



CENTER FOR TEACHING EXCELLENCE

Fall 2023 **The Teaching Inquirer** Issue 2

Because every student deserves good teaching



Updates from Dr. Scott Jenkinson, CEL Fellow

The *Go Beyond the Classroom* Community-Engaged Learning (CEL) initiative is growing in its first year of full implementation. During the summer, we hosted 22 faculty and staff participants in our Summer Intensive workshops. This semester, we have developed and hosted several opportunities for those designing or facilitating CEL experiences to come together to continue to learn more about this high-impact teaching practice. And, through our CEL designation process, we have been able to identify and designate over 20 fall courses or co-curricular experiences that represent 600+ students across a wide variety of campus programs.

Looking ahead, we are continuing to provide support to individual faculty/staff, programs/units, or departments who are interested in utilizing CEL to extend the learning they provide. More details about the designation process, upcoming professional development, and CEL resources can be found on the [CEL Faculty/Staff resources page](#).

Spring Book Club

We are excited to announce our Book Club selection for January: *Grading for Growth*, by David Clark and Robert Talbert. Dr. David Clark will also be our Keynote Speaker for our Micro-CHIIPS mini-conference, held online the morning of January 8.



Upcoming Events

10/24 | 3:00-4:30

Active and Collaborative Learning

10/27 | 9:00-10:30

Defusing AI with Alternative Grading Practices (ONLINE)

10/27 | 12:00-1:00

TED Talk Lunch and Learn: Lunch provided!

10/31 | 2:00-3:30

Brave New World: What to do with ChatGPT and other AI Content Generators (ONLINE)

11/7 | 2:00-3:00

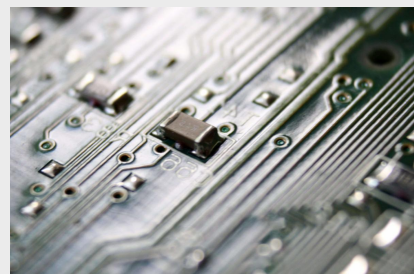
Critical Reflection in Community Learning

11/17 | 12:00-1:00

TED Talk Lunch and Learn: Lunch provided!

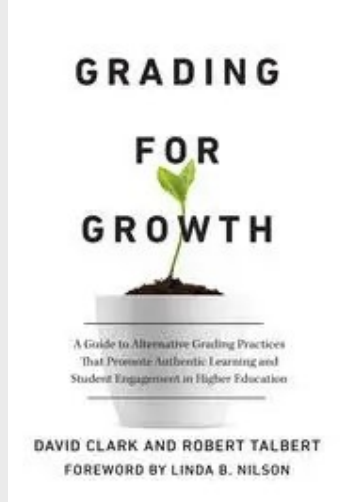
All on-ground workshops, unless otherwise noted, held in Room 433 Sherrod Library

Learn more, register, and see additional Spring events at our [CTE website](#).



Coming soon!

Micro-CHIIPS



Please make plans to hold the Book Club date and time: **January 8, 2:30 – 4:30** for book discussion with snacks, and including a Zoom session with co-author Dr. David Clark for Q&A!

Those who **register early for Book Club**, by **Friday, Nov. 3, 5:00 pm**, will be eligible for a drawing to award 5 free books. We also have five additional copies available for check-out from our shelves up in the CTE (Room 441 Sherrod Library). Registrants are also welcome to purchase their own copy of the book.

We look forward to seeing you at our next Book Club meeting!

[Register](#)

Monday, January 8th, 2024

9:00 AM - 12:00 Noon

Online

featuring

Keynote Speaker **David Clark**,
co-author of *Grading for Growth*

& Concurrent Sessions

[Call for Proposals](#)

Deadline: Nov. 19, 2023

[Register for Micro-CHIIPs](#)

&

Teaching Retreat

Tuesday, January 9th, 2024
Sherrod Library

Pairs well with Micro-CHIIPs and Book Club! Spend a day of dedicated course prep with community and snack breaks in Sherrod Library and the CTE.

Registration available soon!

Faculty Matters with Associate Provost Karin Keith



The fall semester has started with an enthusiasm that is palpable as you walk across campus! The important institutional initiatives that you are part of bring excitement as we have the opportunity to look toward the future and carry out the vision of what ETSU will look like in the future.

My role as **Associate Provost for Faculty** in the Office of the Provost offers the opportunity to play a supportive role in helping faculty across ETSU to thrive as they engage in the work to help the institution excel. A few of the key responsibilities of my position include:

1. **Faculty Development:** Collaborate with the Center for Teaching Excellence to provide resources, support, and opportunities to enhance teaching.
2. **Policy and Procedure Implementation:** Participate in shared governance to review and revise current policies and procedures related to Academic Affairs, especially those that impact faculty and students, as well as to consider new policies to ensure equitable action across the divisions of the institution.
3. **Faculty Support:** Work with a variety of units across campus to implement programs that aim to bring positive awareness and opportunity to celebrate the incredible work that faculty carry out on a day-to-day basis. I assist in planning Faculty Convocation, the Tenure and Promotion Celebration, and the Great Lecture Series. I also represent the Office of the Provost at all Faculty Senate and SGA meetings.
4. **Strategic Planning:** Contribute to the efforts to carry out goals and strategies identified by the Provost that help the institution carry out the academic mission. This year I am working on coordinating activities related to the Campus Read and highlighting ways that faculty are using the themes of the book in their teaching.

