Faculty Fellows: Sharing our Knowledge

Beginning in Fall 2010 the Center for Teaching & Learning will pilot the Faculty Fellows program, with the goal of creating a space in which teaching techniques are brought out of the classroom to be shared, borrowed, and molded to fit into various disciplines and classrooms. Each fellow will focus on a specific pedagogical or thematic area and present a series of workshops exploring their personal experiences and insight.

The program will begin in the 2010-2011 school year with three themes: online teaching and learning, teaching with technology in the planetarium, and supporting/developing students’ learning strategies.

Sessions will launch during Flex Day activities and ongoing discussions will be held throughout the year. Please watch your mailboxes for schedule announcements.

Chabot College Great Teachers 2010

Great teaching has many facets and looks different in each classroom: from a carefully crafted presentation to hands-on activities, from small group discussions and presentations to one-on-one personalized conversations. Whatever the presentation method, such teaching rises above: it incites curiosity in students and engages them thoroughly in the process of learning.

Chabot College is fortunate to have many excellent teachers whose dedication to the craft of teaching and learning breathes life into the campus and inspires students to achieve beyond what they believed possible. Each year we recognize seven of these individuals, one from each division, as a Chabot College Great Teacher.

Each faculty member receiving this honor will receive a paid trip to the Community College League of California’s Great Teachers Seminar, August 1-6, 2010 in Santa Barbara.
Cristina Moon - Language Arts
Spanish Instructor

For the past five years, Cristina has proven to be an excellent instructor of Spanish; she demonstrates a personal love for the Spanish language and genuine interest in the Hispanic cultures that connect directly with her Argentinean heritage and charisma as a native speaker. Among her colleagues and in her classes, she is well-known for her collegiality, positive attitude, and effectiveness that helps achieve one’s best at all time. As a knowledgeable instructor of Spanish, she brings her expertise in Second Language Acquisition from her doctoral training at the University of California, Los Angeles, and her mastery of instructional technology from her teaching experience at San Jose State University. Among her achievements at Chabot College, she centers on teaching with innovation and with full-respect of the students’ learning styles. Her pedagogical approaches include incorporating technology, games, storytelling, music and art, and collaborative activities to promote meaningful communication among students all the while using solely the target language. Her dedication to online learning has given rise to a Spanish first-year program (1A and 1B courses), which are taught fully online as well as via hybrid courses. Her online courses incorporate the use of vodcasts (video podcasts) that she tapes from her on-campus courses, which give students a sense of a classroom learning community. Her success developing online language instruction has allowed for another language program (French) to develop both online and hybrid formats for its beginning course.

Cristina’s commitment to offering students an immersion language program brought her to engage all members of the department of world languages into the integration of culture into language, the sole use of the target language and authentic materials to engage students in meaningful interactions. Among her departmental achievements, we are most grateful for her lobbying for a lab component for all language courses and for a state-of-the-art world language lab facility at Chabot, for her interest in developing new curricula (Spanish and Chinese conversational courses), and for her leadership in training part-time faculty during Flex-Days.

Mirelle Giovanola - Social Sciences
Anthropology Instructor

Anthropology instructor Mirelle Giovanola’s commitment to excellence in teaching the principles and data of human evolution to Chabot’s students is unparalleled. She has worked tirelessly to develop the College’s Biological/Evolutionary Laboratory materials, which represent a teaching collection of the highest order. She is a devoted teacher who displays both high standards and compassion for the struggles of her students. Her teaching materials are innovative, developed through years of teaching and classroom research. She has served her program and its students superbly.
Jeff Drouin - Health, Physical Education & Athletics
Physical Education Instructor, Athletic Advisor

Jeff is a recently tenured faculty member in Physical Education. He has been a divisional leader in the development of online instruction and has created and implemented a new course PHED 59 in Lifetime Fitness. This course, geared towards the special needs of the more “mature” population that we serve, promotes strategies to maintain lifelong health and fitness for the adult learner. He has developed protocols and SLOs for the weight training courses, in addition to developing an innovative way to accommodate more students in our flexible Weight Training for Everyone Curriculum that he has implemented.

