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Spring Forum 2021

Spring Forum is CTL's annual conference that features a keynote speaker, workshop and concurrent sessions led by UMSL faculty.

Building on the momentum of last year's Sense of Belonging event the CTL is setting aside a day to feature the amazing teaching talent we have on our campus. The theme this year will be what we are all longing for - connection. The community of inquiry (COI) framework centers three types of connection for effective online teaching: student to student, student to content, and student to instructor. We are excited to feature Dr. Courtney Plotts who will add a cultural dimension to the COI framework and speak to the importance of connected teaching in her keynote address. Dr. Plotts will also offer an interactive workshop about culturally responsive online teaching. The event will feature a give-away of three books about teaching and learning. The most popular book may be chosen for an upcoming book club. Please RSVP for the event below. All registrants will receive a confirmation email, an entry ticket for the book giveaway, and an Outlook invitation with a link to the full schedule.

When: January 29th, 2021 from 9:0AM - 3:30 PM

Where: Virtually over Zoom
Keynote Speaker and Interactive Workshop: Dr. Courtney Plotts
Who: See full schedule here (schedule will be updated with all Zoom links when available)

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RSVP for Spring Forum 2021

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Three Teaching Intentions

This section will highlight technology, activities, practices, or elements of course design for the online or on ground classroom to be implemented with intentionality. Every suggestion will not be appropriate for every context. Please see our contact information at the bottom of the newsletter to set up an individual consultation if interested in discussing these ideas in more detail.

Syllabus Maker

Tool: Unfortunately the name of this tool is misleading, it will not create your syllabus for you, but it will generate a list of dates your course meets. Don't forget to remove the dates for Spring Break; for UMSL that is March 27th - April 4th.

Syllabus maker tool
Looking for UMSL syllabus statements and templates? **Find them here.**

Time Management

Practice: Faculty, staff and students alike are learning how to manage their time in this new environment. One way to be transparent about your expectations of how students might consider making the best use of their time is to provide them with a sample weekly schedule. Providing it in multiple formats, visual and text for example, will reach more learners.
Example weekly schedule

Save Time Grading

Course Design: Both [faculty and students have reported exploding workloads](#) in Fall 2020. In order to avoid burnout on both sides strongly consider your course design and what is assigned outside of class and graded. The article below gives four ideas for reducing the workload of both faculty and students.

[Four tips to reduce grading workload](#)

UM System and UMSL Research, Service, and Teaching Awards

See below for the recent call for nominations for UM System Faculty Awards (deadline is January 27) and consider preparing nomination packets for the UMSL awards due by March 5, 2021.

The Academic Affairs [site on Faculty Awards](#) lists all of the available awards. Please note that UMSL is offering a new award starting this year, the [Chancellor's Award for Sustained Excellence in Online Teaching](#).

[University of Missouri System Faculty Awards](#) (Deadline January 27, 2021; Submit by email to UMSL Office of Academic Affairs (acadaff@umsl.edu) – nominations will be submitted from there to UM-System by 2/1/21)

- [Brice Ratchford Memorial Fellowship Award](#)
- [President's Award for Economic Development](#)
- [President's Award for Excellence](#) (Early Career and Sustained Career)
- [President's Award for Faculty Engagement](#) (Community and Cross-Cultural)
- [President's Award for Innovative Teaching](#)
- [President's Award for Intercampus Collaboration](#)
- [President's Award for University Citizenship](#) (Leadership and Service)
- [Thomas Jefferson Award](#)

[UMSL Faculty Awards](#) (Deadline March 5, 2021, 5PM; Submit by email to Senate

office senate@umsl.edu)

- [Governor's Award for Excellence in Teaching](#)
- [Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Service](#)
- [Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching to a Non-Tenure Track Faculty Member](#)
- [Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching to a Tenured or Tenure-Track Faculty Member](#)
- [Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Research and Creativity](#)
- [Chancellor's Award for Sustained Excellence in Online Teaching](#) (New this year!)
- [Chancellor's Award to a Part-time Faculty Member](#)
- [Gerald and Deanne Gitner Excellence in Teaching Award](#)
- [Emerson Excellence in Teaching Award](#)

Please also note that the nomination packets often ask for some of the same materials as are prepared for promotion and tenure portfolios, so you might already have the materials you need to nominate someone from your department. Student representatives on the Teaching and Service Awards Senate Committee are also soliciting input from students for names of faculty to consider nominating.

