

## Friday @ the Center: January 25, 2008

### Last Call for Internal Grant Applications!

The following SPU-administered grant applications must be submitted by 5 p.m., next Friday, Feb. 1. Complete information and forms are available at <http://www.spu.edu/depts/csfd/scholarshipops.asp>.

- ❖ **Faculty Research Grant (FRG):** supports research and scholarship and is open to all full-time faculty, 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.
- ❖ **Senior Faculty Grant (SFG):** supports research and scholarship, but is limited to tenured applicants.
- ❖ **Lilly SERVE Faculty Grant in Vocation:** supports either a scholarly or pedagogical project related to the concept of vocation. Contact: Mike Hamilton.
- ❖ **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.

### Dealing with Problem Students: #1

This week we kick off a new series focused on practical strategies for dealing with difficult, or problem, students. Additional suggestions for each of these situations are always welcome and will be included in the following *F @ the C*. Also, let me know if you have a particular scenario that you would like to see addressed.

***Talkative Tom or Trudi (TT):*** There are one, two, or three students in every class who seem to dominate. TT always has something to say, a question to ask, or an observation to share. Overly talkative students often are insecure, so it's important not to attack them personally or ridicule them in class. But you also need to make it clear that for a true, fruitful discussion to occur, a wide range of people must participate. Some strategies: 1) Take charge and direct the discussion, calling on participants, rather than letting the conversation develop spontaneously. Watch out for your own overreliance on TT to keep things going. 2) Thank TT for a comment and then divert attention to the other students by asking them to answer TT's question, or agree or disagree with the comment. 3) Speak to TT alone after class and explain that you appreciate his or her enthusiasm, but more students need to be encouraged to talk. Explain that there may be times when you do not call on TT, even though you know he or she might make a perceptive comment, but that you are doing this in order to get other people in the class to participate. 4) Use a comment voucher system. Each student gets a set number of vouchers at the outset of a discussion (depending on the size of the class) and must turn one in each time a comment is made. When an individual's vouchers are gone, that person's participation must take the form of listening for the rest of the class session.

### Next Week:

**Thursday, Jan. 31, 1-2 p.m.** 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. Otto Miller Hall 246.

### CFP: Global Studies Conference

University of Illinois, Chicago, 16-18 May 2008. The Global Studies Conference includes an impressive line-up of international speakers, as well as numerous papers, workshops and colloquium presentations by practitioners, teachers and researchers. A title and short abstract is due Feb. 14, 2008. Proposals are reviewed within four weeks of submission. Presenters may choose to submit written papers for publication in the fully refereed *Global Studies Journal*. If you are unable to attend the conference in person, virtual registrations are also available which allow you to submit a paper for refereeing and possible publication in the *GSJ*, as well as access to the electronic version of the conference proceedings. Full details, including an online proposal submission form, are at <http://www.GlobalStudiesConference.com>.



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