Jeff has agreed to move up this year and serve as a Co-Athletic Director, taking on more responsibilities for the Athletics side of our division. He will help facilitate game management and facilities coordination in Athletics along with his current duties as our Eligibilities Advisor. Jeff currently is the Physical Education team leader for the development and implementation of SLO assessments, coordinating the work with our adjunct faculty. Jeff also has been working with Patricia Shannon and Tom DeWit on a Title III project that will identify at-risk students and guide them to a mentoring program for student-athletes, specifically in football, basketball and soccer. Jeff is actively involved in making Physical Education accessible to our students and also in helping to move our student-athletes to the next level of competition. Jeff is an excellent example of what the Great Teacher’s Seminar is about: he will bring ideas to the table, and he will come to the table with a willingness to learn.

Joe Berland - Mathematics & Science
Mathematics Instructor

Joe Berland is a dedicated math instructor who reaches out to his students and supports learning in innovative ways. To demonstrate his work and dedication to our students I would like to share one student’s personal experience with Mr. Berland.

“Mr. Berland is such a fantastic teacher…he deserves recognition and praise. He is more than a teacher; he is a mentor and a motivator. When I started this class I felt defeated and was struggling like crazy. Math was truly ruining my life. Working with Mr. Berland has become one of the biggest growing experiences of my life. It is obvious that he is dedicated to teaching math the best way possible. He has his own creative methods of teaching that really works and stands out. His praises and encouragement has changed my life as a student."

As you can see, Joe’s energy and passion for teaching has made a huge impact on this student’s life, and I am sure that he has touched many more during his career at Chabot College. We are honored to have him in the classroom motivating and teaching our students!
Carey Harbin is in his 24th year as a full-time Counselor/Instructor at Chabot College. Carey served as an Adjunct Counselor from 1980-1986 before his tenure-track began, and has served in a variety of leadership capacities ever since. Carey earned his Bachelor of Science in Psychology at the University of South Carolina with a Minor in Theater, then a Master's in Education with a Specialization in Counseling, and Emphasis in Vocational and Rehabilitation Counseling. Carey also earned a post-graduate Certificate in Online Education from CSU East Bay. He has an extensive curriculum development and discipline coordination history at Chabot. Carey designed most of the Psychology-Counseling discipline courses including PSCN 1, 2, 13, 18, 20, and 80 and rewrote PSCN 11, 12, and 15. Additionally, Carey developed numerous PSCN courses as online classes including PSCN 2, 13, and 15 all of which he has taught. Carey has served in a variety of leadership capacities including Acting Director of Counseling, PSCN Discipline Coordinator, Articulation Coordinator, Probation/follow-up and Orientation Coordinator, and Chair of the Human Services Advisory Council for the Associate Degree program he developed in Human Services. Carey also developed three career-technical certificates in Human Services for entry-level positions in the human/social services field. He has served on numerous committees involved in student access and success including the Student Services Coordinating Group, Dean's Advisory, Curriculum Committee and Early Decision Planning Committee as well as a variety of hiring committees for faculty, classified professionals and administrators at Chabot. Carey has been published by Wadsworth Publishers for a book entitled "Your Transfer Planner: Gorilla Tactics and Success Strategies" as well as a number of articles published in the Community College Review and other professional journals of importance to the higher education field. Carey developed a comprehensive First Year Experience program that brought together faculty from a variety of disciplines to assist new students in persisting in their first year of college, which preceded and informed the Matriculation process adopted by the California Community College Board of Governors in passing the Seymour-Campbell Act initiating Matriculation in 1986. Carey lives with his wife and children in Cupertino and enjoys going to the theater with friends and family.

