WheelerNotes

Cookies, Tea, and Conversation with the Dean:
Wheeler invites you to join him in the Foundation Room at 2:00 pm on Monday, August 23 for a Dean’s forum. He will not have a presentation but will attempt to answer questions and respond to suggestions from faculty members. Hence questions like, “Why are we …,” and “How will we …” are appropriate as are suggestions like, “Wheeler, we really ought to ….” Light refreshments will be in the vicinity for those who converse better with food in the vicinity.

President’s Initiative - Summer Support for Scholarship: Please visit this web site to see the details of the Faculty/Student Summer Scholarship Initiative announced by President Nickel at the first Fall faculty meeting. http://www.gdn.edu/departments/academicaffairs/fac_development.asp

On Building a New Building: In Fall and Spring of 2009-2010 we danced dangerously near running out of classroom space on our campus. This Fall we finally did. As we begin the Fall semester there are no available classrooms between 9:00 am and 2:00 pm on the Barnesville campus, and this is despite the fact that we are using two rooms as classrooms that have never served as classrooms before. Since the hours of 9:00 am – 2:00 pm are the hours that best serve the needs of our commuting population (75% of our student body), we must find additional capacity in these hours. We are very fortunate that we have available a solution to this impasse.

Over time we have gravitated toward using a substantial number of Monday-Wednesday, two-day a week classes and leaving classrooms vacant on Friday. Since there are five meeting times for MWF classes between 9:00 and 2:00 and only three meeting times for two-day a week (MW) classes in this same time period, we get an effect equivalent to building a small classroom building just by adjusting our scheduling policies. For Spring, 2010 we will only schedule MWF classes in the 9:00 am to 2:00 pm time interval.

We should observe that this does not preclude either faculty or students from having four day a week schedules. We will have a rich schedule of classes on Mondays and Wednesdays using the 3:00 – 4:15 hour and the 4:30 – 5:45 hours, and we will also create a new 7:35 – 8:50 time period on Monday-Wednesday that will permit a student or faculty member to participate in a single MW class and complete the rest of a schedule on T-Th.

Responding to Disruptive Behavior
Each Fall we must go through the cycle of helping a new freshman class learn the behavior that is appropriate in a college classroom. In case you have students in your classes who have not yet mastered the basics, here is a summary of steps you can use in addressing their behavior.

1. Treat each classroom situation as an opportunity to teach appropriate behavior in a college classroom to those who need it. Make students aware of expected behavior by publishing your expectations in your syllabus and going over the syllabus at the beginning of the semester.

2. If a problem does occur, remind the student of your expectations. If you can address the issue in a private time and place, the outcome will be better. Responding the first time that a problem occurs, or when you first recognize that there is a problem, helps considerably.

3. After you have reminded the student of your expectations, you have several options to use if the disruptive behaviors continue. You will choose among these alternatives on the basis of the severity of the disruptive behavior.
behavior; you may choose to sequence two or more of these steps:

a. You may ask the student to leave the class and tell the student that he or she cannot return until the student has met with you outside of class. [If you feel physically threatened by the student, ask a colleague to sit in on the meeting.]

b. You may ask the student to leave the class and tell the student that he or she cannot return until the student has met with the division chair. *

c. You may ask the student to leave the class and tell the student that he or she cannot return until the student has met with the Vice President of Academic Affairs.*

*Note: In options (b) and (c) you will need to file an email statement with the person to whom you are sending the student.

4. If at some point the behavior becomes intolerable despite multiple interventions, you can ask the Vice President of Student Affairs to remove the student from your class or the College.

5. If the disruptive behavior is particularly egregious, you may skip several steps and communicate early with the Vice President of Student Affairs

Contact information for Student Affairs Office:
5056 or dawnb@gdn.edu

AndersonNotes

Library News -- Try GIL-Find

A catalog user will find a note across the Gordon College Catalog page that says try Gil-Find. Try it. It is an alternate way to search the catalog that will improve the user’s experience in finding a book. Both the GIL Classic and GIL-Find options will remain available.

GIL-Find is based on the open source software VUFind. Its features include faceted search, Boolean search, text information to a cell phone, Google book links, and log in to add tags or comments to your favorite books. There are many other features to GIL-Find.

You can read more about GIL-Find at http://gil.usg.edu/html/aboutgilfind.html

BaskinNotes

Inaugural Distance Learning Conference on September 23 and 24, 2010, at Columbus State University.

Theme: “Distance Learning: The ‘Now’ Frontier.” Conference tracks will include:

- Innovative Strategies: Techniques for teaching online
- First Timer’s Club: Experiences with entering the online teaching arena
- What You Need to Teach Online: Handy hints, ideas, and tricks of the trade
- Creating Communities Online: How to build communities at a distance
- Cool Tools: Unique uses of online technology

Registration fee: $25 per day or $45 for both days.

The call for proposals was submitted late to us, but you may wish to contact the person below to find out if they are still being accepted. Proposals abstracts (200 words) were to be submitted through the conference web-site at: http://online.colstate.edu/dlconference/ through the July 18 deadline.

