

# TEACHING AND LEARNING CENTER NEWSLETTER

## Spring 2013 Workshops

Look for workshops and sessions about:

- ◆ The Faculty Role in Retention: Classroom Connections that Make a Difference, presented by Dr. Aaron Thompson, from Eastern Kentucky University on January 17, 2013
- ◆ Working with student athletes to improve their academic performance, coordinated with SSU Athletics
- ◆ The revival of the SSU Cybertek Learning Community: Online Education at SSU
- ◆ Curriculum planning to create and evaluate courses, coordinated with Jeradi Cohen, Director of Distance Learning and QM
- ◆ Improving student writing across the campus, coordinated with Marc Scott, Director of the SSU Writing Center and Cynthia Hermanson
- ◆ Mentorships with adjunct composition faculty and full-time English faculty, coordinated with Jennifer Pauley, SSU Director of Composition
- ◆ Articles found in the [Chronicle of Higher Education](#)
- ◆ Sexual harassment on college campuses, coordinated with SSU Personnel Dept.
- ◆ Publishing in Academia: A workshop designed to offer assistance to faculty wishing to publish
- ◆ Topics of interest to Shawnee State's Early Service Faculty

### Early Service Faculty Learning

In an effort to legally acclimatize and serve the teaching needs of SSU's new faculty (within three years of service at SSU), the TLC held three informal meetings. The group of new faculty sat an agenda during the initial meeting, discussed methods of engaging students in class discussions during the second meeting, and shared ideas about how to entice students "to do the assigned readings" during the final meeting (held at the Portsmouth Brewery Arcade). Ten faculty members have joined this group and the group is open for any other early service faculty members who wish to join mid-year.

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### Wednesday, September 12, 2012

#### "Handling the Emotionally Distressed Student"

(Violent/Verbally Aggressive/Anxious/Depressed/ Suspicious/ Convergence Issues/Intervention/ Poor Contact with Reality)

Fourteen faculty and staff members attended this workshop, co-facilitated by Dr. Linda Koenig and Dr. Mike Hughes, which aided participants with methods for preventing and diffusing disruptive students. The potential negative effect from these behaviors can vary by degree, but each of these behaviors is disruptive to the work we do with and for our students—whether they test our patience, cross our boundaries, derail our work, or threaten our personal safety. What can be done to better manage (or help students manage) these problems?

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### Wednesday, October 10, 2012

#### "Have you talked with your advisor yet?"

Like any relationship, those involving faculty members and students require nurturing. Faculty and staff were invited to this workshop on advising to help them with this important role. Debbie Watson, Coordinator for Academic Advising; Dean Timothy Scheurer; Colleen Kozan, Academic Advisor, and Jennifer Hammonds, Associate Provost, addressed the following topics: advising for the GEP, use of current advising software and MySSU, and advising at the department level. Speakers also addressed concerns about faculty advising.

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### Wednesday, October 24, 2012

#### "Humans are People, Too"

Part of our job as faculty is to model and use ethical research practices that ensure human research participants are protected. During this workshop, Sharon Eaves, the Chair of the Shawnee State University Institutional Review Board (IRB), discussed a brief history of the IRB, current policies and procedures of the SSU IRB as well as the Federal Guidelines, and described the most recent applications researchers must submit. Dr. Eaves also discussed best practices for human research participant protection. Faculty interested in performing research with human participants, especially SSU students, with the goal of presenting or publishing the findings in a public setting, must submit an application to the SSU IRB before the beginning of data collection. Ten faculty members attended this session.

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### Tuesday, October 30, 2012

#### Promoting Promotion

A panel of representatives from past promotion committees for the College of Arts and Sciences shared "Best Practices" and offered tips for preparing a portfolio and navigating the promotion process. This committee addressed the needs of this year's applicants.

## Linda Hunt

Linda Hunt was born in Schenectady, New York, near Albany, in 1963. At the age of three, she moved to Wheeling, West Virginia. She attended Wheeling Harp High School and the school's mascot was the Patriots. She remembers this because the school first opened in 1976, making her a member of its first graduating class.

Hunt decided to stay in the state when she chose a university, a decision which led her to attend Bethany College in Bethany, West Virginia. She started graduate school early, during the last semester of her undergraduate year. At Bethany College,

she majored in Mathematics and received a Bachelor's degree with her studies. Her Master's degree is in Education with a concentration in Mathematics. During her time as an undergraduate, there was a shortage of math teachers as well as computer science teachers, so she was able to add Computer Science as her second Education concentration. After obtaining her Master's degree, she received an Educational Specialist Degree (EDS) or, as her father has once dully noted, "the degree that no one has ever

heard of." Her newly-obtained EDS, along with her father's comment, propelled Hunt to get her doctorate degree. The EDS is in between her Master's and Doctorate's degrees; she was missing her dissertation which is why, as she puts it, she was in the middle. She is proud of receiving her Doctoral degree because it was very difficult, and she remembers doubting her ability to successfully obtain her Doctorate's degree.

