

## CTE This Week February 23 – 27, 2004

***"The important thing is not to stop questioning"***

~Albert Einstein

### **Teaching Tip of the Week - "Using Student Generated Test Questions"**

Allow students to write test questions and model answers for specified topics, in a format consistent with course exams. This will give students the opportunity to evaluate the course topics, reflect on what they understand, and better understand what a "good" test item might look like. Even if you don't ever use these student generated test questions on an exam, you can use them as a study guide for students. And, by reading the "answers" to the student generated questions, you can see where there might be errors in student thinking.

### **eLearning Teaching Tip of The Week - "Request an eCompanion Course Shell for Summer or Fall Courses"**

It is that time again to request new blank eCollege course shells and/or copy eCollege course shells for the summer and/or fall 2004 semesters. You can use the links below to complete an on-line form or send Romy Hughes an email ([r.hughes@tcu.edu](mailto:r.hughes@tcu.edu)).

- To request a new blank course shell, go to <http://www.elearning.tcu.edu/courseshells/newshell.htm>
- To request a course shell to be copied from the current or previous semester to summer or fall 2004: <http://www.elearning.tcu.edu/courseshells/copysshell.htm>

Questions? Contact Romy Hughes ([r.hughes@tcu.edu](mailto:r.hughes@tcu.edu))

**NEW!! PowerPoint Template** [Click Here](#) - Attached to this link you should find a design template for PowerPoint. If you regularly use PowerPoint presentation software, you might be interested in this new option. Questions about this template or using PowerPoint for teaching? Contact Catherine Wehlburg ([c.wehlburg@tcu.edu](mailto:c.wehlburg@tcu.edu)).

**Resources at CTE** - Come by and take a look at some of the articles and books in our library. If you would like a copy of any of the articles abstracted below, contact the CTE ([c.wehlburg@tcu.edu](mailto:c.wehlburg@tcu.edu)). You might be interested in:

- **A Convergent Paradigm for Examining Knowledge Mapping as a Learning Strategy** by Edward C. McCagg and Donald F. Dansereau (Texas Christian University). *In this study, a paradigm that coupled an ecologically valid assessment with an extended testing session was used to examine the effects of student-generated knowledge maps as a learning strategy. The effects of mapping were first examined in the context of an ongoing general psychology course at TCU. Eight-one students participated in an out-of-class testing session intended to replicate and extend the results obtained in the classroom. The results indicated that mapping positively affected students' performance on both recognition and recall tests. Further, the effects of mapping appeared to be robust, for they were maintained over time and dependent measures.*

- **Student-Generated Questions: A Meaningful Aspect of Learning in Science** by Christine Chin (Nanyang Technological University, Singapore), David E. Brown, and Bertram C. Bruce (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign). *This study was conducted to (a) identify the types of questions that students ask during science learning, (b) explicate the role of students' questions in the knowledge construction process, particularly in educational discourse, (c) investigate the relationship between students' questions and approaches to learning and (d) discuss some emergent issues related to student questioning. Unlike "wonderment" questions which stimulated the students to hypothesize, predict, thought-experiment, and generate explanations, "basic information" questions generated little productive discussion. Although the 8th grade students did not always ask wonderment questions spontaneously, they were able to generate such questions when prompted to do so.*

### **Upcoming Events at CTE - Mark Your Calendars!**

- **Starlink - The Real Cost of Online Courses - Satellite Downlink -**  
Discover the hidden costs of creating online courses "on the cheap," how to calculate your institution's true costs, the resources needed to develop effective courses, and ways to control costs without degrading course quality. **Thursday, February 26 from 1:30 - 3:00** in the CTE (501 SWR). Contact Cathy Vahrenkamp ([c.vahrenkamp@tcu.edu](mailto:c.vahrenkamp@tcu.edu)) to reserve your spot. **Panelists:** Katherine Cobb (President of the Brevard Community College Virtual Campus), Brian Finnegan (Director of Emerging Instructional Technologies at the University System of Georgia), and Dennis Jones (President of the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems)
- **Web Design for Teaching** - This workshop uses Macromedia Dreamweaver MX to create and publish web pages by constructing a model faculty homepage and course page. Topics include: positioning and formatting text, simple graphics, hyperlinks, creating lists and tables, publishing pages to web servers, and reading HTML. Prerequisites: Familiarity with computers, the Internet and World Wide Web. **Friday, February 27 from 2:00 - 5:00**. Go to <http://www.cte.tcu.edu/workshopevents/index.htm#WebDesign> to register.