Arts & Sciences Support of Education Through Technology

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO **BOULDER**

OFFICE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Semiannual Report

Summer/Fall 2016

CONTENTS

Areas of Program

TEACHING AND LEARNING CONSULTANTS

The Teaching and Learning Consultants (TLCs), Amanda McAndrew, Jacie Moriyama, and Tara Gilboa engage teaching and learning communities that create rich student learning experiences. TLCs are available to consult with faculty, lead small group sessions and facilitate workshops.

STUDENT FELLOWS

Student Fellows (SFs), Jacob Brauchler, Austin Chau, and Susie Gomez are undergraduate partners who consult with faculty on integrating technologies into their classes, providing in- and out-of-class technical support for their students, and collect classroom observation data. The SF team is led by Lead Student Fellow, Clara Smith.

EDUCATION RESEARCHER

The Education Researcher (ER), Sarah Wise, consults on the design of evaluations of technologies integrated into courses, and assists in collecting and interpreting course-related data. The ER also evaluates ASSETT services.

MISSION

ASSETT's mission is to support the use of technology in advancing the teaching and learning mission of the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Colorado at Boulder. The program began in July 2008, and continues thanks to the support of students who fund ASSETT through an instructional fee on A&S courses.

TECH CAMP

Active Learning
(Padlet, Kahoot, Sli.do)

Discussion Tool
(Nota bene,
VoiceThread, Slack)

Group Work Tools
(Google, Trello, Catme)

Tools for Providing
Feedback
(Audio feedback in
D2L's dropbox, Zaption,
Document camera)

Effective Presentation
Tools
(Google Slides/Slides
carnival, Canva, Sway)

DESCRIPTION

During the week of May 16, Amanda McAndrew, Jacie Moriyama, Sarah Wise, and colleagues from the Academic Technology Design Team facilitated ASSETT's first Tech Camp. The goal of Tech Camp was to introduce technologies that faculty could use in their classes to accomplish specific tasks. Each day we paired a pedagogical theme with three different technologies.

FEEDBACK

"First of all, I discovered ASSETT, from which I never heard before, and for me this was one of the greatest discoveries of the week. I particularly enjoyed the workshops about Active learning, Online Discussions and Group Work and the online materials that were explained during each session will be helpful for me not just for professional purposes but also for personal ones. Thank you a lot for the nice work!"

IMPACT

This highly successful event brought together 26 participants from 13 A&S and 3 external departments who attended sessions over the course of five days. The departments represented included:

- Asian Languages and Civilizations
- Athletics Dept-Herbst Academic Center
- ATLAS
- Chemistry and Biochemistry
- Computer science
- Department of Integrative Physiology
- Department of Speech Language
- Hearing Sciences
- English
- Environmental Science
- French and Italian
- Geological Sciences
- Germanic & Slavic Languages & Literature
- History
- Psychology & Neuroscience
- Program for Writing and Rhetoric
- Spanish & Portuguese

BOOK CLUB

HOW LEARNING WORKS: 7 RESEARCH-BASED PRINCIPLES FOR SMART TEACHING BY SUSAN AMBROSE.

Kick off
10:00 - 11:00 am

Finale

DESCRIPTION

During the month of June, Amanda McAndrew led a book club in reading and discussing How learning works: Seven research-based principles for smart teaching by Susan Ambrose. ASSETT hosted kick-off and finale meetings with online discussions occurring in between these 2 meetings. We used the Google Communities platform to host the online discussions.

'Ambrose, S. A. (2010). How learning works: Seven research-based principles for smart teaching. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass.

IMPACT

The first iteration of the book club was well received. Ten (10) faculty members signed up to participate and 9 faculty members followed through with some level of participation. Six (6) participants were highly engaged in the face to face and online discussions. Participants represented the following departments:

- Asian Languages & Civilizations
- Molecular, Cellular, & Developmental Biology
- Integrative Physiology
- Environmental Studies
- History
- Spanish & Portuguese
- Program of Writing & Rhetoric
- Program for Writing and Rhetoric
- Spanish & Portuguese

All eight (8) participants who responded to the post event survey rated every component of the book club as helpful or very helpful. Additional results from the survey can be found through this shared google document.

FLIPPED CLASSROOM WORKSHOP

10:00 am – 3:00 pm
Mackey 230

11:00 am – 4:00 pm
Mackey 230

DESCRIPTION

On June 8 & 9, 2016, ASSETT's Teaching and Learning Consultants offered two one-day workshops on implementing the Flipped Classroom method into their teaching. This workshop provided participants with pedagogical strategies, technologies, and resources to begin flipping their classroom and increasing their students' learning. Participants were provided lunch, a $150 professional development award, and a license for the screencasting software SnagIt. Participation was limited to A&S faculty of all ranks including Lecturers and Sr. Instructors.

FEEDBACK

"I thought this was one of the clearest and most useful ASSETT workshops yet. Thank you so much."

IMPACT

Ten faculty from across the college took advantage of this opportunity. One participant specifically asked for follow up sessions about the flipped classroom. From this conversation, we decided to use the Flipped Classroom as a theme for the fall Digital Learning Community Meetups. These meetups provide an opportunity for faculty who have participated in our seminars and workshops to be a part of an on-going teaching and learning community.

Participants represented the following departments:

- Asian Languages and Civilizations
- Ecology and Evolutionary Biology
- English
- Environmental Sciences
- French and Italian
- Geography
- History
- Program for Writing and Rhetoric

TEACHING TECHNOLOGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (TTAP)

colorado.edu/assett/ttap

DESCRIPTION

The Teaching Technology Assistance Program pairs a Student Fellow (SF) with a faculty member who is interested in integrating technology into his or her course. The Student Fellow works closely with the faculty member to learn more about that technology, discuss how to provide undergraduates with classroom support, and provide one-on-one training to TAs or GAs, if necessary. Student Fellows also provides in and out-of-class technical support for the faculty member's students.