The most memorable and meaningful thing that Hunt says she has done throughout

her life thus far is tutor Veterans. Hunt admires the brave Veterans that have stood up for, and continue to stand up for, our country.

Hunt decided to come and teach here at Shawnee State University because the university "gave her an offer that she could not refuse." But there are other reasons as well. Hunt felt as though she was ready for something different and more challenging.

If she were not teaching, Hunt says she would try to do something with cooking, since she loves to cook. If you were to look for Linda Hunt outside of the classroom, you would most likely find her ballroom dancing or making prayer quilts for others.

## Jennifer Napper

Jennifer Napper was born in Marietta, Ohio on January 23; however, she did not stay in Marietta for long. She lived in Marietta for approximately nine years, and then moved to a new city where she spent nearly half of her life before moving once again. She went to Hawkings High School in Athens, Ohio and attended Ohio University, also located in Athens, for her undergraduate years. She received her Bachelor's degree in Chemis-

try at Ohio University. Her major was Chemistry, but she also took many mathematics and psychology courses. Napper would have like to obtained a minor in Psychology, but could not due to the extensive course requirements of her major in Chemistry.

Napper is very proud of finishing her Ph. D. because it was a long process for her. Napper is also extremely proud of her children.

Napper claims she will

never forget the good times she had while attending Ohio University and likewise, the fun she had while raising her children. Although she enjoyed graduate school as well, Napper admits that it was still stressful.

Napper and her husband moved to Portsmouth about ten years ago. Her husband took a position at Shawnee State University as a Chemistry professor. She took undergraduate courses

at SSU for a couple of years before attending graduate school. While things have changed since she was an undergraduate here, Napper likes the small environment that SSU has to offer and the fact that it is very close to home. She loves that SSU offers small classes because she can interact with students one-on-one.

If Napper were not currently teaching, she says she would most likely be spending her days reading and going on walks.

## Marc Scott

Marc Scott was born on November 27, 1974, in Lakewood, California, which is located just outside of Los Angeles. However, not long after birth, Scott moved to Morgantown, West Virginia. From Morgantown, Scott later moved to Portsmouth. When Scott was nine years old, he and his family moved back to California where he attended Mount Miguel High School in Spring Valley. After graduating high school, Scott studied for a time at Junior Community College in San Diego.

Scott then attended San Francisco State University to receive his Bachelor's degree. Upon obtaining his Bachelor's degree, Scott began attending the University of California in San Marcos to complete his Master's degree. Scott went on to study at New Mexico State University for his Ph.D. in Composition Studies.

Of all the things Scott has to be proud of, he is most proud of his marriage married because he believes he has the best wife, stating she keeps him in line.

Scott will never forget the time he spent in the United States Army as it was a great life experience. Scott also says he will never forget finally finishing his Ph.D. Scott decided to teach at Shawnee State University because he knew a little about the university and has relatives close by. He likes that the university is small and had an established way of doing things.

When Scott is not teaching, one would most likely to find him fishing, primarily for catfish.

## Mich Nywalo

Mich Nywalo was born in the western region of Kenya. He left the country when he was only eight years old and moved to France, where he lived for several years. He has attended several high schools including one in France, one in Uganda, and one in Kenya. In high school Nywalo most enjoyed studying politics, literature, and history.

He attended college in Sweden, where he completed his Bachelor's degree. He received a major was English with an emphasis on Cultural Studies. He obtained a minor in French. Nywalo attended

graduate school at Pennsylvania State University to complete his Ph. D. in Comparative Literature.

He likes Shawnee State University because the class sizes are typically small, which he appreciates more having taught in the past at Big Ten schools where class sizes are much larger. He also feels as though the students know him more and are able to go to him during his office hours. He feels as though SSU makes it possible for students and professors to

make a comfortable bond through learning. He was attracted to the mission of the university as well. Nywalo says he wishes that there were classes taught at SSU that would help bridge the gap between the university and the community, such as courses involving service learning. Here at SSU, he teaches Literature, Discourse and Composition, and French.

Nywalo is most proud of his recent Ph.D., among many other things he has

accomplished as a professor. For example, he enjoys when past students contact him to tell him of their accomplishments and thank him for teaching them the knowledge that was needed to succeed in their field.

If he were not teaching, Nywalo says he would be working for a non-governmental organization that deals with public policy and poverty. While Nywalo is still teaching; however, one could find him outside of the classroom talking to his reading group about the latest book they have read or spending time at comedy clubs.

## Derek Jones

Derek Jones was born in West Union, Ohio, located in Adams County, in 1984. While Jones was born in West Union he has lived in both Cincinnati, Ohio and Dayton, Ohio. Jones is currently residing in his hometown of Adams County.

