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# Spring Perspectives on Teaching

Wednesday, May 14, 2008

Somerville House

9:00 - 9:15 a.m. WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENT OF 2008 FELLOWSHIP IN TEACHING INNOVATION AWARD WINNER

Room 3345

*Debra Dawson, Director, Teaching and Learning Services*

9:15 - 10:45 a.m.

KEYNOTE SESSION

Room 3345

## Teach Me, I Dare You!: Changing Students' Attitudes about Who's Responsible for Learning

*Marilla Svinicki, Professor of Educational Psychology, University of Texas at Austin*

There are many modern motivation theories that are based on personal responsibility and intention to learn that can be helpful in structuring teaching to involve the students more directly in their own learning. This plenary talk will describe those theories and what their implications are for instructional design. The talk will discuss both the research and the application of these theories and when they might or might not be useful to teachers.

*Dr. Marilla Svinicki began her professional life teaching at Macalester College in St. Paul, MN, after graduating with a Ph.D. in experimental psychology from The University of Colorado. Life circumstances moved her to Texas where she began a thirty-year journey of development with the Center for Teaching Effectiveness at the University of Texas. In August of 2004 she retired from the Center and became a full-time faculty member in Educational Psychology where she teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in instructional psychology, learning, cognition and motivation. She is currently serving as the Director of Curriculum and Evaluation of the Clinical Education Center at Brackenridge Hospital and chair of her area in Educational Psychology. She is the editor in chief of **New Directions for Teaching and Learning**, co-editor of McKeachie's **Teaching Tips**, and sole author of a general book for faculty on learning and motivation in postsecondary classrooms.*



10:45 – 11:00 a.m.

Refreshment Break

11:00 – 12:00 p.m.

FELLOWSHIP IN TEACHING INNOVATION AWARD PRESENTATION

Room 3345

*Recipients of the 2007 Award*

## A New Medicine for Physics: Using Medical Imaging as a Tactic for Teaching Physics

*Tamie Poepping, Blaine Chronik, Ian MacDonald, Eugene Wong, Joel Cox, Reggie Taylor  
Department of Physics & Astronomy and Department of Medical Biophysics*

The interdisciplinary field of medical physics provides an exciting area for bringing abstract physics concepts to life. Together, the Departments of Physics and Astronomy (Faculty of Science) and Medical Biophysics (Schulich School of Medicine and Dentistry) have been developing two innovative lab experiments that use real-life applications such as medical imaging technology to teach and illustrate underlying physics principles. In developing these lab experiments, we actively relied on senior undergraduate students, which in turn enhanced their teaching and scientific communication skills. These two lab experiments hold promise in demonstrating concepts of physics in an inspiring and engaging manner.

12:30 – 1:15 p.m.

LUNCH AND LEARN

Room 3345

## Lunch and Learn: Wimba Collaboration Suite

*Jane Winkler, Information Technology Services*

Bring your lunch and join us for an informal discussion and demonstration of Wimba Collaboration Suite.

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# Spring Perspectives on Teaching

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1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

CONCURRENT SESSION A — CHOOSE ONE SESSION

Session A-1 — Room 3345

## The Role of Supervisory Agreements in Graduate Education

*Panelists: Carol Beynon, Graduate Studies; Stephen Sims, Graduate Studies; Nick Kuiper, Psychology*

Well-matched expectations, clearly stated, are the foundation of a successful supervisory relationship with graduate students. Written supervisory agreements can facilitate the understanding of the roles and responsibilities entailed in the relationship. Carol Beynon and Stephen Sims, Associate Deans from the Faculty of Graduate Studies, will present advantages and limitations of such agreements from their experiences mediating supervisor-supervisee conflicts. Nick Kuiper, Director of the Clinical Psychology Program, will discuss the use of supervisory agreements in the context of graduate professional training programs.

Session A-2 — Room 3317

## Developing Innovative Study Abroad Experiences

*Facilitator: Jeff Tennant, International Programs Development Coordinator*

*Panelists: Kim Baines, Chemistry; Ann Bossers, Occupational Therapy; Darwin Semotiuk, Kinesiology; Sandy Smeltzer, Information and Media Studies*

The International Curriculum Fund has, since the 2007 competition, provided support for student travel to participate in curriculum-linked study abroad opportunities. This session gives a sampling of these innovative new developments in international education at Western as well as an opportunity for discussion of best practices in study abroad.

2:30 – 2:45 p.m.

Refreshment Break

2:45 – 4:00 p.m.

CONCURRENT SESSION B — CHOOSE ONE SESSION

Session B-1 — Room 3345

## Evaluating Oral Participation in Class

*Facilitator: Nadine Le Gros, Teaching Support Centre*

*Panelists: Anthony Skelton, Philosophy; Graham Smith, Geography; Kim Solga, English*

Assigning marks for oral participation in classes can create enormous learning opportunities, but it can also privilege some students while penalizing others. How do you accommodate different learning styles? How do you document the marks to make the process transparent? Should there be a ceiling on class size when you mark oral participation? This panel session will highlight strategies for maximizing the benefit of oral participation marks and minimizing the drawbacks.

Session B-2 — Room 3317

## What to Do to Get Them Through: Supervising Graduate Student Writing

*Johnston Miller, Writing Support Centre and Teaching Support Centre*

Graduate students do not always enter programs as good writers, but with effective supervision, they can leave Western with improved writing skills. This session will review proactive and reactive strategies for improving the quality and quantity of your students' writing. We will discuss feedback techniques and review time-saving tips and resources.

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Registration is free. Please register online at [www.uwo.ca/tsc](http://www.uwo.ca/tsc)

Refreshments will be available at the registration desk outside Room 3345 at 8:45 a.m. and during the morning and afternoon breaks.

The University of Western Ontario  
**Teaching Support Centre** TSC

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**May 22 & 23, 2008**

**Course Design and Renovation Workshop** (*Limited enrolment*)

The purpose of this two-day workshop is to facilitate the design or redesign of a course you will be teaching in the upcoming year. At the end of the workshop you will have completed the necessary steps to create a course structure, identify learning objectives, and design learning activities to achieve those objectives.

**May 26 – 28, 2008**

**Summer Teaching with Technology Institute** (*Limited enrolment*)

The focus of this three-day institute, which is open to all faculty and course developers, is to highlight the essential knowledge and skills required for the integration of technology into either your face-to-face or distance courses. Participants who complete the institute will have the foundation of a WebCT OWL site and acquire the skills to build, teach, and manage their courses.

**August 7, 2008**

**New Faculty Orientation: Teaching at Western**

A day of information seminars and teaching tips to aid new faculty members at Western.

**August 11 – 15, 2008**

**Course on Teaching at the University Level** (*Limited enrolment*)

A one-week intensive course for new faculty and those with only a few years of teaching experience to develop their teaching talents and gain experience with a variety of teaching methods.

**August 27, 2008**

**Fall Perspectives on Teaching Conference**

A day of workshops for faculty, graduate students, and staff dealing with topics relating to university teaching and learning. Keynote speaker: Dr. Zopito Marini, Brock University, on classroom civility.

**September 3, 2008**

**Graduate Student Conference on Teaching (TA Day)**

A day of workshops for graduate student teaching assistants and laboratory instructors on instructional methods.

For registration information, see Upcoming Events on the TSC website at [www.uwo.ca/tsc](http://www.uwo.ca/tsc).