

Connections

TLC News

UWB's Teaching and Learning Center

Winter 2003

Volume 1, Issue 1



A New Undertaking

In the current academic year, UWB's commitment to teaching and learning has driven several activities and new projects including the annual faculty retreat sponsored by the General Faculty Organization, the creation of teaching circles with facilitation from Diane Gillespie, and the kick-off of the Teaching and Learning Center (TLC), which has been in conception for the last several years.

Last Winter and Spring, a steering committee composed of Leslie Ashbaugh, Cherry Banks, Michael Goldberg, Dan Jacoby, Andrea Kovalesky, Kevin Laverty, Sarah Leadley, Carol Leppa, Becky Reed, and Mike Stiber met together, consulted faculty, and researched other campuses' endeavors. The committee's work culminated in a proposed structure for UWB's TLC and a set of goals for its first year. In August, the Academic Council approved the plan.

One goal was to disseminate information across the campus through a quarterly newsletter (and you're reading the first edition) and a website (which you can now access at www.uwb.edu/tlc).

Our Advisory Board represents full- and part-time faculty from all our academic programs, Academic Services staff, students and the faculty of Cascadia Community College, with whom we plan to coordinate some of our activities. The members are: Gowri Shankar and Ann Stillwater, Business; Kelvin Sung, CSS; Nancy Place, Education; Bill Seaburg, IAS; Mary Abrums, Nursing; Rose Mary Rankins, ASUWB; Andreas Brockhaus, Academic Services; Venta Silins, Library; Catherine Crain-Thoreson, Cascadia; and Becky Reed, as TLC interim director.

Please contact the TLC at tlc@uwb.edu if you have ideas for activities, resources, etc.

TLC events based on Fall survey— presenters/facilitators still needed

Late in the Fall 2002 quarter, the Teaching and Learning Center distributed a survey—asking faculty and instructional staff to prioritize their teaching interests and concerns and to indicate their availability for workshops and brown bag sessions. We used the results of the survey to establish a rather ambitious schedule of activities for the Winter and Spring. That schedule is posted on the last page of this newsletter and will be updated on the GFO and TLC

webpages and on the campus Master Calendar.

We asked on the survey for volunteers to facilitate or present on topics of interest, and some came forward, but more are still needed. Please look over the schedule and see if you have ideas or practices that you'd be particularly interested in sharing or discussing. If you do—or if you know someone at UWB or elsewhere whose ideas would be interesting—contact the TLC at tlc@uwb.edu.

Contents:

The TLC Website	2
UWB faculty training	2
Service Learning Workshop	2
Funding for Faculty Travel	3
Institute for Teaching Excellence	3
Open House	3
Our Mission	4
TLC Calendar of Events	4

Winter Quarter

Calendar of Events (details inside):

- Tue., Feb. 4; 12-1 PM:
Brown Bag on leading discussions in large classes
- Fri., Feb. 28; 9 AM-4 PM:
Workshop on SGIDs
- Wed., Mar. 5; 12-1 PM:
Brown Bag on using small groups effectively
- Wed., Mar. 12; 1:15-3:15 PM:
Workshop on Effective and Fair Grading

The TLC website—and how you can help



The TLC website is up and running. It is and will remain a work in progress. Here's a quick guide to what's there:

TLC Events: Find an updated listing of what we have planned including . . .

Teaching Resources—Find such links as:

- “Faculty consultation” for guidelines on how you might use the TLC in your own course and assignment development
- “Publications and websites” categorized by topic
- “Workshops and Conferences” related to teaching and learning (*and the TLC can help with funding*)
- “Discussion/Bulletin Board”: that takes you to a Blackboard site where we hope faculty will participate in conversations about concerns, questions, insights, etc. about teaching and

learning at UWB.

- “Suggestion Box & Submission”: which will create an e-mail to the TLC. We want your suggestions and also hope that you will share with us teaching materials you develop, information of interest, etc.

Teaching Showcase—Find links to course and assignment websites for UWB faculty. We'd like to grow this part of the website and invite submissions as you develop materials you are willing to share.

