



Friday at the Center: February 18, 2005

Brown-Bag Lunch: Multicultural Approaches in the Classroom

Join your colleagues for a discussion on multiculturalism in the academic setting next Thursday, Feb. 24, from noon to 1 in Weter 201. Sponsored by the Committee on Diversity and the Center for Scholarship and Faculty Development, the interdisciplinary conversation will address such issues as how do you present multiculturalism in the class? When issues such as racism and ethnocentrism come up, how have you handled these? How do you make them learning moments? How do you teach sensitivity to diversity? What teaching tips and strategies engage a class in discussions on reconciling cultures? What do you do to accommodate a range of different learning styles? Panel members include Sharon Hartnett, Bill Rowley, Bill Purcell, Cher Edwards and Nyaradzo Mvududu. Bring your own lunch; coffee, tea, and dessert will be provided.

Want Formative Feedback on your Teaching?

A great opportunity to gain some peer feedback on your teaching (as advocated in recent Facnet discussions) is to arrange for a Teaching Consultation through the Center. Two experienced colleagues will meet several times with you, review your syllabi and other teaching material, observe several classes, interview students, and assist you in developing effective teaching strategies. See <http://www.spu.edu/depts/csfd/teachingops.asp> for more information.

On-Line Evaluations

Don't forget to sign up your courses for on-line course evaluations and to encourage your students to participate in this process as a way of contributing to the on-going development of learning on campus. Their input can provide valuable assistance in making decisions about course structure, assignments, learning activities, attitudes, etc. I'm available to attend department meetings to discuss strategies for using the feedback from on-line evaluations to improve teaching and ways in which to read and interpret such evaluations. Please contact Marlene McCurley if you'd like to schedule such a meeting.

Happy Presidents' Day weekend!



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