Contact person: Dr. Tom Hackett, Chair of the Distance Learning Committee at Columbus State University, at 706-568-2061 or hackett_paul@colstate.edu.

USG Faculty Development Monthly Series for 2010-2011. The Gordon College Academic Affairs Office has determined that attending these workshops can be considered “essential travel,” and faculty can be reimbursed for travel expenses according to college policy and approvals from the division chair and the Dean.

The first workshop in the series will be held Monday, September 20, 2010 and is titled Advocating for Open Textbooks. Online registration, directions, and lodging information can be found on the faculty development website at: http://www.usg.edu/faculty_affairs/workshops/category/academic_year_2010-2011/.

Registration: Free

The workshop web page includes the full schedule. Note that the October session will be held at the Georgia College and State University and the February session will be held at Gainesville State College.
Policy on the Use of Copyrighted Work in Education and Research

As a system devoted to providing the highest quality undergraduate and graduate education to students; pursuing leading-edge basic and applied research, scholarly inquiry, and creative endeavors; and bringing intellectual resources to the citizenry, the University System of Georgia is committed to respecting the rights of copyright holders and complying with copyright law. The University System of Georgia recognizes that the exclusive rights of copyright holders are balanced by limitations on those rights under federal copyright law, including the right to make a fair use of copyrighted materials and the right to perform or display works in the course of face-to-face teaching activities.

The University System of Georgia facilitates compliance with copyright law and, where appropriate, the exercise in good faith of full fair use rights by faculty and staff in teaching, research, and service activities. Specifically, the University System of Georgia

- informs and educates students, faculty, and staff about copyright law, including the limited exclusive rights of copyright holders as set forth in 17 U.S.C. § 106, the application of the four fair use factors in 17 U.S.C. § 107, and other copyright exceptions;
- develops and makes available tools and resources for faculty and staff to assist in determining copyright status and ownership and determining whether use of a work in a specific situation would be a fair use and, therefore, not an infringement under copyright law;
- facilitates use of materials currently licensed by the University System of Georgia and provides information on licensing of third-party materials by the University System; and
- identifies individuals at the University System and member institutions who can counsel faculty and staff regarding application of copyright law.

BetkowskiNotes

I attended the Ron Clark Academy in Atlanta in late May. The Ron Clark Academy hosts visitors from all over the world. It is a model school that demonstrates innovative instructional strategies for reaching the gifted as well as the most challenging students. New and experienced educators should experience a day at the school. I was so impressed; I purchased both of Ron Clark’s books and donated them to the Hightower Library. I would like to thank the Faculty Development Committee for accepting my proposal.

Learning Support 2010

Thirty-five full and part-time Learning Support faculties are hitting the ground running this semester. The Reading and English faculty are working on a proposal to move to a one-level, four-credit course in each discipline. The math faculty will be working on a course redesign to increase the number of students who pass LS and continue on to be successful in a college level math course. Math faculty will encourage active learning, moving students from a passive, “note-taking” role to one where students will spend the bulk of their course time doing math problems, along with computer-based learning resources found in MyMathLab.

BursteinNotes

First, I’d like to thank everyone for the kindness they showed me all summer long while my broken ankle mended. Meetings moved to Russell, doors held open, and broken elevators promptly repaired are just a few examples of the gestures which made the summer pass much more easily than it might have.

- Jeff Knighton and Brenda Johnson were featured in an article “Vista: the Instructor’s File Cabinet” in USG’s Georgia Viewpoints available at http://www.usg.edu/gaview/accomplishments/viewpoints09.pdf.
- On July 14, Jeff Knighton delivered an invited presentation entitled "Building an Online Education Program from the Ground Up--Research and Best Practices" to the administration and leadership of Georgia Military College, in Milledgeville.

PerkowskiNotes

Dr. Caesar Perkowski will conduct three GeorgiaVIEW workshops for those interested in online or hybrid instruction, at 2pm on:

- Sept 15 (IC 102): what’s new in V8, views, profile, mail, calendar, learning modules
- Oct 06 (IC 103): discussions, peer review, announcements, grade book, grading forms, selective release
Nov10 (IC 103): file manager, assessment, chat, group manager, goals, journals

A sign-up sheet will be sent out for each workshop.

O’Sullivan Notes

This will be a big year for the Education Division with our NCATE accreditation visit scheduled for the end of March. We finished last year strong with more than half of our early childhood graduates getting teaching positions even in this difficult economic climate where some school districts are releasing veteran teachers. We are also hoping that Cohort 4 will continue our tradition of strong “Gordon Teachers” as we bring in another full cohort of juniors this year.

In addition to these new early childhood students, we will be welcoming our very first secondary education majors in Math and Biology. These students will not use the cohort model, and so far the number of students in each major will be small, but we are excited to be a part of these new baccalaureate programs.

Finally, we have had some reasons to celebrate in the scholarship department, too. Dr. Pam Bell has had proposals accepted for three different national and state conferences for next year, and Dr. Sheryl O’Sullivan has also had a national conference proposal accepted.