Teaching & Learning Conference Recap

As we reviewed the success of the 2014 Teaching & Learning Conference, held on June 13, we spoke to a few presenters to obtain their viewpoint.

Michelle Buchberger, Ph.D., Chair, Interdisciplinary Studies (http://www.franklin.edu/idst) presented The Interdisciplinary Cognitive Toolkit: Educating Students for the 21st Century, a 30-minute session on the relevance of Interdisciplinary Studies given trends in education. Said Buchberger, "I think it went very well. All of the feedback I have received has been very positive, and I've received several emails asking for information. Our folks from Urbana were excited about the possibilities for collaboration, which would expand the number of focus areas available with the Interdisciplinary Studies program. It was an electric atmosphere in the session; everyone was engaged. And, with 25 attendees, this is the best-attended conference presentation I've ever given on campus. It was well organized, technical support was good, and logistics were smooth. It was nice to be able to see the program information and who had signed in.

T&L Conference Recap (Continued)

I4's own Barbara Carder, M.S., Content Editor, presented Active Learning Strategies You Can Use in Your Classroom, a 75-minute session that engaged educators in practicing strategies to keep students actively focused and inspired in the classroom.

In this spirit, Barbara began the totally full session with an icebreaker called "WANTED poster," in which attendees wrote down their teaching challenges and what they hoped to gain from the session and then posted them around the room, which led to active discussion. The strategies that were "Most Wanted" focused on breaking up lectures and incorporating activities. The activities that attendees actively participated in included using Polleverywhere.com to poll students throughout a lecture; clicking on QR codes to take quizzes relevant to content; pairing students to Think/Pair/Share; and the Fish Bowl, in which students write down unanswered questions/issues and the instructor picks from the bowl.

Barbara had all attendees sign in and was pleased to note they included educators from Columbus State, Urbana, Baldwin Wallace, Northwest, and others.
Barbara Carder continues her interview with Elliott Masie, President and CEO of The MASIE Center and author of the Learning TRENDS newsletter series.

When asked to reflect on one change in the last five years that has impacted higher education, Masie selected the topic of online collaboration by learners. “The question is, how do we get learners who are learning online to collaborate, and it’s not simple,” said Masie. “It’s not just pointing learners to discussion boards or using SharePoint. Collaboration happens because you spend some serious time and effort making it happen.”

Masie feels strongly that another component of collaboration is determining what went wrong with a project. “I think we have to acknowledge that it takes design, and I don’t think we have even begun to figure out how to get design completely right for collaboration. We need to make sure as we design that we are more and more looking to figure out what works and what doesn’t work.

“I think it’s really critical when you collaborate to understand what people want and need. To become better at this we have to figure out what failed in the past. I think it’s great to say let’s get together and do an autopsy on this project. Let’s review it and determine what we could have done better,” Masie said. “It’s very exciting to see that and then go on to collaborate on the next project. Innovation doesn’t happen overnight. It sometimes takes years of experimenting, but I think we are going to get better and better at collaboration.”

To subscribe to Learning TRENDS by Elliott Masie, go to: http://www.masieweb.com/trends/subscribe-to-trends
To read more about Masie and The MASIE Center, go to http://masie.com.

“The most important principle for designing lively eLearning is to see eLearning design not as information design, but as designing an experience.”

– Cathy Moore

i4 Professional Development Series

i4 is proud to announce a new professional development series of monthly presentations by i4 faculty members covering instructional design, assessment, teaching effectiveness, and technology training.

The first presentation in this series will be the Interactive Media Design (IMD) Student Gallery Demonstration on July 10. Dr. Dan Bell will demonstrate the project approach used in the program and highlight student work. Participants will have an opportunity to examine some of the developed apps, ask questions, and explore the Gallery on their own after the presentation.

Targeted towards professionals working in higher education, these presentations are open to Franklin and Urbana University faculty and staff and i4 members. For more information on this event or how to become an i4 member, contact the Institute at i4@franklin.edu.

Blog Spotlight: Dr. Joel Gardner

Looking for advice on using instructional design or adapting your materials to different learning styles? Would you like it with a dose of wit and perhaps some tips about running? Look no further than Dr. Joel Gardner’s blog!

Dr. Gardner, who is Program Chair of the Instructional Design and Performance Technology Program at Franklin University, regularly posts about topics such as ADDIE, instructional materials, e-learning, goal setting, and much more. His research and teaching focus is on learning theory, instructional theory, enhancing learning with technology, and human performance improvement.

You can find his blog at http://joelleegardner.blogspot.com. His most popular posts include “Applying Merrill’s First Principles of Instruction: Practical Methods Based on a Review of the Literature”, “What is the Difference Between Instructional Design, Instructional Science, and Instructional Technology?” and “How to Structure Academic Writing.”

i4 to offer Fellowship

i4 is offering a fellowship position to those who are interested in learning more about instructional design, teaching effectiveness, assessment, and/or multimedia development. The program outcomes of this 1– to 3-month fellowship will be tailored to meet the selected applicant’s areas of interest and need.

For more information on this opportunity, please contact the Institute at i4@franklin.edu.
Franklin Learning Showcase

Abstracts are now being accepted for the Franklin University Learning Showcase (formerly Scholarship Forum) to be held this Nov. 14, from 4-5:30 p.m. in Ross Auditorium. Open to ALL faculty, staff, students and alumni, the peer-reviewed poster event will provide not only the opportunity to enhance curriculum vitae listings, but also will allow for a sharing of research and idea generation. A peer-review panel will recognize outstanding posters in each category:

- Business
- Education
- Government
- Non-Profit

Abstract submission deadline: September 30, 2014
Poster deadline: November 1, 2014

For details, email learningshowcase@franklin.edu

Get More out of i4

Become an i4 member and get access to many great benefits and opportunities, including Mini-MOOCs, discounts on badges, monthly presentations and workshops, 50% discount to the 2015 Teaching & Learning Conference, and more! For more information on becoming a member, email us at i4@franklin.edu.

About this Newsletter

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