Enhancing Teaching & Learning

Conference 2015 @ Johnson County Community College

Regnier Center (RC)
Rooms 101, 175, and 270

Saturday, March 7, 2015

Presented by:
Kansas City Professional Development Council
www.kcpdc.org

Conference Schedule

7:30 a.m. Registration *(RC Atrium)*

7:45 a.m. Introductions, Instructions, and Continental Breakfast *(RC 101)*

8:00 – 8:50 a.m. Concurrent Sessions *(RC 101, 175, and 270)*

9:00 – 9:50 a.m. Concurrent Sessions *(RC 101, 175, and 270)*

10:00 – 10:50 a.m. Concurrent Sessions *(RC 101, 175, and 270)*

11:00 – 11:50 a.m. Concurrent Sessions *(RC 101, 175, and 270)*

12:00 – 12:50 p.m. Keynote Session and Lunch *(RC 101)*
Gregory Eiselein: Engagement, Challenge, and Student Success

1:00 – 1:50 p.m. Concurrent Sessions *(RC 101, 175, and 270)*

2:00 – 2:50 p.m. Concurrent Sessions *(RC 101, 175, and 270)*

3:00 p.m. Closing & Prize Drawing *(RC 101)*

For staff and faculty participants from non-member KCPDC colleges, registration cost is $100 ($15 for students).
- Registration fees should be paid the day of the conference.
  Make checks payable to: KCPDC.

Conference Prize Drawing
At the conclusion of the Enhancing Teaching & Learning Conference, KCPDC will sponsor a drawing for conference door prizes. The ticket you receive at registration will be your entry into the drawing. The prize drawing will be held at the conclusion of the conference.
YOU MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN.

Session 1 (8:00 – 8:50 a.m.)

Powerful Play: The Role of Play in Shaping the Learning Experience
Samer Sarofim - University of Kansas
Room 101

Play has been shown to foster creativity, alter behaviors, and promote happiness. Although companies and organizations have started to utilize play programs to increase employees' engagement, facilitate products' development, and implement creative strategies, most educational institutes haven't yet integrated play into classrooms. Play is a second-nature activity that is suitable for all ages. When people engage in play activities, they tend to be more open to new, and sophisticated, ideas. Therefore, the integration of play programs in classrooms creates a more innovative learning environment and enhances learning outcomes. Certainly, as educators strive to revamp students' learning experience, understanding how to implement play programs in classrooms is becoming crucial.

Theme: Engaging Students

Effective Strategies for Teaching Marketing
Nadia K. Novotorova, Ph.D. - Baker University
Room 175

Teaching marketing in the current environment is an exciting and challenging task due to many technology innovations and changes in our social interactions that offer new ways to market and advertise products. Students learn most effectively when they are engaged and actively involved in the learning process. I found that a "live" or client-based project is a good teaching tool for teaching marketing research and advertising classes. Students are assigned to teams to act as a marketing agency and have a small local company as their client. The goal is for students to be able to apply what they learn in class in developing successful marketing strategies.

Theme: Engaging Students

Quickly and Clearly Assess Student Writing Assignments, Regardless of their Length, Without the Red Pen!
Eugene Matthews, Ph.D. **-** *Park University*
Room 270

The traditional method for assessing writing assignments is to mark up the student's paper with comments, then return it with a note appended to the bottom. It's left to them to decipher your meaning.
Have students submit their work online, and use a simple tool like, Screencast-o-Matic, or Movenote to bring your assessment of their work to life. Cut down on confusion. They will see and hear you explain specifically what they did well, or where improvement is needed. A personalized 5 to 15 minute assessment of their assignment from you goes a long way. It works!

Theme: Technology in the Classroom

Session 2 (9:00 – 9:50 a.m.)

How to Manage Heated Discussions in the Classroom
Dr. Sara Crump - Baker University
Room 101

Discussions about sensitive topics such as race, religion, and sexuality often present challenges for professors and students alike. After having an unanticipated and very heated discussion in one of my classes – and handling it badly – I searched for research and other information on how to better approach such discussions in the future. I will share what I found, offer some suggestions based on my review of the research, and leave ample time for audience participation and suggestions.

Theme: Engaging Students

Engaging Remedial Math Students
Dr. Andre Lanzaro - Metropolitan Community College
Room 175

After a review of the nearly insurmountable barriers remedial math students face, a math learning sport model is proposed that engages small math study teams to score points by producing math course exam performance improvement. The sport learning model is shown to offer irresistible motivation to remedial students by supplying the natural human drive for acceptance, recognition, camaraderie, and immediate meaningful return for effort. Remedial players receive highly essential one on one tutoring from their top performing math student fellow teammates as they compete within and between schools.
Applications of sport training methods to remedial course classroom learning are reviewed.
Math learning video style game design requirements and methods are also discussed.
Open discussion concludes presentation.