Jones received his Ph. D. at the University of Cincinnati in 2011. After finishing graduate school, Jones moved to Dayton and worked a job in

industry for approximately a year and a half. Jones then came to Portsmouth.

In school, Jones studied physical organic chemistry, but his primary discipline was organic chemistry. He is most proud of the teaching awards he received during graduate school as a teaching assistant. Along with his teaching awards, Jones will never forget about the birth of his son.

Jones chose Shawnee

State University because he is from the area. In fact, he graduated with a Bachelor's degree from SSU and enjoyed his time here as a student. Jones likes the fact that SSU is a teaching university and not a research university. He wants to educate future doctors and nurses who can impact the world.

If he were not teaching, Jones says he would be still working in industry, making

different types of plastics in Dayton.

His favorite hobby is baseball. He has an umpiring license so he umpires games for high school baseball teams in the area, but Jones says he would never be a baseball coach here at SSU. "It is just too much time and effort involved in teaching baseball. I spend a lot of time teaching, so I don't think I have the time to [coach]," Jones says.

### **Wednesday, November 28, 2012 2012-2013 Senior Seminar Faculty Session**

Twenty-four members of Shawnee State University faculty and administration gathered for an early evening dinner and panel conversation about teaching the G.E.P. capstone course, Senior Seminar. Co-hosted by the TLC and Phil Blau, Director of the G.E.P., the event featured Michael Johnson, Roberta Millikin, and Patrick Leedham, who shared tips for preparing curriculum and conducting the seminar. Materials for the presentation are available on the TLC Blackboard site.

### **Thursday, November 29, 2012 "Using Adobe Connect: A Tool for Instruction and Beyond"**

An interactive demonstration was provided for using this university-wide tool to facilitate instruction, enhance faculty-student communication, and beyond. Twelve faculty members joined Dr. Jeradi Cohen, Director of SSU's Distance Learning Program, to experience a hands-on demonstration that featured an easy way faculty can see and talk with groups of students (via voice and camera) while simultaneously viewing Powerpoints. The group saw how it can be used to present materials and watch students present their work, too. Adobe Connect is an easy first step for those wanting to hold group conferences, discussions, and other learning experiences across distances.

## Tuesday, September 18 & Tuesday, October 17, 2012 Coffee and Conversation

The TLC *Faculty and Student College Coffee and Conversation* was held in the Smith Coffee House in the University Center. The campus-wide event brought together faculty, students, and staff to build community and develop friendships. The *Faculty and Student College Coffee* offered a relaxed atmosphere with snacks and beverages to sustain everyone until lunch. Twenty-five students and staff attended the first College Coffee and Conversation and fifty-six attended the second. Spring 2013 dates are Feb. 30 and April 9.

## November 2012: Lilly Conference

Three faculty members attended the conference that was held in November at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. The three faculty members were Pat Spradlin, Marc Scott, and Kejing Liu. They will share what they have learned from the conference at the TLC. Workshops included "Lecturing for Deep Learning: Effective, Efficient, Research-Based Strategies," "Engaging Students as Partners in Teaching and Learning," and "Understanding the Psychology of Today's College Students: Engaging a New Generation of Learners."

## Winter Break 2012

Over winter break, the TLC collected from Shawnee State University faculty, staff, and students over \$100 worth of supplies and donations for Sierra's Haven (pictured),

a local animal shelter located in Portsmouth, Ohio. The supplies and donations collected helped to brighten the holiday season for the animals that call Sierra's Haven home. Sierra's Haven is a non-profit organization and is always in need of both vol-



unteers and donations. For information on how you can make a donation to Sierra's Haven, whether it be your time or resources, please visit [sierashaven.homestead.com](http://sierashaven.homestead.com) or call (740)353-5100.

## Attention Faculty:

### Sloan-C Certificate Scholarships still available

The Teaching and Learning Center will sponsor two faculty members interested in taking the nine-month intensive online training provided by the Sloan Consortium. The Sloan-C Certificate prepares educators to teach and improve online courses using the Sloan-C pillars of quality in online education: learning effectiveness, scale, faculty and student satisfaction, and access. Work with expert mentors to accomplish specific goals. Participants achieve a Sloan-C Certificate by completing a two-week introductory course, a nine-week base course and three chosen electives.



## Spring Hours Administration 032

### Monday

8:00 am - 10:00 am  
11:00 am - 12:00 pm  
1:15 pm - 3:15 pm

### Tuesday

8:00 am - 9:00 am  
2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

### Wednesday

#### \*Faculty and Staff Coffee Day\*

8:00 am - 10:00 am  
11:00 am - 12:00 pm  
1:15 pm - 3:15 pm

### Thursday

8:00 am - 9:00 am  
2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

### Friday

8:00 am - 10:00 am  
11:00 am - 4:00 pm

TLC Director: Pat Spradlin

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[www.shawnee.edu/off/tlc/index.html](http://www.shawnee.edu/off/tlc/index.html)

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