

Millersville University

CENTER FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Types of CAE Sessions

The Center for Academic Excellence offers many different types of programs throughout the academic year. We are always looking for new topic suggestions and presenters. Please contact Dr. Oliver Dreon, Director of the Center for Academic Excellence (oliver.dreon@millersville.edu) if you have any recommendations.

Brown Bag Discussions

The Center occasionally hosts an informal Brown Bag Discussion. Faculty are invited to join their colleagues in the McNairy Library and Learning Forum (or another location), bring a lunch, and participate in a discussion about a topic of interest. These discussions may focus on general topics such as curriculum approval processes, learner-centered teaching, or grant opportunities. The conversations at Brown Bag Discussions are informal, dynamic, and informative. This is a great way to meet new colleagues and learn about a variety of topics.

Instructional Technology Workshops & Sessions

The Instructional & Technology Support Team offers a large number of hands-on workshops throughout the academic year to help faculty members develop their skills and expertise with various online tools and resources. In addition to helping to promote these workshops, the Center for Academic Excellence offers new sessions to help faculty see how their colleagues in other Departments are using these tools and techniques. These application-oriented sessions are a great way to see how these important tools and resources can be used to enhance the teaching and learning process in many different settings.

Monday Morning Mentors

Monday Morning Mentors are online sessions offered through the Teaching Professor. Monday Morning Mentors can be accessed Mondays at 10 AM but are available on demand for a week after the published date. Mentors can be accessed online at: <http://9nL.pw/MUMentors> but will require a password available through the CAE email distribution list (see below).

Want to receive periodic updates on CAE happenings? Opt into the CAE email distribution list at: <http://tinyurl.com/CAEmails>

<p>August 27, 2018 On demand at http://9nl.pw/MUMentors</p>	<p>Monday Morning Mentor: How Can I Bring Pop to My Classroom with Pop Culture? Katherine Jones, Undergraduate Services Librarian and Assistant Professor, Kansas State University There's no denying the impact that the digital age has had on the influence of pop culture. Whether it's the newest hot pop record or the latest viral video, younger generations are becoming more and more consumed by the pop culture landscape. To keep pace with these shifts in interest, the way foundational content is taught must evolve. One way to structure courses in an accessible and engaging way is to meet students where their interests lie by bringing pop culture into the classroom.</p>
<p>September 3, 2018 On demand at http://9nl.pw/MUMentors</p>	<p>Monday Morning Mentor: How Can I Promote Enrollment and Retention in Challenging Courses that Motivate Instead of Frustrate? Lolita Paff, PhD Associate Professor, Penn State Berks Many students view gatekeeper courses—or introductory-level courses they must take to fulfill the requirements of their program—as “less important,” “fluff,” or “unnecessarily difficult.” This is often due to the fact that students’ expectations and experiences are not appropriately aligned with the intended learning outcomes of these courses. There’s certainly a purpose to gatekeeper courses, but how can you convince students of this purpose and help ensure they’re engaged and successful?</p>
<p>September 4, 2018 Tuesday Common Hour (12:05 – 1:10 PM) McNairy 502</p>	<p>Brown Bag Discussion: Zoom: MU’s New Meeting Tool Marie Firestone, Instructional Support Specialist, D2L Administrator, Office of Online Programs Do you Zoom? Learn tips and tricks for making the most of Zoom! From recording guest speakers to easy virtual office hours; check out Millersville’s awesome new online meeting tool.</p>
<p>September 10, 2018 On demand at http://9nl.pw/MUMentors</p>	<p>Monday Morning Mentor: What are Five Tips for Creating Videos that Promote Knowledge and Expand My Reach? Jill Schiefelbein Owner, The Dynamic Communicator When you think of using video in higher ed, you likely think of videos for online classes, recorded lectures, or microlectures. But if you’re trying to attract grants and research funding, having a visible presence outside of the academy is important—and perfectly attainable!</p>

