For Two Days, University Leaders Offered Information to Support Your Success.

Hosted by the Office of Academic Affairs, Faculty Orientation was packed with important information, resources and support for new full time faculty entering the University of North Texas at Dallas, as well as for returning ones. The two-day event, that took place last August 17 and 18, offered presentations on new hire benefits, tips on navigating the University system, advice on instructional technologies and resources to support online teaching, as well as interactive sessions focusing on our wonderfully diverse student community and the various resources that support teaching at UNT Dallas and key introductions to University contacts and sources.

This year, DLIT recorded the speakers during luncheons on both dates. On the first day of the event, new faculty enjoyed the welcome comments and remarks from Deans and on Tuesday all faculty enjoyed a presentation from Dr. Larry Terry on the Urban Institute project.

Orientation takes place annually the week prior to the start of the Fall semester classes. Click the following images/links to watch these recordings:

Fall 2015 UNTD New Faculty Orientation: Greetings from the Provost and Deans
https://youtu.be/uKskALI0_r0

Fall 2015 UNTD Faculty Orientation Keynote Speaker Dr. Terry Larry, UNT Dallas Urban Institute
http://youtu.be/kQ7yvu2qiN8

2015 Excellence in Online Teaching Awards - Call for Nominations!

We're glad to inform all our UNTD community that the first annual Excellence in Online Teaching Awards for 2015 is now open for nominations!
The office of **Distance Learning and Instructional Technologies** is proud to promote and recognize outstanding models of online course design and pedagogy as well as the creative and innovate use of technology in teaching

and learning at UNT Dallas. There are 2 easy links available to nominate a class for recognition, whether you are a student, peer or self-nominating your own class:

- **2015 Innovative Teaching with Technology Award**

- **2015 Outstanding Online Course Award**

For more information on nomination guidelines, eligibility criteria, as well as to review the evaluation instruments and links to the nomination forms please visit:
http://www.untdallas.edu/dlit/awards

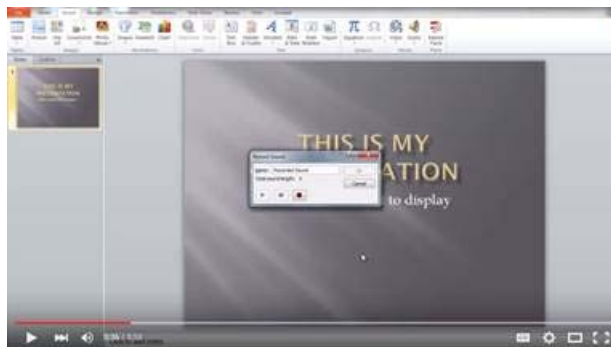Deadline to submit nominations: October 18, 2015

Get your colleague's model course noticed!

The Simple "Voice-Over PowerPoint" Technique is an Easy Way to Turn those PowerPoint Slides into Flipped Course Content!

The presentation tool in Microsoft Office is one of the most widely used slide presentation applications available today. PowerPoint is a piece of software that is pretty easy to use, but at the same time has many features that can elevate your presentations. One such function is the easy ability to supplement a presentation with voice-over (or other audio). Adding your voice to PowerPoint slides is a simple process to accomplish, and doing so can turn a presentation from a plain set of slides into a self-contained instructional asset that stands alone and can be used by students to self-teach. This can also be a great way for our instructors at UNTD teaching traditional courses to test the waters with **flipped content** delivery.

Watch the following 3 minute video to learn just how easy it is to tackle this with PowerPoint:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PKv1W3kJyW4

The cool thing is that you have 2 choices – adding voice clips to individual slides (which is really easy), or narrating over sets of slides (which isn't very hard, but it is a little more involved). If you do start to dive a little deeper into narrating over PowerPoint slide decks, here's Microsoft's page on how to do this, which has further explanation of things like setting and using slide timings: Record and add narration and timings to a slide show.
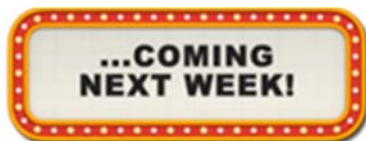
Once you have finished adding your narration, you can save your PowerPoint presentation as a video that you can upload to your course site.

Good audio (and video) can be critical to our eLearning success. We might be great designing our online learning environments and create the most engaging courses possible. But it can all falls apart if the audio/video quality in our course is not very good. So that's why, at the end of the Spring semester, the office of Distance Learning and Instructional Technologies bought a Yeti brand microphone which for a low-end (cost wise) consumer mic, the build quality of the Yeti is fantastic!

We have it available at our workroom (for faculty use) which you are welcome to come and use to record your narrated presentation videos. This will give you and your students a really good quality voice recording. And voice-over audio can be a very effective part in your online presentation process. Voice-over also allows you to turn your existing presentations into self-contained flipped content. There are endless possibilities to using voice-over in PowerPoint and you're only limited by your own imagination!

Please contact Mr. Brian Miller, our Digital Media Instructional Designer, in case you happen to need further assistance on creating your Voice-over PowerPoint presentation videos. Also remember that we're here for you if you need to explore more ideas on how to flip your classroom.

Blackboard Basics Workshops (For Students)

The Blackboard Basics Workshop is intended for students that are new to Blackboard Learn. The workshop covers such topics as logging into Blackboard, locating your courses, the Course Menu, participating in the Discussion Board, using the Emails and Messages features, submitting assignments, and taking online tests.
Join us in Dal1 Rm 336, on the following days from 2:30 to 5:00 pm
Sept 16, (2:30 PM– 5:00 PM), Dal1 Rm 336

» How do I know if my PDF is accessible?