Theme: Engaging Students

Getting Agile: An Exploratory Exercise for Alternative Approaches in Project Management and Systems Development
Kevin J. McCarthy, Ph.D. - Baker University
Room 270

Students without much experience or technical skills may have difficulties in understanding rationale supporting an agile approach to systems development. This approach emphasizes incremental and collaborative development focusing on meeting customer expectations. A comparison with the more traditional phases of the waterfall method is the standard treatment in a survey information systems course. The team-based exercise uses a website version of the "Marble Run" game. Students assume roles of customer, systems analyst, project manager, and programmer. Each team undertakes the development project with a different approach. Debriefing the exercise revealed several potential improvements and extensions. Students also expressed better understanding of the various roles involved. In a post-exercise survey students rated the experience as valuable for understanding aspects of project management.

Theme: Engaging Students

Session 3 (10:00 – 10:50 a.m.)

How Plausible Is the Educational Goal of Critical Thinking Across the Curriculum?
Donald Hatcher - Baker University
Room 101

For decades, critical thinking (CT) has been considered an essential educational goal. As a result, many philosophers dreamed their departments would offer multiple sections of CT, hence justifying hiring additional staff. Unfortunately, this dream did not materialize. So, similar to a current theory about teaching writing, "critical thinking across the curriculum" became a popular idea. While the idea has appeal and unquestionable merit, I will argue that, based on both assessment data and pedagogical reasons, the likelihood that the skills necessary for effective CT will actually be taught across the curriculum is minimal.

Theme: Assessment of Teaching and Learning

Psychology and Forgiveness: Forgiveness as a Component of Wellness
Robyn Long, Ph.D. - Baker University
Room 175

My university has implemented a core curriculum that emphasizes student skill development, including physical and emotional wellness, and to that end I've developed a course on the personal, local and global benefits of forgiveness and the process by which individuals and groups arrive at that state. I'd like to facilitate a discussion about including a forgiveness component across the social science and/or liberal studies curriculum as I see its natural place in courses across several disciplines. I hope discussion will also include ideas for using the concept of forgiveness and reconciliation in interdisciplinary courses. I'll include tested and valued resources and activities in my discussion leadership.

Theme: Engaging Students

Engaging the Working Part Time Student
Bernard A. (Bernie) Fried **-** *Baker University*
Room 270

Students who juggle full time jobs, family commitments, life's challenges, and school are tired at the end of the day. Why are we surprised that they are sometimes inattentive in their evening classes? We must motivate students to be excited about learning and applying that knowledge in their life and career. In this workshop, instructors will discover how to engage students in dialogue, review the course in a non-threatening way, and inject humor into the mix during class. Additionally, instructors will discover how to ensure that every student leads a part of the weekly class sessions, becoming fully engaged to maximize their classroom experience.

Theme: Engaging Students

Session 4 (11:00 – 11:50 a.m.)

Just Because You Use Technology Doesn't Mean it's Effective! Learn How to Make the Most Out of the Technology You've Got!
Ashley Vasquez, Emily Sewell, Lindsey Welsch, and Christine Buta - Johnson County Community College
Room 101

Ashley Vasquez, will focus on interactive technologies for students to create self-directed and innovative project videos for courses across all disciplines.
Emily Sewell, will explore the growing popularity of online courses and the challenges that accompany teaching online.
Lindsey Welch, will share various interactive technologies for teachers that she learned from MOOC-Ed Learning Differences Class in Fall 2014.
Christine Buta will share creative ways to use TED talks and YouTube videos to engage students.

Theme: Effectively Using Technology to Enhance Learning

From Combat to the Classroom
Thomas C. Hall, Ph.D. - Kansas City Kansas Community College
Room 175

This seminar is designed to promote classroom management and student success. This seminar will provide a basic understanding of military culture, the experiences of the veteran student in preparing for deployment, and the challenges these students have with reintegration and returning to civilian life and college. This session is geared for all Faculty and Staff who interact with student veterans. We will discuss how to shape the tools and resources of the college and teaching to effectively integrate returning veterans into the classroom. Participants will leave with an enhanced insight into this group of non-traditional students.

Theme: Engaging Students

The Game of Educating
Jennifer Menon - Johnson County Community College
Room 270

Young Americans between 18 and 33 years old are more stressed than the rest of the population, according to a new report from the American Psychological Association. In her book, *Generation Stressed*, registered clinical counselor Michele Kambolis explains that the utilization of play-based tools is highly effective in managing the effects of stress and aids in developing healthy new learning strategies. It is with these two thoughts in mind that Jamie Cunningham, Heather Seitz, and I have been developing a new learning community: **G**enerating **A**ctivities to **M**aximize **E**ducational **S**uccess (GAMES). The focus: to reach across disciplines in search of engaging activities that can be conducted in the classroom setting while insuring that students internalize information vital to academic success.