IMPACT

As of September 2016, the Student Fellow (SF) and TTAP program has committed to supporting seven faculty teaching 282 students.

SPAN 1010: Kubi *(Telepresence Robot that allows students to participate in classrooms remotely)*
SF provided In-class support to ensure the Kubi and audio/visual equipment worked as intended.

HIST 1800: Google Maps
SF demonstrated features of Google maps to students during class to enhance their written reports.

HIST 1800: WordPress
SF provided In-class support to help students get their websites started.

HIST 1015: Online presentation tools
SF will provide In-class presentation on combining effective presentation skills as well as tools that can enhance their history presentations.

SPAN 3030: Google Docs
SF provided consultation to faculty about ways to manage notifications and other settings in Google.

ENGL 2036: Zoom - Video conferencing
SF provided consultation about using Zoom and creating a meeting to collaborate with a colleague's class from another University.

ENGL 2036: Google Form
SF provided consultation about creating a form in Google to have students provide peer feedback, project feedback, and logging time spent on projects.

GRMN 1601: Wikipedia editing
SF will help students in class with learning how to edit a Wiki.

EBIO 3080: iBooks Author *(e-Book authoring tool)*
SF will provide support to students who will be creating interactive modules using iBook Author.

FACULTY FELLOWS

colorado.edu/assett/ff

DESCRIPTION

The Faculty Fellows Program is designed to expand ASSETT's reach beyond individual professional development to spur a movement towards wider adoption of evidence based pedagogy and best practices. Faculty Fellows, identified in each department, serve as mentors, leaders, and liaisons to promote and prioritize the inquiry into the continual improvement of the undergraduate student learning experience. A new cohort of approximately 10 - 12 Faculty Fellows will be identified each academic year. The official call for proposals will go out mid-October. The initial cohort of identified fellows will participate in a semester long seminar during Spring 17. For a full program description including goals and evaluation measures, please see this shared google document.

VISUALIZING INSTRUCTIONAL PRACTICES SERVICE (VIPS)

DESCRIPTION

The Visualizing Instructional Practices Service (VIPS) supports A&S faculty in self-evaluating their teaching. The service provides pre-observation consultations, classroom observations, easily-interpreted data visualizations, and follow-up consultations aimed at advancing teaching strategies using observation data. VIPS has committed to working with the NSF-funded TRESTLE (Transforming Education, Stimulating Teaching and Learning Excellence; http://colorado.edu/csl/trestle) program for the fall semester. Student Fellows will collect COPUS (Classroom Observation Protocol for Undergraduate STEM) observation data on 8 courses that are part of TRESTLE, and on similar "comparison" courses, to assess impacts of the program. Observations for TRESTLE will begin in October 2016.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP

ENCOURAGING AND DEVELOPING STUDENTS' CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS

colorado.edu/assett/sig

DESCRIPTION

Special Interest Groups (SIGs) will bring together all ranks of faculty to explore themes in teaching, learning and technology. The goal is to facilitate a community of learners interested in a common theme in reading, discussing and brainstorming ideas for addressing challenges and improving the undergraduate student learning experience. SIGs will meet approximately 3 - 4 times during the semester. The first SIG topic draws on the identified action items from the 2015 ASSETT Needs Assessment.

IMPACT

The initial response to the SIG has been overwhelming with 22 people signing up to participate. We are able to accommodate 11 - 12 participants based on finding a common meeting time. Nine (9) departments are represented by the participants.

INNOVATION PIT STOP (IPS)

colorado.edu/assett/ips

DESCRIPTION

We invite people from around the college to present how they are integrating innovative teaching strategies or technologies into their courses to increase student engagement and promote active learning. Our goal is to provide a venue for faculty to engage in informal conversations, refuel inspiration, and invigorate course design. We have a presenter at each session who discusses teaching strategies or technologies they use to increase student engagement and promote active learning.

Three individuals from outside the college attended our September 9, 2016 event. Drs. Jennifer Stempien, Department of Geological Sciences and Alaina Beaver, Office of Information Technology facilitated a discussion about Accessible Authoring: True Tales and Tips on Workflow.

Our next event will be on Friday, October 16, 2016; 1:30-2:30 pm in TLC 215 and discuss the web annotation tool, Hypothesis. This event is open campus wide.

DIGITAL LEARNING COMMUNITY (DLC)

colorado.edu/assett/dlc

DESCRIPTION

Digital Learning Community Meetups are informal meeting spaces that bring together past participants of the Teaching with Technology Seminar, Hybrid and Online Course Design Seminar, Book Club, and Flipped Classroom workshop. This is an opportunity to be a part of a community with others who continuously improve teaching and learning. This semester's meetups will explore various campus supported technologies that you can use in the flipped classroom model. We've invited our colleagues from the Office of Information Technology (OIT) to help facilitate the discussions. Five faculty from Germanic Slavic Language and Literature, Chemistry, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, French & Italian, and History departments attended our session on Tuesday, September 20, 2016.

Our next session will take place on Wednesday, October 26, 2016;
11:30 AM – 1:00 PM in MCKY 230.

NEWSLETTER

colorado.edu/assett/newsletter

DESCRIPTION

Each month during the academic year, ASSETT publishes a newsletter that goes out to A&S administrators, faculty, and members of our extended community outside of the college. These newsletters inform recipients about available teaching and learning opportunities, updates about our programs, helpful teaching tips, and a featured technology. Our archive contains newsletter from 2014.