

THE PENN STATE BEHREND COLLEGE TEACHING SEMINAR SERIES SPRING 2009

WHAT YOU WILL GAIN

- Strategies you can use in your classes
- Expanded social network with other colleagues
- A certificate of participation for your portfolio*



SCHEDULE

4 WHAT DOES "SUSTAINABILITY" MEAN IN PEDAGOGICAL TERMS? Thursday, Feb. 5, 11:45 – 1:00 pm, MISC studio (Kochel 69)

Calls for an environmentally literate workforce are growing in the US and in other parts of the world. In Campus Environment 2008: A National Report Card on Sustainability in Higher Education, the National Wildlife Federation noted that while higher education is making progress on various fronts, we are largely missing an opportunity to educate pre-service teachers and other university students on environmental sustainability. Part of the problem may simply be that faculty do not have a thorough understanding of the issues and are leaving it to the "experts." Yet, environmental problems are so complex that solutions will almost surely require interdisciplinary knowledge and cooperation; thus, faculty in all fields of study need to consider what it would mean to teach sustainability principles and practices in their courses. So, how do we come to common and useful definitions that will encourage educating for sustainability across disciplines? Come discuss this question with our panelists: Don Brown and Andy Lau.

5 A DIALOGUE WITH BEHREND STUDENTS ON BEST LEARNING EXPERIENCES Monday session – Mar. 2, 4:00 – 5:15 pm, Reed 114 Tuesday session – Mar. 3, 12:15 – 1:30 pm, Reed 114

A student panel will be invited to talk about their best learning experiences and answer questions from participating faculty members. The panelists will include sophomores, juniors, and seniors from a variety of disciplines.

6 WRITE TO LEARN, LEARN TO WRITE: THE W COURSE DEMYSTIFIED Monday session – Apr. 13, 4:00 – 5:15 pm, Reed 114 Tuesday session – Apr. 14, 11:30 – 1:00 pm, Reed 114

How do writing intensive (W) courses at Penn State differ from courses in which students are simply required to do a lot of writing? Our Writing Across the Curriculum Program is based on two principles: discovery-oriented "writing to learn" and standards- or genre-oriented "learning to write." What do these principles mean in actual practice? How can applying them in tandem make writing more enjoyable for students and evaluation more efficient for instructors? Join Drs. John Champagne and Neill Johnson (Schreyer Institute for Teaching Excellence) for this interactive session.

Refreshments or a light lunch will be served at each session.

Please RSVP to Qi Dunsworth at quz2@psu.edu or 898-6537.

*Participants who attend 8 or more seminars/luncheons and complete 2 reflective written activities over two years will receive the Behrend College Teaching Certificate. While this certificate does not constitute teaching "certification," it does document your participation in this program and can be included in your teaching portfolio. There are 4 seminars and 2 teaching luncheons offered throughout academic year 2008-9.