

CELT Newsletter: Jan/Feb 2022

Dear CELT Colleagues:

Happy 2022! CELT hopes that you had a restful and restorative break and are ready for an engaging Spring semester, whether teaching remotely or back in the classroom. I am pleased to introduce Jennifer Applebee and Crystal Quillen as interim Co-Directors for the Spring 2022 semester. I am on sabbatical this spring, and looking forward to my research and working in my studio on new work. Claire Vassiliadis is the contact for Mentoring Program. Please reach out to Jennifer or Crystal if you have any CELT questions, and Claire for the Mentoring program.

Join us on Wednesday, January 19 and Thursday, January 20 for our CELT workshops before the start of the semester. We are especially excited about our student panel, **Sex, Gender and Sexuality: Dismantling Binaries and Assumptions**. We always learn so much when we hear student voices! Check the CELT website for the modality (some are in person), specific information, and to register. A Zoom link will be sent out the evening before each virtual workshop so be sure to check your email.

This Spring, we will be running monthly **Tech Hack and Snacks** to learn, share, and discuss how we are using technology to engage our students, enhance our classes and save time.

In February our **CELT Session** will be a recap of ideas from the Temple Conference for Teaching Excellence, *Teaching for Equity: Making Meaningful Commitments for a More Just Future*. The conference expanded upon many of the topics that we are discussing in our conversations about equity in the classroom. Join your colleagues as we share ideas and discuss the strategies we learned.

Please continue to let us know how CELT can help you with learning and teaching. Do you have an interesting idea for a workshop? Or would you like to lead a workshop? We welcome your ideas, and welcome you to present for CELT and will be looking for workshops for next Fall and beyond.

As we navigate the many changes in higher education, our role is constantly changing. As we move forward, we don't always have the answers to all our pedagogical challenges, but through innovation and creativity we can figure it out together. CELT is here to support you in your teaching journey.

Have a successful spring semester and see you next August!

Be well and healthy, Susan

Register for our January and Spring 2022 CELT Workshops on *Eventbrite*

To help us keep track of attendance and facilitate sending links to registered faculty, please sign up in advance on [Eventbrite](#) to join us! Please register using your Middlesex College email. We will send a zoom link to all registrants the night before the event. If you have any last-minute problems or questions, email: Celt@middlesexcc.edu



Upcoming Events on Zoom

January 19: CELT Workshops and Student Panel

January 20: CELT Workshops

January 27: CELT Open House in JLC 230, The ACE Space

February 10: Tech Hacks and Snacks

February 22: CELT Temple Teaching Roundup: New Ideas for Equity

Helpful Articles

Start out the semester by thinking about [Using Teaching Practices to Support Student Learning and Well-Being](#).

Long Li, PhD talks about a teaching philosophy, [Innovating with Pandemic Paradoxes: Turning On Our "Inner Teacher"](#) that also sees students as teachers and how we can learn from them.

As the semester begins, read about incorporating mindfulness in [Everybody Present: Mindfulness in the Classroom](#) and how to increase awareness in various aspects of your classroom.

Save the following dates for CELT Events! Detailed information for these workshops will be listed in the monthly CELT Newsletters and on Eventbrite.

January Events:

January 19: Student Panel and CELT Workshops

January 20: CELT Workshops

January 27: CELT Open House in JLC 230

Spring Semester 2022 Events:

February 10: *Tech Hacks and Snacks*

February 22: *CELT Temple Teaching Roundup: New Ideas for Equity*

March 10: *Tech Hacks and Snacks*

March 29: *Diving into Advising: A Holistic Approach*

April 14: *Tech Hacks and Snacks*

April 26: *Managing Malicious Microaggressions*

Spring Semester 2022 Events specifically for Adjunct Faculty:

February 2 at 4:30 PM: *Organizing Learning to Enable Effective Learning*

March 10 at 5 PM: *If they are Laughing, they are Learning*

April 13 at 5 PM: *Finishing out the Semester*

New Ideas/New Pedagogy

Office Hour Ideas: How are you handling your office hours this semester? While it seems like a lot of extra work, Zachary Nowak, Lecturer at Harvard and Boston University makes a compelling argument for asking all students to come to required office hours. In his article, [Why I require Office Hours Visits](#), he also explains his reasoning and how he adds a module in Canvas describing “what to expect” in office hours. Many students have no idea about the purpose of office hours or why they are important. Students have multiple responsibilities, and virtual office hours are more accessible for many of them. *The Learning Center* at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill has advice for students [Using Office Hours Effectively](#), which you may want to share with your students, including preparing questions in advance of the meeting. Even students understand the importance of office hours. *The Daily Californian*, the student run newspaper of UC Berkeley, posted advice to their fellow students, [Why you should always go to your professor’s office hours](#).

Starting the Semester: Icebreakers: What do you do to build community in your classes? Many of the [traditional icebreakers](#) can be implemented in your online or zoom classroom. I like to start off with a “get to know you question” in each of my zoom classes. Sometimes we talk about our favorite pizza, or a fun thing we did each week. Use the “waterfall technique” where everyone posts to the chat but doesn’t hit enter until you say “go.” Using this technique allows everyone to comment without influence from their peers. This technique works for content questions as well, and is an excellent way to engage students during your class. *The Poorvu Center* at Yale University has some additional ideas for [Engaging Students Through Zoom](#). What engagement techniques have you found helpful in your classroom?



MCC Scholarly and Creative Works Bibliography

The Library is currently working on the annual **MCC Scholarly and Creative Works Bibliography**. The bibliography celebrates the scholarly and creative output of MCC Faculty and staff. Last year’s [bibliography](#) had over 170 citations. This year’s edition will be posted to both the library and CELT webpages.

The deadline for [submissions](#) to this year’s issue is April 1, 2022 with a lightening talk on April 29.

Send us your professional accomplishments!

CELT posts the [professional accomplishments](#) of adjunct and full-time faculty on our website.

Please send no more than three of your professional accomplishments for the year 2021. We are working to update all of your accomplishments. Please send them to:

facultyaccomplishments@middlesexcc.edu

We look forward to seeing what you have been doing!