

UMSL | Center for Teaching and Learning

November 2022

CTL's Monthly Newsletter keeps you updated on research-informed teaching strategies, events, and support available to everyone in the UMSL teaching community.



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A look back: Focus on Teaching and Technology Conference (FTTC) 2022

The article was written by CTL Assistant Director Jen McKanry.

This year's [Focus on Teaching and Technology Conference](#), September 29 & 30, featured over 50 virtual sessions attracting 700+ attendees from across the globe. Thursday's [Award Winning Teacher Panel](#) (recording linked) showcased 18 faculty sharing strategies and teaching tips. On Friday, [Dr. Bryan Dewsbury](#) presented the conference keynote, [Power, Practice, and Pedagogy - Classrooms as Spaces for Inclusion and Equity](#) (recording linked) and workshop, [On Assessment and Inclusive Classrooms](#) (recording linked). In his keynote, Dewsbury recounted his initial struggles as an undergraduate student from Trinidad and Tobago, unfamiliar with American higher education. His messages shared the perspective of both students and faculty and emphasized the importance of viewing students holistically. "When I think about inclusive classrooms, I don't necessarily think about the subject matter that you discuss," he said. "I don't necessarily think about the grades that you hand out or the textbooks that you read from. I am not saying those things are not important. But I'm seeing the inclusive classroom as one where the individual is free to dream, free to imagine, free to envision various versions of themselves as they look toward the future." Dewsbury shared excellent resources to learn more about inclusive classroom strategies that we list here.

Three Teaching Intentions - FTTC 2022 Edition

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

1 Get to Know your Students

Tool: The "Who's in Class" form or first-day info sheets can be used to get to know the students in your course to serve them best. Please do not hesitate to contact the CTL if you need support implementing either resource.

- <https://doi.org/10.1128/jmbe.00183-21> **Journal of Microbiology & Biology Education.** [A Tool to Advance Inclusive Teaching Efforts: The "Who's in Class?" Form](#) Addy, T., Mitchell, K.A., Dube, D. (2021).
- [First-Day Info Sheets: A Tool to Prompt Semester-Long Inclusive Teaching](#)
- Killpack, T.L. & Melon, L.C. (2020). [First-Day Info Sheets: A Tool to Prompt Semester-Long Inclusive Teaching](#) **Journal of Microbiology & Biology Education**, 21(1): 21.1.14.

2 Norton Guide to Equity-Minded Teaching

Resource: This is a free resource compiled by our FTTC Keynote Speaker, Dr. Bryan Dewsbury, and other experts in inclusive teaching.

- **Artze-Vega, I., Darby, F., Dewsbury, B., & Imad, M. (2022).** [Norton Guide to Equity Minded Teaching](#) (free eBook available Dec 2022)

3 Guideposts for Dialogue

Resource: This resource was shared by Dr. Dewsbury as something he uses to foster meaningful dialogue in his introductory biology courses.

- [9 Guideposts Handout](#) (PDF)

Meet your New Colleagues

Each month we will feature faculty who are new to UMSL. Please reach out and welcome them to campus.

Graziella Postolache

Assistant Teaching Professor of French and Spanish

Department of Language and Cultural Studies

College of Arts and Sciences



Education: Ph. D. in French Language, Literature, and Francophone Studies (2010), Graduate Certificate in Women and Gender Studies (2010) from Washington University in St Louis; Teaching Certification in French and Spanish (2007).

Graziella's research developed in two directions. Literature and Gender Studies and Language Education and Cultural Studies. She spoke publicly and published on the literary genre of dialogue by French and Italian women authors of The XVIth-Century-Renaissance, the medical

discourse about women, and the self-representation of the speaking subject of the same period.

Graziella is a multilingual educator focusing on Romance Languages who moved to St Louis in 2000. She came to UMSL with a teaching experience of 20+ years in different institutions, levels of language acquisition, and cultures, one of which was a five-year European-led program in Central America. Graziella taught and designed French and Spanish language, literature, and culture courses such as advanced topics in literature, film, conversation, writing, introduction to language and culture, and cultural gastronomy. She taught in hybrid, online and in-person modalities using current educational technology. She is the recipient of The Kemper Award for Excellence in Teaching (Webster University, 2021), the Honorarium for Excellence in Teaching and Outstanding Service (Webster University, 2020), and The Border Project Grant (Webster University, 2019 and 2022). At UMSL, Graziella teaches French and Spanish from a student-centered approach focusing on proficiency-based language instruction, language awareness, multilingualism,

and inclusion.

Additionally, Graziella serves in professional organizations such as the Women in French and Foreign Language Association of Missouri, where she acts for this term as Conference Chair. She also serves as a promoter of Integral Education with Mindfulness (New Creation International), translation studies and partnership (Red Latina), and as a referee for UMSL Global. This year she serves on her department's Committee for Community and Partnership.