<p>September 11, 2018 Tuesday Common Hour (12:05 – 1:10 PM) McNairy 118</p>	<p>Brown Bag Discussion: Diversity to Inclusion: What it is, Why It's Important, and What is our Role? Karen Rice, Social Work, Dwight Horsey, Executive Director of Financial Aid and Jasmine Whitlow, Director, Intercultural Center for Student Engagement As the University strives to ensure an inclusive campus community for all who enter our campus, what does that mean for you? We will share the steps taken to date to move MU in the direction of being more inclusive. Additionally, we will share what you can do, now, to continue to guide us and make everyone feel welcomed, valued, and respected.</p>
<p>September 17, 2018 On demand at http://9nl.pw/MUMentors</p>	<p>Monday Morning Mentor: How Will OER Benefit the 21st Century Student? Erik Christensen Dean, South Florida State College Textbooks typically account for one-third of the cost of a college education—but this doesn't have to be the case. One way to combat the high cost of student learning materials and promote classroom enrollment is through the implementation of open educational resources (OER). There are many benefits to implementing OER in the classroom. OER are low-cost (or free) to students, peer-reviewed, typically found online, and come in multiple forms, including textbooks, videos, images, PowerPoints, test banks, and more. On top of that, because OER are not bound by copyright laws other than Creative Commons licensing, you can adapt and edit them to align with the learning objectives of your courses.</p>
<p>September 18, 2018 Tuesday Common Hour (12:05 – 1:10 PM) McNairy 118 CANCELED due to Chancellor Visit. Will be rescheduled!</p>	<p>Brown Bag Discussion: Advising Large Caseloads David Henriques, Director of Academic Advisement & Student Development What are the best practices to support faculty who have large advising caseloads? Learn strategies to help you manage and effectively support your advisees.</p>
<p>September 24, 2018 On demand at http://9nl.pw/MUMentors</p>	<p>Monday Morning Mentor: How Can Livestreaming Bring New Life to My Teaching? Jill Schiefelbein Owner, The Dynamic Communicator Livestreaming can reenergize teaching, research, projects, departments and units, and institutions. Younger generations especially crave the raw, authentic viewpoints that livestreaming provides, and all audiences like the “behind-the-scenes” and “insider access” that going live enables. If you want your academic unit or institution to be known as “cutting edge,” you must keep up with the channels used for disseminating information. Livestreaming is not only mainstream now, it's expected from many audiences.</p>

<p>September 25, 2018 Tuesday Common Hour (12:05 – 1:10 PM) McNairy 118</p>	<p>Brown Bag Discussion: Develop and Lead an MU-Guided Study Abroad Program Dr. Jason Petula, Faculty Coordinator of Internationalization and Olivia Cordero, Assistant Director, Global Education Interested in taking students abroad! Learn about ways to design and lead a successful short-term study abroad experience. You will have the opportunity to discuss the process and gain insight into program leader responsibilities, choosing a location, risk assessment, and budget and administrative matters.</p>
<p>September 25, 2018 Tuesday Common Hour (12:05 – 1:10 PM) McNairy 502</p>	<p>Brown Bag Discussion: Office 365: MU Learning in the Digital Age Matt Fox, Instructional Designer, Office of Online Programs Office 365 is a suite of online Microsoft applications that all MU faculty, staff, and students can access for free. In this learning opportunity, we will review some of the tools available including, Word, PowerPoint, and OneDrive. We will explore ways of implementing these resources into your courses, for you and your students.</p>
<p>October 1, 2018 On demand at http://9nl.pw/MUMentors</p>	<p>Monday Morning Mentor: What is Gamification and How Can it Promote a Growth Mindset? Kristin Ziska Strange, Instructional Designer, Northern Arizona University Your students are on a quest for knowledge and, as an instructor, you're largely responsible for ensuring this quest is as engaging and fulfilling as possible. Gamification is a solid classroom solution that, when properly leveraged, can get students more involved with course content and help them understand that persistence garners classroom success. Gamification uses gaming elements and mechanics in a nongame context—and it's really simple to implement if you know where to start. It doesn't require the expertise of a "professional gamer" or the creativity of an artist. You just have to be willing to approach your course content a little bit differently. Are you ready to introduce gaming elements into your course content?</p>
<p>October 1, 2018 3:00 – 4:30 PM Stayer 208</p>	<p>Promotion & Tenure Panel Discussion Join us as we hear multiple perspectives on the Promotion and Tenure process. Attendees will be able to ask questions and get advice from recent members on the University Promotion and Tenure Committee. The promotion and tenure guidelines will also be distributed and discussed at this session.</p>
<p>October 2, 2018 Tuesday Common Hour (12:05 – 1:10 PM) McNairy 502</p>	<p>Brown Bag Discussion: Adobe: Create and Verify Accessible PDF's Keston Lyman, Instructional Technologist, Technical Support Services Faculty and staff may use Adobe Pro to check the accessibility of existing PDF's and create new documents that are more compatible with student's assistive technologies. Discover how easy it can be to create PDF's that meet the needs of all your students.</p>