Anti-Racist Pedagogy

The Center for Teaching and Learning at UMSL does not position itself as an expert in anti-racist pedagogy but instead is part of a larger campus effort of facilitating ways for collective education, conversations and actions towards contributing to a truly diverse, equal, and inclusive campus. This section will focus on anti-racist teaching practices and efforts around campus.

The Columbia University's Center for Teaching Learning has recently compiled [a guide called "Anti-Racist Pedagogy in Action:First Steps."](#) Last month we highlighted two resources to address curricular gaps with intentional course design. This series will continue to highlight resources that may be pedagogically useful. The next section of the guide provides resources to address the environment in the classroom.

Columbia University's Inclusive Teaching Guide provides a plethora of resources to foster an inclusive environment in the classroom and online. [Principle 1 focuses on ways to establish and support a class climate](#) that fosters belonging for all students.

The CTL has developed a workshop on inclusive teaching based on this guide. If you would like Assistant Director Erin Whitteck to deliver this workshop to your department please do not hesitate to schedule a time for Erin to speak with your faculty or graduate students. See Erin's contact information at the bottom of this newsletter.

Mid-Semester Survey

Read this section to understand what mid-semester feedback is, how to register, and dates the system is open for students.

- **What is it?** Confidential online questionnaire administered to students to obtain early feedback on the course. [See the questions in the survey before you register](#).
- **Who can see the results?** Only the instructor has access to the feedback.
- **What are the benefits?** Confidential feedback that can be implemented before final course evaluations.
- **When can you register?** Faculty can register for the mid-semester feedback system now or until registration closes on February 23, 2021.
- **When is the survey available to students?** The survey is available from 2/24/21 - 3/11/2021.

[Register for the Mid-Semester Survey](#)

Course Evaluation System

Course evaluations are now managed in the CTL. The Faculty Senate set dates for opening and closing of course evaluation surveys, as well as when faculty can access their results.

When do students complete course evaluations for Spring 2021?

- Spring 2021 8-Week 1: March 1-7
- Spring 2021 8-Week 2: April 26- May 9

- Spring 2021 16-Week: April 26- May 9

For more information on course evaluations, please visit our [CourseEval Resource Guide](#).

Part-Time Teaching Circle

The Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL) recently launched a new Part-Time Faculty Teaching Circle to provide support and community to our amazing part-time faculty. We invite all part-time faculty to join the group as their schedule allows.

For spring we have a full schedule of sessions scheduled based on topics identified by our Advisory Group as helpful to those of us who teach part-time at UMSL. The full schedule can be found below that also includes other events offered by the Center for Teaching in Learning including sessions to help you prep your courses and get your semester off to a strong start, sessions around student support and assessment, and wrapping up the semester with a fun trivia hour.

Questions? Email Jennifer McKanry mckanryj@umsl.edu

[Register for the Part-Time Teaching Circle and see schedule](#)

Student Engagement Tools

The Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL) has recently been highlighting several student engagement tools through short webinars, for details about the tools and registration for the remaining webinars see below.

As you prepare for the spring term, the CTL is pleased to announce two remaining technology demo sessions (30-min each) for [new technology student engagement tools](#) you might consider for the spring or summer. These short 30-min sessions will highlight course examples to help you determine whether you'd like to learn more or

get them ready for the semester.

Register below for the student engagement tool webinars; all three sessions will [be held in this Zoom room](#):

1. **Tues, Jan 5,** 12:00 - 12:30: [GoReact see recording here](#)
2. **Wed, Jan 13**, 12:00 - 12:30: Gradescope
3. **Fri, Jan 15,** 11:00 - 11:30: Microsoft Teams

- **Unsure how to best use these tools to engage or assess students?** Contact Jen McKanry mckanryj@umsl.edu or Erin Whitteck erin.l.whitteck@umsl.edu in the Center for Teaching and Learning to learn more.
- **Just need help activating the tool?** See the Support Contact column [in the handout](#) for technical help.

