

CELT Newsletter: March 2026

Dear CELT Colleagues:

As we head towards mid-term, and hopefully a sunny spring break with no more snow, I hope your classes are going well! It has been a busy February with catching up and we can all use a well-deserved break.

March is filled with lots of CELT activities and opportunities for conversations with your Middlesex colleagues. March is also time for the annual **CELT Election**. Please watch your email for the electronic ballot and don't forget to vote from **March 6 - 27**. Adjunct faculty vote for two representatives, and full-time faculty vote for three board members and the CELT Director.

Join us for our **CELT events** this month. On March 5 learn about new tricks for the Boxlight, and on March 24 discuss how to help students benefit from feedback.

The **CELT Board** is busy planning our Fall events, including our Fall Keynote. Do you have an idea for a workshop or a specific topic that you want to know more about? Do you have a suggestion for a keynote speaker? Do you know a speaker who would work well at Middlesex College?

Would you like to share your expertise with your colleagues? We already have commitments from several faculty to present in August on how they use AI in their classes and it promises to be an engaging program! CELT welcomes your ideas and involvement!

Please continue to reach out if you need any help with your teaching or resources from CELT. Have a restful spring break and see you at our March CELT events.

Best regards,

Susan and the CELT Board

Register for our Spring 2026 CELT Workshops

To help us keep track of attendance and facilitate sending reminders to registered faculty, please [register](#) with your Middlesex email to join us! While everyone is welcome to just show up, registering in advance helps us to prepare for workshops and know how many to expect. All workshops are open to both adjunct and full-time faculty. Bring a colleague and join us!

CELT Elections

Please vote! Watch your email later this week for the CELT Election Ballot. **Full-time faculty** vote for three representatives to the CELT Board, and the CELT Director.

Adjunct faculty vote for two representatives for the CELT Board.

The election is by email and will be held from **March 6 – March 27, 2026** and thank you for voting for your Middlesex colleagues.



Upcoming March Events

March 6: Community of Practice: Think Outside the Boxlight (CB 200)

March 16: Rutgers Online Teaching Conference (limited tickets by advance registration)

March 24: "Did you Read my Comments?" Helping Students Benefit from Feedback (CB Raritan Bay)

March 27: Deadline to vote in CELT Elections (electronic ballot by email)

Helpful Articles

In the article, [Cultivating Joy, Healing and Wellness in Learning](#), the authors encourage educators (of all levels) to use culturally responsive learning practices to create spaces of joy for our students.

Our February CELT session, *To be or Not to Be Funny in the Classroom? The Benefits and Drawbacks of Creating a Humorous Learning Environment* with Nicole Gonzalez was cancelled due to the snow. We are rescheduling it for August, and in the meantime, read the article [How to bring More Joy into Your Classroom](#). We can always use more laughter and more joy in our classes, especially in these stressful times.

New Ideas/New Pedagogy

Ideas in A.I. Faculty across Higher Ed are continually worried about AI and cheating. Futurism Magazine has an article, [New AI Agent Logs Directly into Canvas to Do Your Homework for You](#). How can you scaffold your assignments to avoid student cheating? What have you done in your classes to create “cheat proof” assignments? How can we create authentic assessments that we don’t have to police, and design assignments that students cannot fake. In the article, [The First Agentic AI LMS Killer is Here](#), the author signs up for Einstein, a “homework agent” can complete student homework on Canvas in order to test its effectiveness. All of this adds to the work load of faculty as they attempt to figure out what is authentic in their classes. Accuracy in AI detection tools is between 33 – 81 percent (*International Journal for Educational Integrity*) and adds to our confusion. Students report “dumbing down their writing” in order to avoid being accessed of using AI. In the article, [The Guilt We Aren’t Talking About](#), the author shares the struggles that students have over AI and how they want more structure on how to use it. What AI policies are you using in your classes? Are you teaching your students AI literacy and the ethical use of AI?

Reflective Teaching and Midterm Feedback: As we head into midterms, it is always a good time to reflect on our teaching and what is working for our students. CELT often posts midterm suggestions around this time of year and is always looking for new ones. In *Faculty Focus*, in the article, [Transforming Midterm Evaluations into a Metacognitive Pause](#), the author gears their questions to direct their thoughts towards the details of their own learning experiences. *The Teaching Professor*, suggests [Mid-term Conferences: A Mutually Beneficial Assessment Tool](#) as a way to collect student feedback. While this may work for smaller classes, it may be hard to meet with every one of your students one-to-one. Perhaps requiring students to come to office hours will allow you to get some feedback on their learning. While it is hard to fit a mid-term survey into a very busy semester (especially classes that are behind because of the snow), the article, [The Importance of Gathering and Incorporating Mid-Semester Student Feedback](#) can encourage self-reflection and help direct your teaching for the second half of the semester.

Podcasts on Teaching: Interested in listening to a podcast as you drive to work? [Teaching in Higher Ed](#) offers a range of engaging podcasts to help improve your teaching practice or give you new ideas to use in the classroom. Liz Norell shares about her book, [The Present Professor: Authenticity and Transformational Teaching](#). Sheila Tablani shares [Overcoming the Curse of Expertise and Other Ways to be More Inclusive in Our Teaching](#). Tablani suggests signing up for a course that you have no idea about, and see what it feels to be a novice like our students. Don’t have time to listen? *Teaching in Higher Ed* provides transcripts for those of you who would prefer to read. [The Higher Ed Tech Podcast](#) focuses on helping you to understand how to use technology to improve your teaching and classroom engagement. [Tea for Teaching](#) offers informal discussions of innovative and effective practices in education. [The Ed Surge Podcast](#) talks about issues related to the future of education. Interested in discussing some of these topics with your Middlesex colleagues? Let us know and we can set up a time to listen and chat!



Middlesex Scholarly and Creative Works Bibliography

The Middlesex College Library is currently working on the annual **Scholarly and Creative Works Bibliography**. The bibliography celebrates the scholarly and creative output of Middlesex Faculty and staff. Take a look at previous year’s [bibliographies](#), posted to the library webpages.

The deadline for [submittal](#) to this year’s issue is April 3, 2026.

Do you want to present a workshop for CELT? Do you want to learn something new?

What do you need from CELT? Do you have an idea for a workshop? Do you want to learn about something new to support your teaching practice?

We are always looking for faculty to share their expertise with their colleagues. If you are interested in proposing a workshop or leading one, please email CELT or Susan Altman at celt@middlesexcc.edu or Saltman@middlesexcc.edu. We welcome your ideas!