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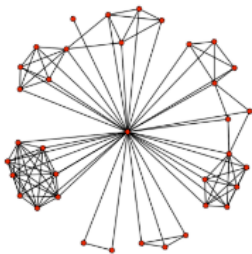


September 2016

From the Advisor

It's been a busy couple of weeks. Here at ASSETT our fall programs are well underway. Faculty are taking advantage of the Teaching Technology Assistance Program and the Student Fellows. The Special Interest Group invitation received an overwhelming response which is a testament to the truly dedicated team of faculty we have.

We are also moving forward towards developing a Faculty Fellows program with the overall goal of developing a collaborative network of faculty centered around professional development in teaching and learning, technology, and mentoring. To learn how to get involved in any of these great new programs, see the details below.



I have been geeking out a little on documenting community and activities centered on learning. To this end, I have been recording interactions that involve a substantive emphasis on either teaching strategies, curriculum development, or pedagogy. The network shows the interactions since the start of the semester. This particular network is centered on me; although it would, of course, be fantastic to include other networks centered on other individuals and watch, over time, the constellation of interactions around teaching and learning evolve. I'd like to challenge our A&S community to build this extended teaching and learning network together. Finally, thanks to the superb and dedicated ASSETT staff for making me feel like I am part of the team.

Andy

What's Happening @ ASSETT?



ASSETT is hiring!

We're currently looking to hire two Student Fellows and a Teaching and Learning Assistant. Please see the brief job descriptions below and encourage your students to apply!

Student Fellows: We are looking for two additional Student Fellows to help support our Teaching Technology Assistance Program and Visualization Instructional Practices Services. The ideal candidates are undergraduate students who enjoys learning about and teaching technologies; are not afraid to present to a large group; and are comfortable working with peers and faculty. For more information, please review the [job description](#).

Teaching and Learning Assistant: We are looking for an individual to assist us in our roles of supporting faculty to improve teaching and learning in undergraduate courses. Undergraduate students interested in teaching, learning, and technology with strong verbal and written communication skills would be excellent candidates. For more information, please review the [job description](#).

Please encourage undergraduate students who fit these criteria to submit their resume to asset@colorado.edu.

Faculty Fellows

As Andy mentioned above, we are fine tuning our new Faculty Fellows program. We anticipate that this will be an excellent opportunity for faculty in different departments to come together and share strategies and approaches for improving teaching and learning within their departments and across the college. Fellows will serve as mentors, leaders, and liaisons to promote and prioritize the inquiry into the continual improvement of the undergraduate student learning experience. **Keep an ear out; full details and a call for participation will be announced in October!**

Teaching Technology Assistance Program

The Teaching Technology Assistance Program (TTAP) is off to a great start! TTAP pairs a faculty member interested in integrating technology into their class with a Student Fellow who provides support. We currently have seven faculty who are taking advantage of this program. The Student Fellows are busy helping these faculty and their students use WordPress, Google Maps, Wikipedia, iBook Author, and Kubis in the classroom! If you're interested in taking advantage of TTAP in your class, visit our [website](#) or [email us](#) to get started!

Special Interest Group

We received a record breaking response for our first ever Special Interest Group, Encouraging and Developing Students' Critical Thinking Skills! If you signed up to join our SIG, keep an eye out on your email for more information. If you missed this call, we'll offer

another SIG in the spring. We look forward to working with you.

Innovation Pit Stop

Thanks to Alaina Beaver and Jennifer Stempien for facilitating a great session on accessible authoring of materials such as Word docs, PowerPoint, or Desire2Learn content on September 9. If you have follow up questions or would like to learn more about creating accessible content, please reach out to Alaina Beaver, Universal Instructional Design Consultant at Alaina.Beaver@colorado.edu. Mark your calendars for our next Innovation Pit Stop session on October 14 at 1:30 pm in TLC 215.

TIPS and TRICKS

Survival Tips for Students - Here's an oldie but goodie that we wanted to resurface. Now that students are well on their way into the semester and studying for upcoming tests and exams, here's a guide that ASSETT developed to help make studying and learning more successful. The seven principles outlined in this guide is based off of the book, Make it Stick: The Science of Successful Learning. Please feel free to distribute this to students by using the following link: <http://www.colorado.edu/asset/sites/default/files/attached-files/student-learning-handout-v4.pdf>

Tech of the Month

The phrase, '*my students are slacking,*' doesn't usually roll off an instructor's tongue with a positive connotation. However, for instructors using the communication tool, [Slack](#), it may be perfectly fine for students to be slacking - or communicating.



Slack is a team-based, highly collaborative, messaging tool. Users can synchronously communicate with one another via open and private channels, or direct messaging. Slack also features an easy drag and drop system to share files with other team members. Conversations within Slack are searchable and archivable. And, Slack conveniently integrates with other tools such as Google Docs and Trello.

This versatile tool can be used in a number of ways. Students can create their own team in slack and use this as a private communication platform to collaborate on a class project. Or faculty can create a class instance, and use Slack as a main communication tool. While this tool works great in the classroom, it works well as a communications platform for academic groups, such as student groups, communication between TAs and GAs, or even between colleagues.

If you're interested in learning more about Slack go to <http://www.slack.com> to sign up for a team or visit their [getting started documentation](#). Happy slacking!

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[Office of Information Technology](#)
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