



ASSETT

Arts & Sciences Support of Education Through Technology

August 2015



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

In this issue...

- [From the Director](#)
- [Tips & Tricks](#)
- [Tech of the Month](#)
- [What's Happening @ ASSETT?](#)
- [Teaching with Technology Seminar](#)
- [NEW: Innovation Pit Stop](#)
- [About Us](#)

From the Director



On behalf of everyone at ASSETT, welcome to Fall Semester! We have some great new resources and an exciting [calendar of events](#) and opportunities planned for the weeks ahead. First, I'm very pleased to introduce the latest addition to our team: Sarah Wise joins us as Education Researcher. Her expertise in educational assessment and course transformation, including her work as a Science Education Institute Fellow here at CU-Boulder, will help us to learn more about your pedagogy and technology needs. She'll also be available in the near future to consult with you about how to assess the impact of the innovations and teaching practices you bring to the classroom. Next, as you're prepping your course material, here's a quick resource you can add. The Teaching and Learning Consultants developed a [learning guide](#) to help students study more efficiently. We're working to create more resources for students, so stay tuned. And lastly, if you are teaching a large-enrollment course this semester, be sure to check out our new [Survivor Strategies](#) page. It includes a series of short, illuminating video interviews with successful CU professors, as well as tips, tools, and scholarly literature, on such topics as increasing student engagement, minimizing anonymity, efficient assessments, utilizing your TAs, and more. We hope the start to your semester is smooth, your classes are engaging, and your parking gets easier.

[Phoebe Young](#)

Tips & Tricks

First Day of Class Activity: The Interest Inventory. Get to know your students on the first day of school by using a student [Interest Inventory](#). This simple paper-based activity allows you to confidentially ask students questions that will help you teach more effectively. These questions include their name, major, reasons for taking your course, interests, study habits, and level of preparedness as they enter your class. You may

consider including ‘ice breaker’ type questions to help ease students into the inventory as well as ‘what else do you want to know about me?’ The latter question helps you to learn about your students on a more personal level. However, it will most likely require action - especially if a student mentions that s/he requires accommodations for learning, accessing information, or exam taking.

This is a great activity to conduct during your first session, if your class size is manageable. Remember to bring enough inventories and extra pencils and pens. However, if conducting this activity isn’t feasible during lecture, consider handing out this inventory during a recitation session or perhaps posting online after the first day of class.

Last, make your intentions clear to students that you have their best interest in mind as you’re asking them to fill out this inventory. Read more about creating your own [Interest Inventory](#) through the Faculty Focus blog.

Tech of the Month

Not in love with clickers? But still wish you could get immediate feedback or responses from students? Wouldn’t it be nice to ask more than multiple choice questions once in a while, too? Then check out the following tool that ASSETT’s Teaching & Learning Consultants selected as the technology of this month!

What is it?

We’ve suggested [Padlet.com](#) before, and have heard success stories from several departments, but we always get asked if there’s an iPad app. [YES](#), now there is! The app is free and has all the same features as the web version.

As a quick recap, Padlet is a virtual wall that allows people to respond to a question or express their thoughts on a common topic easily. It works like an online sheet of paper where people can click on the webpage and put any content (e.g. images, videos, documents, text) anywhere on the page, together with anyone, from any computer or iPad.

Why use it?

To collaborate, collect ideas, brainstorm, solicit input, discussions, or viewpoints from students, and more! Here’s an [example](#). Major bonus, there’s no account sign up needed to participate.

How Can I Learn More About it?

Visit [Padlet’s help page](#) and as always, ASSETT TLCs are available to help you design lessons using these tools.

What's Happening @ ASSETT?

Tons! Check out all of ASSETT’s events for the semester here:

The image shows a calendar for ASSETT events from August to December 2016. The calendar is color-coded by month: August (blue), September (orange), October (green), November (purple), and December (red). Events are marked with colored dots on the calendar grid. A legend at the bottom right identifies the colors: blue for ASSETT News, orange for Faculty of Ideas & Action, and purple for Panels. A sidebar on the right lists the events for each month, including 'Registration', 'Teaching with Technology for Success', 'Recitation Pil Day', 'Right Learning Community Meeting', 'Faculty Learning Feedback Workshop', 'Recitation Pil Day', 'Faculty of Ideas & Action', 'Recitation Pil Day', 'Right Learning Community', 'Recitation Pil Day', 'The Flipside Classroom Workshop', and 'The Flipside Classroom Workshop'.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION:
<http://www2.uconn.edu/learn/learning-opportunities/>

ASSETT News
Faculty of Ideas & Action
Panels

Teaching with Technology Seminar

If you are interested in learning alongside fellow A&S faculty, want to explore new teaching technologies, and are looking to invigorate your scholarship and teaching, then don't forget to [apply for the Teaching with Technology Seminar](#) by September 1st.

Participants will meet 7-8 times during the semester and receive a \$2,000 award for their professional use. Enrollment is limited to 10 participants. The deadline to apply is September 1, 2015. Note, this seminar will be offered only this fall but look for our Hybrid Course Design Seminar in Spring 2016.

"Studying teaching with technology techniques this semester has helped me to enjoy teaching more and find it more rewarding, which I am sure has helped make me a better teacher."

~Dr. Laura Osterman, Fall 2014

NEW: Innovation Pit Stop

Take a break at our Innovation Pit Stop to refuel your inspiration, and invigorate your courses! We'll have a presenter at each session who will present teaching strategies or technologies they use to increase student engagement and promote active learning. So drop in, engage in the discussion, and fuel up!

Pit Stop Events:

Friday, September 11, 2015, 2:00 – 3:00 pm

Friday, October 9, 2015, 2:00 – 3:00 pm

Friday, November 13, 2:00 – 3:00 pm

Friday, December 11, 2:00 – 3:00 pm

Location TBD

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 [ASSETT Blog](#)

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