

Friday @ the Center: January 18, 2008

Upcoming Faculty Development Events

- ❖ **Thursday, Jan. 24.** Brown Bag Lunch and Workshop, sponsored by the Diversity Committee and CSFD. Dave Stewart, SPFC, will discuss strategies for diversifying course content. 12:30-2:00 p.m., Falcon Lounge. BYOBB.
- ❖ **Thursday, Jan. 31.** Virtual Synchronous Classroom Workshop, sponsored by ITS, CSFD, and CIS. Melanie Plett, Ryan LaBrie, Elaine Scott, Don Peter, Jeff Van Duzer, and Brad Gjerding will demonstrate and explain benefits and challenges of using a Virtual Synchronous Classroom. 1:00-2:00 p.m., Otto Miller Hall 246.
- ❖ **Tuesday, Feb. 5.** *New York Times* Luncheon and Workshop, sponsored by *NY Times*, *Seattle Times*, ASSP, and CSFD. Rick Jackson, Journalism, will speak about using newspaper resources in the classroom. 1:00-2:00 p.m., Library Seminar Room. RSVP to todd.halvorsen@nytimes.com by Jan. 22.

Upcoming Internal Faculty Grant Deadlines

Seattle Pacific offers a number of faculty grants to support research, scholarship, creative activity, and teaching. Check out the programs listed below, and don't pass up these opportunities for support! Unless otherwise noted, information and application forms are available at <http://www.spu.edu/depts/csfd/scholarshipops.asp>.

- ❖ **Faculty Research Grant (FRG):** supports research and scholarship and is open to applicants, but priority in awards is given to pre-tenured faculty. Funds can be used for research expenses, travel, equipment, a course release, or a summer stipend. Feb. 1.
- ❖ **Senior Faculty Grant (SFG):** supports research and scholarship, but is limited to tenured applicants. Feb. 1.
- ❖ **Lilly SERVE Faculty Grant in Vocation:** supports either a scholarly or pedagogical project related to the concept of vocation. Contact: Mike Hamilton. Feb. 1.
- ❖ **Reconciliation Studies Course Development Grant:** grants between \$500 and \$1500 for a course revision or for a new course, in order to increase the course offerings for emphasis on reconciliation and diversity and to enable greater intercultural competency at SPU. Feb. 1.
- ❖ **Lilly SERVE Speaker's Grant: Grant of up to \$1,500, or less** to bring an outside speaker to campus to address vocational issues within a particular discipline or field. The proposed event can take place at any time during the rest of this academic year or during next academic year (2008-09). Send a one-paragraph description of the proposed event including a tentative date, a one-paragraph biographical blurb on the speaker, and an itemized budget to Susan Gallagher, CSFD, Suite 306. Mar. 1.

Improving Student Writing

"Tomorrow's Teaching and Learning," a e-letter from Stanford, recently ran a piece on "Eleven Things to do to Improve Your Students Writing," full of good advice. Here are some of the suggestions: 1) Give

writing assignments in writing, not just orally; 2) During classroom discussions of student writing, pass out copies of what is being discussed; 3) Require your students to write weekly in some form, whether a draft, informal response, short or long paper; 4) In class, write when your students are writing; 5) Only grade finished products, not drafts or informal writing; 6) Give writing assignments back within one week and adjust the amount of feedback you provide to the amount of time you have to grade; 7) On each piece of writing you respond to, make at least one mark per page; 8) Stop copy editing; point out no more than two patterns of error a paper. For the full essay, see <http://ctl.stanford.edu/Tomprof/postings/824.html>.

Someone who never can restrain herself to marking only two patterns of error,



Susan

Susan VanZanten Gallagher
Professor of English
Director, Center for Scholarship and Faculty Development