

Talking Teaching

Fall 2007

Come and enjoy a delicious meal and conversation with your colleagues.
Please R.S.V.P. to Michael Reder at red@conncoll.edu.

King Teaching Award Winners Talk about Teaching

Friday, October 19th from 8:30 AM to 10:00 AM
Blaustein 205

Teaching can be joyful, frustrating, engaging, intense, maddening, exciting, infuriating—sometimes all at the same time. To kick off this year's Talking Teaching Series, faculty who have been singled out for their teaching through the John King Teaching Award will help lead a discussion about the pleasures and pains of teaching, and what helps us to be good teachers. The discussion promises to be lively and informative as all participants share their experiences and insights.

Featuring King Teaching Award winners, including Sunil Bhatia, MaryAnne Borelli, Ann Sloan Devlin, Steve Loomis, Derek Turner, and Marc Zimmer.

First-Year Seminars—How Are They Going?

Choice of two times:

Monday, October 22nd at 11:50 AM for Lunch
Hood Dining Room in Blaustein

or

Tuesday, October 23rd at 8:30 AM for Breakfast
Blaustein 205

Come, enjoy a meal with your colleagues, and share your thoughts about teaching a First-Year Seminar.

Responding to Student Drafts: Why Bother?

Wednesday, November 7th from 11:50 AM to 1:30 PM
Haines Room, 2nd Floor of the Library

Is a written response to a student draft a crucial teaching tool or a waste of time and effort? What makes a really good (i.e., useful) comment, and how can we write one in a reasonable amount of time? How can a comment effectively address both content and form? How can we create a clear sense of priorities in our comments? What role does the written comment play in relation to the other modes by which we teach writing?

Featured discussants: Steve Shoemaker, Director of the Writing Center, and Garrett Green, Larry LaPointe, Leah Lowe, Julie Rivkin, and Abby VanSlyck.

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Teaching with Film

Friday, November 16th from 11:50 AM to 1:30 PM
Hood Dining Room in Blaustein

How can faculty who are not trained in film studies most effectively use film in their courses? How do you talk about film? How can film be used most effectively as a pedagogical tool? How do you have your students discuss, respond to, or write about the films they see? During this discussion, both those trained in the scholarship of film and non-experts who regularly use film in their classes will share their ideas and insights.

Featured discussants: Nina Martin, Film Studies, and Jim Austin, MaryAnne Borelli, and Luis Gonzalez, Andrea Lanoux, Kerstin Mueller, Michael Reder, Janis Solomon, and Steve Shoemaker.

What Ever Happened to Exam Week?

Friday, November 30th from 11:50 AM to 1:30 PM
Hood Dining Room in Blaustein

Although IFF indicates that final exams should be administered during the official exam period and that faculty should be present throughout that exam period, some of us hold final exams during the last week of classes and many of us have final papers, projects, and take home exams due before the end of exam period. There appear to be several reasons why faculty schedule their course's culminating activity before the official end of the semester:

- pedagogical and disciplinary developments that lead many faculty to look for forms of assessment other than the traditional final exam.
- faculty concern over the integrity of self-scheduled exams.
- a well-meaning concern with helping students organize their time at this busy time of the year.
- a desire to get a head start on the task of grading, without waiting for exams and papers to trickle in over the course of the examination period.

Have the IFF regulations been made obsolete by new ways of teaching and learning, by an evolving student culture, and by a new college calendar (which, with its shortened exam & grading period, may reinforce such practices)? Please join us in this discussion of the pedagogical and policy implications of the final week of classes. Co-sponsored by the CTL and the FSCC.

Featured discussants: Bob Askins, Bridget Baird, Marc Forster, Gene Gallagher, Janet Gezari, Hisae Kobayashi, Leah Lowe, Page Owen, Don Peppard, Cathy Stock, and Stuart Vyse.

*Space in all Talking Teaching lunches is limited—
please reserve a place today!*

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