Bob Buell - Applied Technology & Business
Fire Technology Instructor

Captain Bob, with a host of dedicated adjunct faculty, has taken Chabot's exemplary Fire Technology program to even higher standards of certified fire training, instituted programmatic curriculum changes that have increased student success rates, and continually seeks ways of improving student learning. Bob is a dedicated and tireless professional who seeks solutions to challenges when others may find it more convenient to cite excuses. Bob is a ready ambassador for his profession and the college and is a sought after speaker for fire and emergency response presentations.
Dr. John Parente is
a) empathetic and open to students,
b) always respectful to students in written and oral communication,
c) engaged in preparing and utilizing outstanding teaching materials (e.g. syllabi, exercises, handouts, etc.),
d) continually trying new experiential teaching methodologies (in balance with standardized academic exercises and assessment),
e) regularly utilizing peer exercises,
f) supportive of an open and exciting teaching environment, regularly taking students outside of the classroom,
g) dedicated to teaching, “high energy” and unwavering,
h) strict in terms of classroom management yet preserves an academically and artistically encouraging and supportive classroom teaching climate,
i) well-thought-of and highly regarded by faculty and staff,
j) consistently praised by students in their written and oral feedback/comments regarding the quality and value of Dr. Parente’s classes . . . and his positive instructional style.

Chabot Leads State-Wide Faculty Inquiry Network
by Katie Hern

As a form of professional development, inquiry engages faculty in looking closely at their own students and then making changes based upon what they learn. Why, for example, do so few students make it through the long sequence of courses in English and Math? How can general education teachers help students develop stronger critical thinking skills while still “covering” the content they need to address? How can attention to students’ basic skills be embedded inside career-technical (CTE) programs?

These are some of the questions being investigated inside the Faculty Inquiry Network, a grant led by Chabot College and involving 18 teams of faculty from across California. The project is funded by the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, the Walter S. Johnson Foundation, and the Bay Area Workforce Collaborative. College teams began working with FIN in January 2009, and the work wraps up in early 2011.

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Chabot College received this grant based upon its long history with basic skills innovation and its more recent work in a grant from the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, which included the widely disseminated movie *Reading Between the Lives* and a classroom inquiry into the “academic sustainability gap.” These inquiries into student learning have served as a foundation for training faculty from other colleges in analyzing a wide range of data, listening to student voices, using video, and making visible what we learn so that other faculty can share it.

FIN is led by three Chabot English faculty, Co-Directors Katie Hern and Tom deWit and Making Visible Coordinator Sean McFarland, with the support of several former and current Chabot students, Program Manager, Monique Williams; Program Assistant, Jamie Chandler; video team Alexey Dolotov and Ricardo Aguilar; and FIN-Umoja Liaison, Cherrie Moore. The Leadership Team also includes Inquiry Coaches from several other colleges, Lin Marelick, former CTE faculty member and administrator from Mission College; Jan Connal, Counselor at Cerritos College; and Myra Snell, Professor of Mathematics at Los Medanos College.

The work of FIN has been shared widely across the state through the Basic Skills Initiative networks, the Strengthening Student Success Conference, and conferences for CTE teachers. In addition, the project received national attention at the 2010 “Achieving the Dream” convention in North Carolina, where FIN leaders were invited to give a preconference workshop and deliver sessions on student voices, equity, and acceleration in basic skills English and Math.

FIN representatives will be presenting “An Introduction to Inquiry” as keynote speakers at the Chabot Faculty Forum on September 17, 2010.

FIN teams are coached to move recursively through the inquiry process -- from data collection to action, and back to data collection. They are also guided to work through the issues that can impede or support an inquiry inside their larger institutional context, in their collaborative relationships, and in the realm of the human condition (the feelings that can come up during an inquiry, like defensiveness, ego, vulnerability, passion, and uncertainty).

Information about inquiry and the projects underway inside FIN are available at http://fincommons.net.
Countdown to “New” Program Review and CurricUnet

In August during College Day, we will be introduced to and trained in using a streamlined and more carefully articulated Program Review process. In October, our web-based curriculum process, provided by CurricUnet, will be unveiled. In Spring 2011, faculty will be invited to ‘test drive’ their curriculum proposals through CurricUnet, and in Fall 2011, we will go “live.”

