

Two Upcoming Events with External Presenters on How to Improve Student Learning

In October, the Center for Teaching and Learning is offering two special events with national speakers who have extensive credentials for strategies on how to improve student learning:

This coming Friday, October 6, **Dr. Glen Jacobs**, Director of the International Center for Supplemental Instruction in Kansas City, and **Dr. Maureen Hurley**, the Center's Associate Director, will provide an introduction to Supplemental Instruction (SI), followed by a workshop for those who wish to be trained in some basic procedures of SI.

On Thursday, October 19, **Dr. Terrence Doyle**, Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning at Ferris State University, will do two presentations on Learning How to Learn Strategies, one geared toward faculty, the other toward tutors.

To reserve a seat, please register for any of these events that you are interested in at your earliest convenience by calling ex. 4467 or e-mailing e-hansen@neiu.edu

Details for October 6

SUPPLEMENTAL INSTRUCTION (SI) is an academic assistance program that utilizes peer-assisted study sessions. This approach was originally developed at the University of Missouri-Kansas City, and has become instrumental on many campuses across the country as well as internationally for improving students' success and graduation rates.

We are very pleased to announce that the director of UMKC's Center for Academic Development, Dr. Glen Jacobs, and the associate director, Dr. Maureen Hurley, have agreed to introduce us to what is widely seen as one of the most effective academic development procedures in the country. Dr. Jacobs and Dr. Hurley will offer two activities to us on Friday, October 6, at the Center for Teaching and Learning, Library 310:

9:00 – 10:30 AM, CTL, LIB-310 - Dr. Jacobs will provide a general introduction to SI, including overall procedures, theoretical background, and data from effectiveness studies. This session addresses itself mostly to faculty and administrators who want to gain an overview of SI. For a quick first look at SI, go to www.umkc.edu/cad/si/ and click on Overview.

10:30 AM – 4:00 PM, CTL, LIB-310 - Dr. Hurley will conduct a workshop for faculty and student tutors who want to experience first-hand how the SI approach works (see next page for more details). The workshop is more targeted at tutors and faculty of traditionally difficult courses, who are interested in the actual procedures of how SI is done. **Lunch and snacks will be provided if you register by Wednesday morning!**

Here is some more detail on the Supplemental Instruction workshop:

Dr. Hurley's workshop will include topics such:

- Key elements of SI
- How to plan, open, conduct, and close an SI session
- The first day of class "speech"
- What to do if certain problems emerge
- Learning strategies for different types of SI sessions (e.g. problem-solving vs. info-based)
- Relationships between faculty, peer-tutors, students, facilitators
- Understanding how this model works

Details for October 19

Dr. Terrence Doyle from Ferris State's Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning has many years of experience helping faculty and other academic personnel devise effective ways of improving students' study skills. His workshops and presentations have been very well received across the country. If you have ever wondered how you could possibly integrate study strategies into your content course, you could not wish for a more competent and eloquent introduction to the topic (see also the FCTL's website at: http://www.ferris.edu/HTMLS/academics/center/Teaching_and_Learning_Tips/T_LHome.html!)

How Current Research on Learning can Enhance Tutoring: A Presentation (mainly) for Tutors
1:40 – 2:55 PM, CTL, LIB-310

This workshop will focus on how to use the most current research about how college students learn to design the best tools and strategies for assisting them with their course learning. It will begin with a discussion of what is learning and how does learning occur in college students, continue with a discussion of how tutoring activities can be enhanced by developing strategies that mirror the current research on learning and conclude with a discussion of specific tutoring strategies in the areas of reading textbooks, test preparation and study and organization of information into familiar patterns.

Integrating Learning How to Learn Strategies into Content Teaching: A Presentation (mainly) for Faculty
3:00 – 4:15 PM, CTL, LIB-310

This presentation will focus on the **how to learn skills** that are needed by all college students if they are to be successful learners, especially in content areas that are new to them. Six areas where faculty can help students learn how to learn their content will be discussed. They include: ways to organize and pattern information into familiar structures that aid students' learning, strategies for helping students better comprehend lectures and readings, ways to assist students in development of long term memories of course content, tools for helping students to locate the important information in lectures and readings, strategies for helping students learn how to think about the content area subject matter and finally, helping students to monitor their learning to know if they have successfully learned.

All CTL Bulletins are available on our website at: www.neiu.edu/~ctl/