<p>October 2, 2018 Tuesday Common Hour (12:05 – 1:10 PM) McNairy 118</p>	<p>Brown Bag Discussion: Embracing Internationalization in Your Classroom Jason Petula, Faculty Coordinator of Internationalization and Olivia Cordero, Assistant Director of Education Abroad Positive Contribution to global communities has long been at the core of Millersville University's values, but what can we do to make our commitment to internationalization even stronger? Join the Global Education staff to talk about strategies for embracing international students, internationalizing your curriculum, and using campus resources to enhance global literacy of your students.</p>
<p>October 8, 2018 On demand at http://9nl.pw/MUMentors</p>	<p>Monday Morning Mentor: How Can the Three C's of Course Design Enhance Students' Online Performance? Jill Purdy, PhD Associate Professor/Director, Cedar Crest College Online course design can either hinder or help learners focus and absorb the material. If the student is exerting their energies on manipulating the system, less time is available to devote to learning and critically thinking about the material. On the other hand, when expectations are clear, both faculty and students save time and avoid frustration. This leads to the three key elements of online design: consistency, creativity, and community. Consistency addresses the need to set up a course with uniformity and clear expectations. Creativity examines the fact that even though uniformity exists, there are many creative options for providing variety in learning the material. Lastly, community—building relationships in the online environment— enhances engagement online. Are you ready to leverage these three key elements in your online courses?</p>
<p>October 15, 2018 On demand at http://9nl.pw/MUMentors</p>	<p>Monday Morning Mentor: How Can I Use Simple Gamification Strategies to Engage my Students? Kristin Ziska Strange Instructional Designer, Northern Arizona University Perhaps you've started implementing gamification elements in your classroom and have discovered positive results. Or maybe you've learned some of the key concepts behind gamification and want to embrace it further. When well-executed, gamification can dramatically increase student engagement and success. And all instructors want this for their students. So, let's take it to the next level!</p>
<p>October 16, 2018 Tuesday Common Hour (12:05 – 1:10 PM) McNairy 502</p>	<p>Brown Bag Discussion: Teaching with Socrative Ankur Nandedkar, PhD, Management & Marketing and Onek Adyanga, PhD, History This session will focus on a formative assessment tool called Socrative - a cloud based application that can be used by instructors in a variety of ways. The participants in this session are requested to bring laptops/tablets to practice the use of Socrative in the classroom.</p>

<p>October 16, 2018 Tuesday Common Hour (12:05 – 1:10 PM) McNairy 118</p>	<p>Brown Bag Discussion: The Early Alert Program and how to support your advisees who are referred David Henriques and Joe Sciarretta, Academic Advisement & Student Development This presentation will provide an overview of the current Early Alert program as well as a discussion of advisement/coaching strategies to support students who may be referred.</p>
<p>October 22, 2018 On demand at http://9nl.pw/MUMentors</p>	<p>Monday Morning Mentor: How Can I Get Students to Engage with Course Content Before Class? Sarah Lovern, PhD, Associate Professor, Concordia University This program addresses how student misconceptions about course content can become barriers to learning and offers several techniques to help teachers facilitate the adoption of alternative viewpoints in their students. The presenters discuss a variety of motivational methods to explore the impact that engagement with the material prior to coming to the classroom experience has on the student brain and ultimately student success.</p>
<p>October 23, 2018 Tuesday Common Hour (12:05 – 1:10 PM) McNairy 118</p>	<p>Brown Bag Discussion: Creating an Inclusive Class Community Ms. Nikki Rohrback, Assistant Director for Integrated Studies & Mx. Jan Bechtel, Director for Integrated Studies This session will share information regarding Integrated Studies and outline strategies for creating an inclusive class community for students with disabilities.</p>
<p>October 23, 2018 Tuesday Common Hour (12:05 – 1:10 PM) McNairy 502 RESCHEDULED due to Chancellor's Visit</p>	<p>Brown Bag Discussion: Advising Large Caseloads David Henriques, Director of Academic Advisement & Student Development What are the best practices to support faculty who have large advising caseloads? Learn strategies to help you manage and effectively support your advisees.</p>
<p>October 25, 2018 Thursday Common Hour (12:05 – 1:10 PM) Roddy 153</p>	<p>Science Writing Workshop Series: Learning Scientific Writing from Expert Scientists Justin Mando, Assistant Professor, English As scientific writers yourselves, much of how you write comes automatically. You likely don't struggle like you used to when you organize a paper, introduce your topic, review literature, explain methods, and more. You learned these things by reading and writing...a lot. We can jump-start students' ability to read research articles by using them as guides for their own writing. In other words, we can present students with a models-based approach to scientific writing. This session will provide you with research-supported classroom practices that are easily implemented in W classes. We will discuss how to incorporate this way of reading scientific texts into the existing framework of your W class. Assignment sheets, lesson plans, and supporting articles will be provided.</p>