Theme: Engaging Students

Lunch/Keynote Speaker (12:00 – 12:50 p.m.)

Gregory Eiselein

Engagement, Challenge, and Student Success

Researchers in higher education have known for some time that the key to improving student learning and student success is engagement – finding ways to involve students actively in their classes and in their own learning. We know too that an appropriate level of challenge or difficulty is crucial to making the learning environment interesting, productive, and engaging. But how much challenge is too much? How much support is required for demanding assignments and courses? When does challenging college work transform a student's experience from one of difficulty and anxiety to one marked by feelings of focus, control, and success? This talk synthesizes national research with concrete examples and experiences from the first-year initiatives at Kansas State University to provide ways for teachers to think about how to use challenge to excite and involve students in their own learning.

Gregory Eiselein is Professor of English and Coffman University Distinguished Teaching Scholar at Kansas State University, where he is also the current and founding Director of the university's first-year experience program, K-State First. The recipient of several teaching awards, he was named the 2013 Kansas Professor of the Year by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and CASE (the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education), one of the most prestigious awards for U.S. professors.

Session 5 (1:00 – 1:50 p.m.)

Understanding the Role of Challenge in Student Engagement
Gregory Eiselein - Kansas State University
Room 101

In this follow-up workshop, we will discuss practical methods for challenging students in ways that interest and excite rather than overwhelm or baffle. We will begin by exploring different approaches to discovering and meeting students where they are intellectually and academically. The workshop will then focus on how to connect new and difficult course content with students' interests and skills. The final part of the workshop will focus on motivation, the dangers of using external motivations like grades and points, and effective techniques for generating interest, enthusiasm, and engagement.

Theme: Engaging Students

Service Learning 101
Anna Page and Mary Smith - Johnson County Community College
Room 270

Service learning is a pedagogy utilized to meet academic, civic and professional learning objectives. Service learning allows students to develop problem-solving skills, critical thinking and an understanding of civic responsibility. It promotes student retention and faculty development as well as fostering a relationship and providing benefits to community partners. Utilizing best practices learn how to implement service-learning as an integrated part of your course design rather than an add-on! Discuss specific examples of successful and not so successful service learning projects. Identify the roles and expectations of the student, faculty and community partners. Review different reflection techniques and explore how to utilize them. Bring a copy of your course syllabus and be prepared to leave with a plan of action!

Theme: Engaging Students

Session 6 (2:00 – 2:50 p.m.)

The Idea Exchange: Engaging Today's Students Through High Tech and Low Tech Options
Shelly McVay and Chris McCullick - William Jewell College
Room 101

Eric Jensen says that "even if you think it is the students' job to be engaged, it is your job to engage them." Come see and practice proven, hands-on techniques to increase student engagement and learning through a variety of high tech and low tech options including games, Internet searches, role play, computer applications, simulations, Youtube utilization, and more.

We will combine the tracks *Engaging Students* and *Technology in the Classroom* to provide valuable, real-world takeaways for you to use in your classrooms immediately. We will present our student-acclaimed techniques, and you will be active participants in this Living Lab as well, so that you can effectively learn practical ways to help students to Know, Do, and Transfer their knowledge.

Theme: Engaging Students and Technology in the Classroom

How to Effectively Engage Students and Make Them Come Back for More!
Chancee Craig, Staci Mayo, Erin L. Ellsworth PhD, Cathy Schrag - Johnson County Community College
Room 175

Chancee Craig will answer the question, "How do you engage your students' learning style?"
Staci Mayo will share various interactive strategies that can increase student engagement.
Erin L. Ellsworth, PhD, Johnson County Community College, will discuss student engagement through incorporating activities into the classroom experience to bring theory and ideas to life.
Cathy Schrag will demonstrate and share practical and effective strategies that engage students and build a sense of community and connection in the classroom.

Theme: Engaging Students

Engaging Students the Easy Way: A "Bag of Tricks" Approach to Working with Adult Learners
Betsy Gran – Donnelly College
Room 270

Engaging non-traditional students in the traditional classroom can be hard work (if you work too hard at it). Adult learners are an often-overlooked source of active engagement – and entertainment – in the classroom. They bring their talents, experiences and perspectives to the classroom every day, and it is our job as instructors to let them do the talking – and reading and writing and listening and thinking. This presentation will give instructors a new way of working with adult learners, along with some easy, fun and interactive ways to engage with learners of all ages.

Theme: Engaging Students

Closing & Prize Drawing (3:00 – 3:30 p.m.)

Room 101

Thank you for attending the KCPDC Enhancing Teaching & Learning (ETL) Conference! Please join us for the closing of the conference. At this time, we will draw for the door prizes. You must be present to win!

Please check out the other KCPDC programs available for faculty and staff development at:

www.kcpdc.org

Special Thanks

Conference Host

Johnson County Community College

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