PDF files are not going away anytime soon so it is important to make sure that all individuals, including those with disabilities can retrieve the information contained in them. This session will give a definition of what an accessible PDF should include as well as show how to test a PDF for accessibility. The session will also look at forms and tables. Participants should have a basic understanding of accessible PDF principles such as tagging and navigational structure.
Speaker: Christy Blew, IT Accessibility Specialist, University of IL - Urbana-Champaign
Sept 17 (1:00-2:30 PM), Dal2 Rm 127 (Seating capacity: 10 seats) or join virtually
Click to **register** for this event!

Connect and Collaborate through our eLearning Faculty Learning Communities

To bring faculty that are either currently or soon to be teaching distance learning courses together to learn, share, and exchange ideas, we have launched a new initiative beginning the Fall 2015 semester: the eLearning Faculty Learning Communities (eFLC). To facilitate this initiative, we will

coordinate regular meetings (in person or virtually) and logistics, and will provide online tools so that faculty/members can share resources and best practices.

Hopefully, these communities will be comprised of an interdisciplinary group of faculty devoted to enhancing teaching, learning, and the university experience who engage in active, collaborative exploration around a common learning issue. Each eFLC will grow at its own pace and embrace a unique topic and we are continuing next week with the first meeting for the **Hybrid/Online Teaching eFLC.**

Whether you are a veteran or have just had that scary conversation with your Dean, join us as we discuss the wonders, joys and pitfalls of online and hybrid teaching. Members of this Faculty Learning Community will explore and share ideas about the possibilities and challenges associated with online instruction, including strategies to enable productive student online interaction. Cynthia, our Instructional Design Coordinator, will guide this group of faculty as they grow and learn from the blessings and curses of teaching in an online environment.

Sep 17 (2:00 – 3:00 PM), Dal2 Rm 127 (Seating capacity: 10 seats)
Click to **register** for this event!

We are very excited to provide such rich opportunities for community building, interdisciplinary collaboration, and explorations of online teaching and learning!
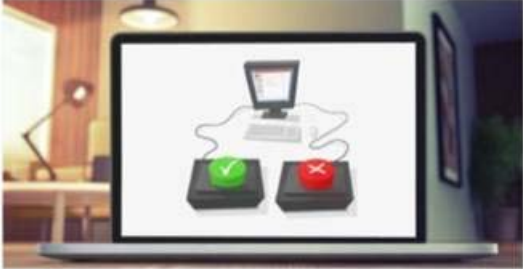
Articles

(Click the images to read the articles)

Viva eLearning

True Or False Questions In eLearning: What eLearning Professionals Should Know

True or False questions may be easy to grade, but creating the ideal T/F question can pose quite a challenge for eLearning professionals. Their simplicity leaves little room for wordiness and each question must be clear and to-the-point in order to assess learner compre... Continue Reading

True Or False Questions In eLearning: What eLearning Professionals...
elearningindustry.com

Viva eLearning
Sep 9 at 10:21pm · 🌐

The Impact Of Maslow's Hierarchy Of Needs In eLearning http://dlvr.it/C6DKPm
#eLearningDesignandDevelopment
#EmployeeMotivation

More

SEP 23	**BITS #2 - Best Practices for Communicating With Your Students Through Blackboard**
	2:30 PM – 5:00 PM
	Dal 1, Rm 336
SEP 24	**DLAC—Advisory Committee Meeting**
	10:00 AM—12:00 PM
	DAL2, Rm 127
SEP 29	**Issues and Trends in Edtech in 2015**
	12:00 PM—1:00 PM
	Dal 2, Rm 127
SEP 29	**Characteristics of Effective Feedback**
	4:00 PM—5:00 PM
	Dal 2, Rm 127 or virtually

SEP 30	**Mid-Term Grading Café**
	2:30 PM – 5:00 PM
	Dal 1, Rm 336
OCT 05	**Quick Start to Captioning**
	12:00 PM—1:00 PM
	Dal 2, Rm 127
OCT 06	**Meetup 2 – Let's learn something!**
	3:30 PM – 5:00 PM
	Dal 2, Rm 127
OCT 07	**BITS #3 - Using Bloom's Digital Taxonomy to Maximize Student Engagement**
	2:30 PM – 5:00 PM
	Dal 1, Rm 336

Dr. Larry Terry's talk on the UNT Dallas Urban Institute. (8/18/2015)

UNTD Faculty enjoying lunch during Fall 2015 Faculty Orientation sessions. (8/18/2015)

And last but not least, we would like to wish **Ms. Cynthia Johnson**, our Instructional Design Coordinator, a very happy and belated birthday. May today and all your days be amazing!

Contact Us!

The **Office of Distance Learning and Instructional Technologies** invites faculty and staff to join and participate in our development programs. These events provide an opportunity to network with faculty from other departments, learn new instructional strategies and tools, and become aware of best practices in online teaching and learning. Hope to see you there, and don't forget to register for our workshops and sessions!
Please contact us with ideas and suggestions for future events:

Web: http://www.untdallas.edu/dlit
Phone: 972-338-5580
Email: UNTDDistance@unt.edu

To unsubscribe: If you would like to be removed from this list please click here.

Arturo Cole, M.S.

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