And while we're on websites, if you haven't visited it already, please check out the **Faculty Teaching and Research Toolkit (www.uwb.edu/toolkit)**. Academic Services has created the site to help UWB faculty navigate the wealth of resources.

Don Wulff, CIDR, to offer UWB faculty training on peer feedback—February 28



Small Group Instructional Diagnostics (SGID) or Midterm Class Interview is a method for drawing out useful student feedback so instructors can revise, improve, and extend their course design. The University of Washington's Center for Instructional Design and Research (CIDR) describes the goal of SGID as “align[ing] expectations to improve teaching and learning.” SGIDs are generally performed one-third of the way through the term or at midterm.

Many UWB faculty have made excellent use of SGIDs, which have been conducted by CIDR staff. At this point, CIDR's director, Don Wulff, would like to offer training here so that we can conduct our own SGIDs. Ideally, we'd like to find at least one faculty member from each academic program, so that faculty members seeking SGIDs can choose to ask someone in their own program and from another program. Cascadia fac-

ulty will also participate in the training and would be available to trade services. In the SGID, a trained consultant meets with the instructor to discuss specific questions the instructor would like addressed. The consultant then interviews the students, in the absence of the instructor, for 25-30 minutes, during which the consultant elicits strengths in the class, areas for change, and ways of making suggested changes. The consultant summarizes the information for the instructor, and together the consultant and instructor discuss pedagogical options for addressing the feedback. Finally, the instructor follows up with the students by commenting on students' responses and discussing how changes may be made.

SGID is not used to evaluate the instructor. No copy of the report is made available to University Administration, and the report should not be a part of any teaching portfolio, although instructors may choose to quote from it.

If you're interested in training for this service, please contact the TLC at tlc@uwb.edu.

Service Learning workshop when Campus Compact comes to Everett

Campus Compact, the major national organization for service learning, will be holding its annual meeting in Everett this April, and UWB is taking advantage of its proximity to hold a workshop for our campus. Ron Krabill of IAS, MichaelAnn Jundt, Director of the Carlson Center at UWS, and Becky Reed are planning a workshop that will:

- provide information about service-learning projects at UWB
- help faculty think about how to design service-learning projects that support their teaching goals in a range of courses
- hear from faculty at other schools about service-learning mod-

els they've developed

- understand what services the Carlson Center can provide to UWB and what UWB will need to do to support service learning

The Campus Compact conference is April 9 through 11 and the UWB workshop will be held on the afternoon of Thurs., April 10, time to be announced. Please contact the TLC if you're interested in attending or participating in either or both events.

Funding for faculty travel and on-campus events

For the 2002-03 academic year, the TLC has allocated \$7,000 for UWB full- and part-time faculty and instructional staff who wish to **attend** workshops and/or conferences related to teaching and learning issues or to **present** teaching-related research at conferences in their own disciplines. Recipients of these funds will be asked to present something valuable that they learned or to offer a précis of the presentations they made.

The initial deadline for applications was January 10, and the TLC received and approved conference/travel fund requests for Ron Krabill and David Goldstein-Shirley.

Another \$4,000 is available to bring speakers and workshop leaders to campus. The TLC committed \$1,500 to bring Prof. Harvey Brightman to campus in the Spring to offer a one-

day workshop on improving teaching and student learning.

The next deadline for both funds is March 31. Please think ahead to workshops and/or conferences in the Spring and Summer.

If you are curious about what's going on locally or nationally that might be of interest to you, see what we have listed at <http://www.uwb.edu/toolkit/training.html>. If you know about something that we haven't listed, please let us know.



Institute for Teaching Excellence— A weeklong UW teaching institute

Each year, the UW's Office of Undergraduate Education invites applications from faculty to its weeklong Institute for Teaching Excellence retreat. Shortly, faculty should be receiving the call for applications for June 2003. Those who have attended in the past have found it an energizing and productive opportunity to retreat with experienced and gifted faculty, exchange ideas, participate in workshops on topics of concern, focus, eat well, and make substantial progress on a teaching project. The application is a simple one-page letter describing a course, activity or assignment design or revision. Institute planners consult participants in order to design sessions that address the challenges of the teaching projects that the participants want to work on that week.

