

Friday @ the Center: November 9, 2007

Dealing with Plagiarism: *SafeAssign*

SPU's recent acquisition of *SafeAssign* helps both students and faculty detect unoriginal content in papers submitted to a Blackboard course site. Designed to be a learning tool as well as a plagiarism alarm system, *SafeAssign* allows students to run their papers through the system to check if they've used sources and citations appropriately. They can then do the necessary revisions before submitting the paper submitted to the instructor. A workshop on learning how to use *SafeAssign* effectively will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 13, 3-4 p.m. and repeated again on Wednesday, Nov. 14, 3-4 p.m. Both will take place in the Library Instructional Classroom, Main Floor. To register for one of these sessions, [click here](#). If you are interested but unable to attend a workshop, please contact onlinelearning@spu.edu to arrange a time to meet one-on-one with an ITS staff member to learn about this plagiarism detection tool.

Reconciliation Studies Course Grant

At the recent faculty luncheon on multicultural pedagogy, the Diversity Committee announced a new faculty grant opportunity co-sponsored with the Center for Scholarship and Faculty Development: a program funding requests ranging from \$500 to \$1500 either to revise a course or to design a new course that emphasizes reconciliation and diversity and enables greater intercultural competency at SPU. A complete description and application form is available at <http://www.spu.edu/depts/csfd/scholarshipops.asp>. Applications are due on Feb. 1, 2008. Wondering how you might go about diversifying your course? Next quarter's Brown Bag Lunch (in January TBA date and time) will feature Dave Stewart, Director of Clinical Training and Associate Professor of Clinical Psychology, who will talk about developing strategies for including diversity. When Dave was on the UW School of Medicine faculty, he assisted faculty in including diversity in their clinical training and scientific presentations.

Student Reading Tip # 4: Teach How To Mark up a Text

During secondary education, students are seldom taught how to highlight, mark, or annotate a text, because high school students are typically not allowed to write in their books. How, then, do students learn this basic college skill? I know that I've often seen texts where there is more yellow highlighted passages than anything else, which suggests a problem. Or, the opposite problem: texts with nary a mark on them. Try distributing some sample pages from your text that are marked in a useful and appropriate way. Provide a commentary on the marking, explaining the strategy used and how it was determined to mark or not mark. Note how to write questions or brief summaries in margins. In classes that use student mentors, ask your mentor to mark up a page or two and then explain his or her thinking. Or project a page from the text and go through it together as a class making decisions about marking. (The fourth in an on-going series, adapted from The Idea Center's Paper #40.)

Faculty Book Circle: *The Orthodox Way*

We were all stimulated to think about hope, suffering, and action by our Day of Common Learning speaker Jürgen Moltman, and we are once again anticipating the visit of another major contemporary theologian, Metropolitan Kallistos Ware, who will be delivering the 2008 Palmer Lectures on March 4-5. From 1966-2001, Metropolitan Kallistos was Spalding Lecturer of Eastern Orthodox Studies at Oxford University, and he has authored numerous books and articles on the Orthodox Christian faith, including *The Orthodox Way*, one of the core texts used in UFDN 3100 Christian Theology. A new member of our School of Theology, Professor Daniel Castelo, has graciously offered to lead a Faculty Book Circle on *The Orthodox Way* to prepare for the Palmer Lectures. This book circle will meet on Jan. 15, 22, and 29,

from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. To enroll and receive a free copy of the book, please contact Anna Dufault (adufault@spu.edu).



Metropolitan Kallistos Ware

Susan

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