Training for both Program Review and CurricUnet will be provided through workshops and flex day activities.

Blackboard Version 9.0 Upgrade Coming in June

Our Blackboard server is scheduled to be upgraded to version 9.0 beginning Monday, June 7th at 5pm. During this time, Blackboard will be unavailable to everyone. Instructors should be able to access their existing course sites after Wednesday, June 9th, at 5pm.

Version 9.0 is a major upgrade that includes a Web 2.0 interface, a new Grade Center, blogs and journals, and enhanced groups management. All information in your current Blackboard sites will remain, and the process for requesting new sites and copying information between sites stays the same.

To learn what is new and what has changed in Blackboard 9 visit Chabot Web Services at www.chabotcollege.edu/cws/Blackboard/upgrades/. Please watch your email for upcoming training announcements.

Title III Project Personnel Establish New Offices

With the opening of our new buildings, the desks of several Title III grant personnel have relocated:

- Patricia Shannon, Title III Activity Director—Room 216, x6856
- Debra Lovendusky, Title III Administrative Assistant—Room 216, x7501
- Carole Splendore, Learning Assessment Coordinator—Room 453C, x6888
- Jennifer Lange, Center for Teaching & Learning Coordinator—Room 453S

Reading Apprenticeship: Recruiting New FIG Members

The Reading Apprenticeship model provides a framework for making learning and the learning process more visible to both teachers and students. This metacognitive approach relies on faculty working together to make their own reading processes and strategies visible to each other so, then, they can guide students in their specific discipline. Reading Apprenticeship has been identified as an effective practice in approaching reading instruction in both reading and composition courses and in disciplined-based classrooms.

The Reading Apprenticeship Faculty Inquiry Group is currently recruiting new members for the 2010-11 school year. If you are interested in receiving the RA training and participating the Learning Community, or if you would like more information, please contact Jane Wolford (jwolford@chabotcollege.edu).

Additional information on the project and reports from current members can be found on the Center for Teaching & Learning webpage: www.chabotcollege.edu/learningconnection/ctl/FIGs/RA/RA.asp.
Upcoming CTL Events

Entering Data in eLumen/eLumen Orientation
- May 19, 2:00-3:00
- May 20, 12:00-1:00
- May 26, 3:00-4:00
- May 27, 5:00-6:00
- June 29, 3:30-5:30
- August 19, 12:00-1:00 & 5:30-6:30
- August 24, 3:00-5:00

Drop-in to enter your SLO assessment data in eLumen while SLOAC members are available for assistance if necessary.

Creating Assessment Plans
- June 30, 4:30-7:00
- July 8, 3:00-5:30

For those who will enter SLO assessment in Fall 2010, you can begin by mapping your assessment activities to the designated learning outcomes for your course(s). Preparing this plan prior to the start of the semester will allow for the identification of assignments of equivalent difficulty to those of others teaching the same course and will assist in managing your time throughout the data gathering process.

Chabot Faculty Forum
- Friday, September 17

The purpose of this event is to share the knowledge gained during our investigations into processes and techniques that enhance the learning and success of basic skills students. The keynote presentation will be by the Faculty Inquiry Network.

Faculty Inquiry Groups, sponsored by Title III or the California Basic Skills Initiative, slated to present include:
- Innovative Pedagogical Techniques in the Social Sciences
- Reading Apprenticeship
- Learning Assistants
- Supplemental Instruction in the Social Sciences (General Studies 115)
- Jumpstart
- Student Research Symposium
- Probation Contract Analysis
- Assessment of Online Tutorial Software

Please see the Center for Teaching & Learning website for more information and specific workshop locations. www.chabotcollege.edu/learningconnection/ctl/new/newsandviews/asp

Support for the Center for Teaching & Learning provided by a Federal Title III grant.