



# ASSETT

Arts & Sciences Support of Education Through Technology



May 2015

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Want to see what your classrooms look like? [Check them out!](#)

## From the Director



Having just finished posting course grades, and hoping the rain outside doesn't wash out my department's commencement, I know that Spring Semester is truly in the rear view mirror. But before heading out for some summer R&R (rest and research, that is), I tend to do some review and reflection. I spend some time cleaning out my office, sorting through the piles of paper and the buried emails that accumulated. Often I'll find notices of an event I wish I'd had time to make; luckily, if you missed ASSETT's April symposium, you can still [watch our keynote speaker](#), Jim Groom, talking about the Domain of One's Own project, digital agency, and, as he put it "how automobiles, super highways, and containerization helped me understand the future of the Web." After tidying up my desk, I think back through the highlights and challenges of teaching this time round, and look ahead to what I might shake up next time. So many of you jumped on that feeling and signed up for our [flipped classroom workshops](#) next week that all the slots have already been filled. If you missed out this time, keep an eye out for our Fall Semester offerings -- we'll keep in mind your interest in flipped approaches. While the ASSETT newsletter will be on hiatus in June and July, we'll still be available for individual consultations and hard at work planning ways to support your goals in classroom. See you in August!  
[Phoebe Young](#)

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## Tips & Tricks

If you're looking for a survey tool that's accessible to all users and recipients, the campus' instance of Qualtrics is a great option! On May 13, 2015 the Qualtrics service becomes universally accessible for all members of the CU-Boulder community. As part of the [Accessibility Initiative](#), Qualtrics will be modified to prevent survey builders from creating non-accessible surveys by eliminating a number of question types that are incompatible with screen readers. These include sliders, drag and drop rank order, and

heat maps. Visit the [Qualtrics Accessibility page](#) to learn more about this change and the question types that will no longer be available.

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## EduTech of the Month

Ever wish your students had **real data** to work with? Looking to increase your students' **quantitative literacy**? Want to incorporate **relevant and real world data** into your class activities and student assignments? Then check out the following tools that ASSETT's Teaching & Learning Consultants selected as the technology of this month!

### What is it?

The Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research ([ICPSR](#)) and [TeachingWithData.org](#) are two incredible resources for finding data and ideas for incorporating them into your curriculum. Both sources contain a wealth of useful data on a variety of topics from reputable and verifiable organizations such as: the Bureau of Labor Statistics, National Archive of Criminal Justice, Center for Studying Health System Change, MIT, and Cal Tech, just to name a few.

### Why use it?

Incorporating real data into student assignments and activities can make concepts more relevant and pique students' engagement and interest. These sources make real world data readily available to students. Each of these sites has a repository of instructor resources including syllabi, reading lists, developed lessons, activities, and guidelines for using specific data sets. Many of the developed lessons include learning goals, links to appropriate data sets, and suggestions for variable relationships and analysis.

### How Can I Learn More About it?

ASSETT TLCs are available to help you design lessons using these tools. Both sites have help resources available:

- <https://www.icpsr.umich.edu/icpsrweb/ICPSR/help/>
- <http://www.teachingwithdata.org/support>

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## What's Happening @ ASSETT?

We are excited about the Flipped Classroom workshops coming up next week. While registration for the Flipped Classroom workshop is now closed, we're still here to help you. Here's a [short introduction to flipping the class](#). Then, when you're ready to get started, we're available throughout the summer for individual consultations. We'll have similar offerings coming soon so watch for the Teaching with Technology Seminar, Digital Learning Community meet-ups, and more workshops in the fall!

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## About Us

### Teaching and Learning Consultants:

seek to inform, facilitate connections and encourage inspiration in those exploring new way of teaching with technology.

### Our Creative Services Web Team:

is comprised of talented experienced web and graphic designers committed to bringing fresh design ideas to your academic web site redesign.

### ASSETT's Teaching Technology Assistants:

are familiar and comfortable with technology. Their primary goal is to help people in A&S learn to use and maintain technology in an educational environment, rather than to fix broken technology.

**Contact us:**

asset@colorado.edu or 303.735.3813.

**ASSETT Custom Tools and Applications:**

[Places](#), [OCR](#), [Syllabus Archive](#), and [SPARC](#)

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