[Register for Educational Technology Webinars](#)

Updates from the Office of eLearning at UM-System

This section will highlight news and technology updates from the Office of eLearning.

Kaltura to Panopto Changeover

On June 1, 2021 Kaltura will no longer be available for use, but don't worry - your video content will be moved for you. Since Kaltura and Panopto have developed to have very similar feature sets over the past few years, we will be consolidating all video streaming and lecture capabilities onto Panopto to streamline technologies, support, and budgets.

Though we encourage faculty to switch as soon as possible to Panopto for video creation, Kaltura will remain available for new video creation until February 1, 2021 at which time no more video content can be created or uploaded into Kaltura, although videos can continue to be played throughout the Spring 2021 semester. The Office of

eLearning team at UM-System will be copying all Kaltura videos that have been played **at least once** within the last two years over to the relevant campus instance of Panopto.

Where I can learn how to use Panopto?
The UM-System Teaching Tools site contains a number of [help documents on using Panopto](#) or [register to join](#) one of the many workshops or help sessions on Panopto.

Upcoming and Continuing Tool Pilots - Spring 2021

Several academic technology pilots will take place in Spring. If you are interested in participating, please e-mail us at keeplearning@umsystem.edu.

Gradescope

All campuses within the University of Missouri System now have a [Gradescope](#) license for the Spring 2021 term.

Gradescope makes grading more consistent through horizontal grading and dynamic rubrics. Gradescope supports fully online assignments where no paper is required, paper-based assignments, assignments combining online and paper-based approaches, and computer programming assignments. You can find more information about the support Gradescope offers in [this blog post](#) and in this [FAQ Guide](#) for delivering remote assessments.

Instructors can use Gradescope in remote, hybrid, and face-to-face courses. [Learn about their experience](#) and how easy it is to get started - even in the middle of the term.

You can link Canvas courses and assignments to Gradescope and sync your roster and grades. Learn more on how to leverage the Canvas integration by watching [this video](#).

- [Using Gradescope with Canvas as an Instructor](#)
- [Using Gradescope with Canvas as a Student](#)

The Gradescope team will also be hosting [weekly workshops](#) at 11 a.m. central on Thursdays. Attending one of these workshops is a great way to get a quick overview of

the platform and learn how to get the most out of Gradescope.

Inscribe

Inscribe creates Q&A communities that allow students, faculty and staff to work together—asking questions, finding answers, and sharing resources. InScribe captures these interactions, and makes them reusable, so each generation benefits from the conversations that came before them.

How can I use Inscribe in teaching?

- Get student questions out of email and into a forum where answers are reusable and available across sections and terms.
- Create channels within a community for more focused groups such as individual classes, topics, or specific audiences.
- You also can establish a community for your entire cohort, degree program, department, or college. The tool allows you to facilitate discussions beyond individual courses.

A video at Teaching Tools describes Inscribe in more depth.

Hypothes.is

Hypothesis is an open source tool that lets users highlight and annotate any web page or PDF. It can be used with a browser extension or inside your Canvas site.

How can I use Hypothes.is in teaching?

- Have students look up difficult words or unknown allusions in a text and share their research as annotations
- Pre-populate a text with questions for students to reply to in annotations or notes elucidating important points as they read
- Have students highlight, tag, and annotate words or passages that are confusing to them in their readings
- Have students identify formal textual elements and broader social and historical contexts at work in specific passages
- Have students share their personal opinions on a controversial topic as discussed by an article

Also coming in 2021:

eLearning Events Website

January 2021: eLearning events website that will house training opportunities, upcoming events, open zoom office hours and more. Register for events, receive reminders and check your past event attendance history for events like Canvas and Panopto training. The new site, **elearningevents.umsystem.edu** is scheduled to be live on January 2.

About the Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL)

The Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL), a division of the Office of Academic Affairs, supports the professional development of those who teach and learn at the University of Missouri-St. Louis. Our goals - to promote engagement in courses, on campus, and in the community - enhance the University as we align our activities, services, and consultations with the campus goals to promote excellence in teaching, research, and service.

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