Dan Jacoby of IAS attended in 2001, and in 2002, six

UWB representatives attended the retreat: Mary Abrums from Nursing, Jean Eisele from Education, Kelley Forrest from IAS, Becky Reed from Academic Services, and Kelvin Sung and Carol Zander from CSS. They joined eight faculty members from the Seattle campus and one from UW Tacoma's Nursing program. Presentations and workshops offered included course design, techniques for using drama, active learning, service learning, and technology in the classroom. The culmination of the week's work was a day of "show and tell" by the participants. It was a tremendously valuable experience and participants encourage UWB faculty to apply when the call goes out for this year's retreat. The TLC will be organizing continued discussions among the participants, some means of assessing the impact of the retreat on their teaching, and an opportunity for them to share the experience with the campus.

Open House: Visit TLC Space—and thank Don Wulff and CIDR



The Teaching and Learning Center is sharing space in the Library with Cascadia's Teaching and Learning Academy. We're located in rooms 306 through 309, on your right as you go through the third floor skyway and right before you reach the Reading Room. The space includes a small collection of books in a room with a couch and coffee pot, a meeting room with space for 10 to 12, and a work room with a couple of computers and tables.

We are staffed on a very part-time basis, but the Center is available Monday through Wednesday 9 AM to noon and Thursday 9 to 11 AM, or by appointment.

On Friday, February 28 from noon to 1 PM, we will have an Open House for you to see the space, to thank Don Wulff for his generous support of our efforts and to share lunch. If you would like to attend, please contact the TLC at tlc@uwb.edu.



**UWB's Teaching and Learning
Center**

LBA—Rooms 306-309
Box #358565
University of Washington, Bothell
Bothell, WA 98011-8245

Phone: 425-352-3551
Fax: 425-352-5211
Email: tlc@uwb.edu

**Visit our website—
and share your
syllabi and
assignments— at
www.uwb.edu/tlc**

Mission Statement:

The Teaching and Learning Center fosters a culture of critical reflection on teaching, which engages all members of the UWB community in pursuit of our commitment to excellence, innovation and collaboration in teaching and learning.

The success of the TLC will be measured by its contribution to transformative teaching and learning at UWB over the short- and long-term.

TLC Calendar of events for Winter & Spring



Tues., February 4—12 to 1 PM: Brown Bag on leading discussions in large classes. Facilitator: Jane VanGalen.

Fri., February 28—9AM to 4 PM: Workshop on Mid-quarter evaluations (also called SGIDs: Small Group Instructional Diagnostics). Presenter: Don Wulff, Director, Center for Institutional Development and Research, UW Seattle.

Wed., March 5—12 to 1 PM: Brown Bag on using small groups effectively. Facilitators: Andrea Kovalesky and Linda Watts.

Wed., March 12—1:15 to 3:15 PM: Workshop on Effective and Fair Grading. Facilitator: Bruce Kochis.



Thur., April 10—1 to 4 PM (time to be confirmed): Service learning workshop focused on where service learning can work (i.e., in what kinds of courses); designing projects; working with placement sites and with the UW Carlson Center. This workshop coincides with Gary Orfield's Distinguished Lecturer appearance on campus, and we will be drawing connections between his work and UWB's service learning endeavors. Facilitators: Ron Krabill and Michaelann Jundt, Director, Carlson Center, UW Seattle.

Fri., April 18—9 AM to 3 PM: Writing Pedagogy Forum—Theory and Practice in Quantitative Reasoning instruction.

Mon., April 21—12 to 1 PM: Brown Bag on providing effective feedback to students.

Wed., May 7—1:15 to 3:15 PM: Workshop on Designing Effective Writing Assignments.

Fri., May 16—10 AM to 2 PM: Workshop on Teaching and Course Portfolios. Presenter: Carmen Werder, Western Washington University.