I believe faculty hold a unique position within the institution, in that they play a pivotal role in student success. I am so proud of the faculty at ETSU and the work you are doing in teaching, research, and service. I am humbled to serve in this role in the Office of the Provost, where we hold faculty support and development as one of our top priorities. I look forward to collaborating with you to enhance the lives of the people of this region and the world. If you need my assistance, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Listening to Student Voices

by Patrick Brown



"[It would help] if the professors would stop using so many different websites for each class. I have ADHD; trying to keep track of each website and assignments on them is very hard. Even using D2L to post EVERY assignment due would help tremendously."

– Whitney Short (2nd year Undergraduate, Psychology)

With teaching and committee work on top of all the other things that take up faculty time, online learning systems from major book publishers can be very attractive. Most of them are plug-and-play: The student gets an access code when they buy their book (or they have to buy the access code separately) and the instructor has access to all kinds of pre-made questions banks and enrichment activities.

Unfortunately, pre-fab online materials are also problematic on a number of counts. First, they are often part of a very expensive textbook from a major for-profit publisher, or they require students to spend even more on top of their already expensive texts. Second, as the student's comment above illustrates, they can be frustrating and confusing to a large number of students. Third, they are usually behind a password that only the instructor of the class knows, so that if anything happens to the instructor, a large portion (or sometimes all) of a student's graded work is inaccessible to anyone else.

The staff at the CTE can assist you in creating your own activities and the good folks in Academic Technology Services can help you integrate them into your existing D2L course. If you must use an outside learning system, try to put links to it within your D2L site and include due dates in your D2L calendar. Your students will thank you.

Artificial intelligence machines, such as ChatGPT, have taken the world by storm and are already changing the conversation in higher education around issues of academic integrity and critical thinking for students. The CTE has been sponsoring workshops to help faculty think through these issues. **But there are also creative ways teachers can use AI to make their jobs easier.** Here are a

few good ideas that have come up in conversations this semester. Try asking AI to...

- **Summarize main themes** in student submissions to a discussion board, feedback on a project, or SAs.
- **Create dynamic student groups** by gathering a bit of information from students such as strengths, personality types, and schedules. Ask the AI to assemble groups of individuals that may mesh well together.
- **Write practice quiz questions and study guides.** Also ask students to create -- and critique -- their own.



Welcome New CTE Faculty Associate

Dr. Laurie Schroder

College of Clinical Rehabilitative Health Sciences

Dr. Laurie Schroder is a physical therapist who holds three doctoral degrees: a clinical doctorate in physical therapy, an EdD, and a Doctor of Ministry. She has been a PT since 1995 and has taught full-time in higher education since 2008.

She has served as a clinical instructor, full time faculty member, and program director for a PTA Program. She currently teaches in the ETSU DPT Program and frequently presents teaching-related content at conferences and meetings.

Her scholarly interests include adult learning, teaching of complex material, and the creation of open-access



educational resources. She has been married for over 37 years and has two adult children and two grandchildren. Her hobbies include beekeeping, gardening, reading, and travel.

We also welcome new Faculty Affiliates:

Lana Becker, Department of Accountancy, College of Business and Technology
Betsy Weems, Literature & Language, College of Arts and Sciences

See all our Associates and Affiliates and learn how they can help you!

What We're Reading



Patrick Brown, CTE Fellow

I am currently reading **Thirteen Strategies to Measure College Teaching** by Ronald A. Berk. Dr. Berk has a long history with the assessment and evaluation of college teaching and has compiled a career's worth of knowledge into this single publication. In it, he highlights the thirteen chief methods of providing feedback and evaluation and teaches the reader how to create their own ratings scales for use in these various methods. In addition to providing very useful information, Dr. Berk also has a zany sense of humor, and he in fact warns the reader right on the cover: "If you have the sense of humor of a grapefruit, this book may not be for you..."

Laurie Schroder, CTE Faculty Associate

I'm currently exploring the idea of instructor-as-public-speaker, diving into ***Talk Like Ted*** and various blogs and web resources for public speakers. I started down this path when I noticed that three of my colleagues at another university were all dressed as direct patient care clinicians one day and as business professionals on another. They had attended a program for public speakers that taught them to dress for what they were presenting, and they brought that into the classroom. I think we have all heard that we, as teachers, are entertainers, inspirers, coaches, and guides, but thinking of us as public speakers, who motivate, inspire, and introduce new ideas in the brief time we have with our audiences, in the same ways that presenters who present *Ted Talks* do, is a new way of appreciating our roles.

Phil Smith, CTE Assistant Director

I would like to share this recent article by Maultsaid and Harrison, "**Can Open Pedagogy Encourage Care? Student Perspectives**" because I am interested in both Care and Open Pedagogy, which the authors define as "student and teachers work to co-create learning and knowledge using openly licensed materials, open platforms, and other open processes." In my work with OER at ETSU I have seen time and again how much students appreciate OER, not only because it saves them expenses but

also because it leads to many other positive pedagogical transformations in the class, and it is heartening to see this line of research supporting that connection.

Find all kinds of teaching books for check-out in our CTE Teaching Collection - Room 441 Sherrod Library!

CHIIPs 2023 Retrospective

“All the programming was great! I look forward to the conference every year.”

~ Conference Attendee

The Center for Teaching Excellence had another successful year in August with its 6th annual Conference for High-Impact Instructional Practices, featuring invited keynote speaker **Dr. Jessamyn Neuhaus**, Director of the SUNY, Plattsburgh’s Center for Teaching Excellence. We hosted a record number of attendees [107!] for this event at the Carnegie Hotel, with representation from every college at ETSU. Attendees enjoyed the keynote address, several concurrent sessions, and a workshop at the end of the day led by Dr. Neuhaus.

See information above about our mid-year, online mini-conference (**Micro-CHIIPs**) and our **January Teaching Retreat!**



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