April 2015

APRIL EVENTS

Wednesday, April 1, noon-1:00, LIB 378
**Exploring Service Learning Options** with Gerri Perreault, Chair of UNI American Democracy Project (ADP) and Donna Vinton, Director of Academic Assessment

Monday, April 6, 3:00-4:00, LIB 378
**Rock the First Day!** with Brittany Flokstra (Chemistry) and Susan Hill (CETL)

Thursday, April 9, 3:30-4:30, LIB 378
**First Generation and Low-Income Student Panel** with first generation and/or low-income students

Saturday, April 11, 10-12, Bartlett 1043
**Working with Small Group Dynamics in the Classroom** a workshop with Alison Bianchi (U of Iowa)

Monday, April 13, 3:00-4:00, LIB 378
**Flipped Learning in a Methods Class** a Teach UNI Project Presentation by Jean Schneider (C&I)

Thursday, April 16, 3:30-4:45, CBB 109 (John Deere Auditorium)
**Who Benefits?: Preserving and Making Available an Institution’s Digital Research and Creative and Scholarly Output** with Stephanie Davis-Kahl (Illinois Wesleyan University)

Tuesday, April 21, 3:30-4:45, LIB 378
**Problem-Based Learning Workshop** with Dan Bumblauskas (Management)

FALL FACULTY WORKSHOP 2015

Save the date! **THURSDAY, AUGUST 20, 9am-4pm** *Registration available in July*

**Improving Students’ Critical Thinking Skills—Strategies for the Classroom Facilitator**
Presented by Susan Wolcott

Workshop Description: Professors in all disciplines agree that important educational outcomes include the development of critical thinking skills. However, professors often struggle to understand the mental processes that underlie skill development and to design coursework that efficiently fosters improved student thinking. This workshop will help participants explore innovative and practical ways to enhance their students’ critical thinking skills.

Participants will:
- Clarify their desired learning outcomes for critical thinking
- Learn how and why an important student characteristic—cognitive development—affects student critical thinking performance
- Recognize patterns of thinking in students’ written papers
- Explore a variety of ways to scaffold improved thinking
- Improve assignment design to support and encourage better critical thinking

**Susan K. Wolcott** is an independent scholar with WolcottLynch Associates and Thought Leader for professional education at CPA Canada. She works with educators around the world on critical thinking development, competency assessment, and curriculum innovation. She has won awards for teaching excellence at IE Business School and University of Denver. Prior to academia, she worked in public accounting for ten years (including Coopers & Lybrand). She holds Ph.D. and MS degrees in Accounting and Information Systems from Northwestern University and a BBA in accounting from University of Portland.
**APRIL EVENT DESCRIPTIONS**

**Wednesday, April 1, noon-1:00, LIB 378 Exploring Service Learning Options**
This session will provide an introduction to using service-learning in college courses. Topics to be covered include: What makes a course a service learning course and what are your options (fully integrated, option for students, extra 1 credit)? What are reasons for adding service learning to a course? What is the role of reflection in service learning courses and how can student reflections be graded? Where are resources for developing and implementing a service learning course? Presenters: Gerri Perreault, Chair of UNI American Democracy Project (ADP) and Donna Vinton, Director of Academic Assessment.

**Monday, April 6, 3:00-4:00, LIB 378 Rock the First Day!**
What we do in our classes on the first day sets the tone for the entire semester. If we want our students to be engaged in the material and willing to talk in class, we need to start by engaging them in discussion about the course material. Join Brittany Flokstra (Chemistry) and Susan Hill (CETL) for a discussion of alternative ways to think about what happens in class on the first day of the semester. We'll look forward to hearing your ideas, too!

**TEACH UNI PROJECT PRESENTATION**
Monday, April 13, 3:00-4:00, LIB 378 Jean Schneider (Curriculum & Instruction) will be presenting her Teach UNI project, Flipped Learning in a Methods Class. How can we deepen student understanding of our curriculum? Flipped learning can provide a number of benefits for students and professors, but planning and implementation can be difficult. This session will provide the participants with the purpose, methods, and student perspectives of a flipped educational methods class.

**Saturday, April 11, 10-12, Bartlett 1043 Working with Small Group Dynamics in the Classroom**
Facilitated by Dr. Alison Bianchi (U of Iowa). Alison Bianchi’s research focuses on how social inequalities at the societal level – especially those general axes of inequality including race, class and gender – create structural inequalities at the small group level. Knowing how these processes can emerge, how do we form small groups of students so that all can freely participate, be included and learn? How might we even begin the conversation with students about such sensitive topics? Alison will present snippets of her theory-driven research, as well as practical interventions that ameliorate structural inequalities, based on the research. Let’s explore your options, so that YOU are empowered to combat the deleterious effects of cultural belief systems that advantage some, and disadvantage others. Register online by clicking [here](http://www.uni.edu/provost.cetl) or by going to the CETL website and clicking “Register Here”.

**Thursday, April 9, 3:30-4:30, LIB 378 First Generation and Low-Income Student Panel**
What challenges do first generation and/or low-income students face at UNI? What kinds of opportunities have they found? What kinds of things could UNI faculty and staff do to support first generation and/or low-income students both in and out of the classroom? Join these UNI students for a discussion of their experiences at UNI. Panel includes: Joslyn Aldape, Conner Brakeville, Blake Findley, Victoria Hurst, Alisha Thompson.

**Thursday, April 16, 3:30-4:45, CBB 109 (John Deere Auditorium)**
**Who Benefits?: Preserving and Making Available an Institution's Digital Research and Creative and Scholarly Output** with Stephanie Davis-Kahl, Scholarly Communication Librarian and Assoc. Prof. at Illinois Wesleyan University. UNI is at the beginning stages of developing a new institutional repository, UNI ScholarWorks. This presentation focuses on how such repositories work and why we should use them. Co-sponsored with Rod Library, the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, and the Center for Academic Ethics. If you have ideas for potential projects, contact [scholarworks@uni.edu](mailto:scholarworks@uni.edu).

**Tuesday, April 21, 3:30-4:45, LIB 378 Problem-Based Learning Workshop with Dan Bumblauskas (Management)**
Problem based learning modules provide a framework for challenging students to seek out the answers to solve problems. Used extensively in medicine and engineering, PBL is adaptable to any educational situation where problem-solving is required. This session explains PBL, gives examples of modules used in college courses, and gives participants an opportunity to experience PBL.

*For more information, visit our website [http://www.uni.edu/provost.cetl](http://www.uni.edu/provost.cetl)*