and University teachers might find it helpful to complete the TGI when they are:

- Developing a new course
- Revising a course
- Writing or re-writing their philosophy of teaching
- Participating in a curriculum review

To access this online teaching goals inventory to get your personal results, go to <http://www.uiowa.edu/~centeach/tgi/background.html> .

Resources at CTE - You may be interested in some of these articles. If you would like more information about a topic or a copy of the article, contact CTE (ext. 7434) or just reply to this email.

- **Effects of Academic Discipline and Teaching Goals in Predicting Grading Beliefs Among Undergraduate Teaching Faculty** by Laura L. B. Barnes, Kay S. Bull, N. Jo Campbell, and Katy M. Perry (Oklahoma State University). *Prior research reveals that differential grading patterns exist among the academic disciplines. One explanation may lie in discipline-related differences in teaching goals and beliefs about the meaning grades should convey. This study examined the effects of academic discipline and teaching goals on grading beliefs.*
- **Classroom Organization and Participation: College Students' Perceptions** by Robert R. Weaver and Jiang Qi (Youngstown State University). *Students who actively participate in the learning process learn more than those who do not. The importance of students' active involvement in learning is by now well documented and known. Active involvement in class facilitates critical thinking and facilitates the retention of information that might otherwise be lost. If student participation is so central to the learning process, why is participation in the college classroom frequently so low? What constrains the more active involvement of students? Scholars have identified a host of factors ranging from, for instance, class size, faculty authority, age, gender, student preparation, or student emotions such as confidence or fear. We suggest that these and other constraints on participation might be more generally understood in terms of the formal and information classroom structures within which they are embedded. This article suggests that there are ways whereby faculty can foster participation and learning. Encouraging faculty interaction with students outside the classroom to cultivate learning communities, for instance, is one such way. .*

Upcoming Events at CTE

- **Using Online Quizzes in eCollege** - This hands-on workshop will provide instruction on setting up an online quiz in your eCollege course. Items that will be discussed: Grading online quizzes, Setting up and deploying online quizzes, Options for faculty regarding

- cheating. Go to <http://www.rsvpregrister.com/event.php?682#quizzes> to register or call ext. 7433. **August 31 from 3:00 to 4:00** in the CTE.
- **Using Threaded Discussions in eCollege** - This hands-on workshop will provide instruction on setting up a threaded discussion in your eCollege course shell as well as providing examples of grading threads and creating objective topics to engage your students. You must have an eCollege shell to participate in this workshop. **August 30 from 3:00 - 4:00** in the CTE. To register go to <http://www.rsvpregrister.com/event.php?682#threads> or call CTE at ext. 7434.
 - **Faculty First Friday Event** - This monthly meeting is designed especially for the new faculty members to TCU (but all faculty are invited!). Do you have questions about resources? Issues with teaching and learning? Do you want to get to know faculty from outside your department? If so, come to these regular, informal discussions. Specific topics will be decided upon by the participants and will be designed to follow-up on the New Faculty Orientation and Teaching Workshop. While these are designed for new faculty, any one is invited to attend. Meet in the Student Center 205 from **3:00 - 5:00 pm** and enjoy collegial discussions, useful information, and delicious treats. Our topic for **September 2** will be on the **Elements of Successful Teaching**. Go to <http://www.rsvpregrister.com/event.php?682#firstfridays> to register or call the CTE at ext. 7434.