Graziella likes integrating her side interests in travel, cultural gastronomy, and dance into her teaching.

Meet our newest CTL Faculty Fellow

In the CTL, we are privileged to have faculty fellows contribute to and support our work.



Paula Prouhet joined the College of Nursing in August of 2012 and currently serves as an Associate Teaching Professor and the Accelerated BSN Program Director. She received her BSN from Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville in 2001 and began working as a bedside staff nurse with adults on a general medical floor. Several years into her nursing career, Paula transitioned to the neonatal intensive care unit, where she fell in love with working with premature and medically fragile infants and their families. Having a passion for teaching,

Paula returned to school to complete her MSN in nursing education at Maryville University in 2009. She then obtained her Ph.D. in nursing from the University of Missouri-Kansas City in 2021 with a research focus on nurses' biases toward families and the impact on family-centered care interventions in the neonatal intensive care unit.

As faculty in the College of Nursing, Paula brings expertise in adult, pediatric, and neonatal intensive care nursing. She teaches various courses across the BSN programs, including pediatrics, health assessment, and pathophysiology. In addition to her teaching and director roles, Paula recently accepted the CTL Faculty Fellow for Student Support Programs. In this new role, she helps support Jenna Alexander, Assistant Director for Student Support Programming, in running the Supplemental Instructor and Active Learning Assistant programs.

You will find Paula spending time with her husband and two dogs outside of

work. She loves to travel, with her favorite trip being to Positano, Italy, where she married her husband in October 2010.

UMSL Service and Teaching Awards

*See below for the call for nominations for UMSL Faculty awards
(various deadlines shared).*

The UMSL Academic Affairs [site on Faculty Awards](#) lists all of the available awards. The nomination packets often ask for some of the same materials for promotion and tenure portfolios, so you might already have the materials you need to nominate someone from your department. For the UMSL award, you may also nominate yourself. Student representatives on the Teaching and Service Awards Senate Committee are also soliciting input from students for faculty names to suggest to departments to nominate.

[UMSL Faculty Teaching & Service Awards](#) (Deadline February 5, 2023, 11:59 PM; Submit by email to Senate office senate@umsl.edu)

- [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 Sustained Excellence in Online Teaching](#)
 - [Chancellor's Award to a Part-time Faculty Member](#)
 - [Gerald and Deanne Gitner Excellence in Teaching Award](#)
 - [Emerson Excellence in Teaching Award](#)
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- [Governor's Award for Excellence in Teaching](#)

UMSL Faculty Research and Creativity Awards (Deadline is February 17, 2023 by 5PM; Submit by email to ora@umsl.edu)

- [Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Research and Creativity](#)
- [Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Collaborative Research and Creativity](#)

UM-System Awards (Deadline is December 16, 2022)

- Thomas Jefferson Award (Send completed nomination packet to UMSL Provost at acadaff@umsl.edu)
- C. Brice Ratchford Memorial Fellowship (Send completed nomination packet to UM System Office of Engagement, Ashley Rhode at rhodea@umsystem.edu)

Curators' Professors - (Deadline is March 1, 2023; send nominations to UMSL Provost at acadaff@umsl.edu)

Apply Now for Student Support Programs

Applications are now open to receive student support through the active learning assistant or supplemental instruction program.

Spring is just around the corner! As you look ahead to next semester, please consider applying for one or both of the [student support programs](#) we offer through the Center for Teaching and Learning: the Supplemental Instruction (SI) program and the Active Learning Assistant (ALA) program.

In the SI program, faculty work closely with a student who has taken the course

before and done well. The SI Leader attends class, assists with class activities, and serves as a model student. The SI Leader also holds regular study sessions outside of class for students.

ALAs, are students who meet with faculty members for weekly preparation sessions. These sessions give faculty members opportunities to receive feedback from their ALAs and to brainstorm ways to incorporate more active learning in their courses. Overall, the ALA program supports faculty who strive for instructional innovation.

Faculty from all disciplines are encouraged to apply. Click [here](#) to apply for Supplemental Instruction and [here](#) to apply for the Active Learning Assistant program. **Applications are due Friday, November 18.**

Building a Culture of Acknowledgment at UMSL

This event is facilitated by the CTL but features the work of an interdisciplinary group of faculty that are part of the Anti-Racist Educators Group.

We hope you will consider joining us for a faculty panel discussion from the Anti-Racist Educators group on November 3rd at 12:30 PM about “Building a Culture of Acknowledgment” here at UMSL based on our work investigating the complexity of land acknowledgment.

Native American Heritage Month

What is a land acknowledgment?

How can a land acknowledgment be used as a starting point for acknowledging the history of our region?

The panelists do not intend to present themselves as experts but hope to convey their process of becoming people better at noticing and acknowledging our history.



Peter Bigheart, Chief of the Osage Tribe, 1909 - photo by William Boag

VIRTUAL FACULTY PANEL DISCUSSION
with the Anti-Racist Educators Group,
a faculty and staff group facilitated by the
Center for Teaching and Learning

"Building a Culture of Acknowledgment at UMSL"

November 3rd, 12:30 PM - 1:30pm
[Register Here to Receive the Zoom Link](#)

[A plain text version of the flyer about the event "Building a Culture of Acknowledgment" at UMSL can be found here.](#)

[Register here for the November 3rd session about Building a Culture of Acknowledgment here at UMSL](#)

CTL's Lunch and Learn Series: Open to All Members of our Teaching Community

The CTL started a Lunch and Learn Series last fall, featuring faculty that completed the Association of College and University Educators (ACUE) "Effective Online Teaching Practices" program. This year we aim to continue the program featuring innovative faculty from across campus.

Back by popular demand, we offer a virtual Lunch and Learn series one Friday per month featuring innovative faculty from the UMSL teaching community. Two faculty present their context, how and why they have implemented a particular strategy, its impact, and how they plan to iterate. Participants then can join faculty in a breakout room to ask questions about the strategy. It is a great opportunity to learn from and with colleagues and meet new faculty across campus. All members of the UMSL community (faculty, staff, and graduate students) are welcome to attend.

Event Details:

- **Date of the next Lunch and Learn:** November 11th, 12:15 - 1:00 PM
 - **Presenters:** Johnna Murray (College of Business Administration - Accounting) and Qiang Dotzel (College of Arts and Sciences - Department of Mathematics and Statistics)
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- **Topics:**
 - Using the social annotation tool Hypothes.is
 - Using the student response system Plickers
- **Location:** Virtual (see Registration below)

If you have any questions, please contact CTL Assistant Director Erin Whitteck (elwbcf@umsl.edu).

[Register here for the Fall 2022 Lunch and Learn Series](#)

Culturally Responsive Teaching

Apply by Nov 9 below for this new opportunity

Over the past three years, the Center for Teaching Learning has offered faculty learning communities (FLC) on different topics that arose from the curriculum alignment process (CAP), such as introductory statistics, transparency in learning and teaching, and foundational STEM teaching. A new FLC will launch in January 2023 about culturally responsive teaching.

Dr. Courtney Plotts of the Council for At-Risk Student Education and Professional Standards (CASEPS) recently shared her expertise about culturally responsive teaching with our campus at our Spring Forum of Teaching in 2021 as our keynote speaker. There was a lot of interest in her presentation and workshop, which caused us to pursue a further partnership and offer a faculty learning community about the topic. We are excited to

announce that we will soon be taking applications for a new faculty learning community from January through December 2023.

What? A cohort of 8-12 faculty members will learn from and with each other about what it means to be culturally responsive. [Faculty will also be able to achieve a culturally responsive teaching certification from CASEPS.](#)

Who? Faculty from across UMSL in all disciplines and ranks are invited to participate. The faculty learning community (FLC) will be facilitated by CTL Assistant Director Erin Witteck.

When? The group will meet monthly from January through April 2023. In addition, on June 13-14, all FLC participants will complete a culturally responsive teaching certification through the Council for At-Risk Student Education and Professional Standards (CASEPS), where they will learn about strategies they could implement in their courses. In Fall 2023, participants will again meet monthly through December 2023 to implement culturally responsive strategies in their courses and get feedback from their peers.

How? Meetings will be a mix of virtual and in-person. The CASEPS certification will be in person.

Participants will be compensated for the completion of the program. If you are interested, please register below to start a conversation about the possibilities of this opportunity. **Applications will close on November 9th.**

In the meantime, if you have any questions, please reach out to CTL Assistant Director Erin Witteck at elwbcf@umsl.edu.

Apply by 11/9 for the Culturally Responsive Teaching FLC

Virtual Spring Forum of Teaching 2023

January 27th, 2023

In January the CTL offers an event centered around teaching and learning that helps to energize and connect the teaching community.

The theme for 2023's Spring Forum of Teaching is "From Equity Talk to Equity Walk" and will feature [Dr. Tia Brown McNair the Vice President for Diversity, Equity, and Student Success and Executive Director for the Truth, Racial Healing & Transformation Centers for AAC & U](#), who also wrote the book of the same title.

The forum will also feature two workshops by Mary-Ann Winkelmes of [Transparency in Teaching and Learning Higher Ed](#).

The forum will highlight the work of faculty using different strategies in their courses to move from equity talk to equity walk. **Please register below and save the date for January 27, 2023, from 9 AM - 3:15 PM.**

If you have any questions, please get in touch with CTL Assistant Director Erin Whitteck at elwbcf@umsl.edu.

Register for Spring Forum 2023

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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