<p>October 29, 2018 On demand at http://9nl.pw/MUMentors</p>	<p>Monday Morning Mentor: How Can I Resolve Difficult Situations in the Classroom? Stephanie Delaney, JD, PhD Dean, South Seattle College</p> <p>The anonymity of the online classroom can be liberating. It can also give rise to unintentional and intentional bad behavior including microaggressions and bullying. In this program, learn to recognize microaggressions and bullying in the online classroom and explore a strategy to effectively address these issues if and when they arise.</p>
<p>October 30, 2018 Tuesday Common Hour (12:05 – 1:10 PM) McNairy 118</p>	<p>Brown Bag Discussion: Title IX Obligations Elizabeth Swantek, Title IX Coordinator</p> <p>During this session we will discuss your obligations under the newly revised sexual misconduct policy as well as work through what a compassionate and effective Title IX disclosure response looks like.</p>
<p>November 1, 2018 Thursday Common Hour (12:05 – 1:10 PM) Roddy 153</p>	<p>Science Writing Workshop Series: Peer Review in W Courses Justin Mando, Assistant Professor, English</p> <p>All of us have received caustic feedback from journal editors and peer reviewers, but in the end, it's most often the case that our writing is improved by our response to that criticism. Peer review is essential to the work of researchers and it should be an essential part of learning to write like a researcher for our students. Not only does peer review help students when they receive feedback, giving feedback also allows students to see their own writing more critically. This session will provide you with research-supported classroom practices that are easily implemented in W classes. We will discuss how to facilitate peer review across a range of assignments. Assignment sheets, peer review rubrics, and supporting texts will be provided.</p>
<p>November 5, 2018 On demand at http://9nl.pw/MUMentors</p>	<p>Monday Morning Mentor: How Should I Manage My Online Course? Ann Taylor, PhD Director and Assistant Dean, Penn State University</p> <p>Managing the workload of an online course can be more challenging than managing a face-to-face course. In the absence of weekly face-to-face class meetings, online instructors have to work hard to make sure a course is running smoothly and to ensure students are progressing toward course goals while staying engaged in the material. How can you keep everything organized when teaching online?</p>
<p>November 6, 2018 Tuesday Common Hour (12:05 – 1:10 PM) McNairy 502</p>	<p>Brown Bag Discussion: D2L Course Template Package: Jumpstart your course design Marie Firestone, Instructional Support Specialist, D2L Administrator, Office of Online Programs</p> <p>Building a new course in D2L or are looking to freshen up an existing course? The Millersville D2L Template package for D2L can help</p>

<p>November 6, 2018 Tuesday Common Hour (12:05 – 1:10 PM) McNairy 118</p>	<p>Brown Bag Discussion: Enhancing Student Learning – A Four Step Model to Strengthen Memory Cora M. Dzubak, Academic Advisement & Student Development There are few secrets as to how effective teaching and effective study can dramatically improve how much new information is remembered. This presentation will consist of a four step model of memory, and therefore of learning, that combines the importance of focus, active learning strategies, and retrieval from memory.</p>
<p>November 8, 2018 Thursday Common Hour (12:05 – 1:10 PM) Roddy 153</p>	<p>Science Writing Workshop Series: Audience Focused Writing Justin Mando, Assistant Professor, English More now than ever researchers are expected not only to communicate insights to their peers, but also to relevant segments of the public. Explaining your research in a peer-reviewed journal is quite a different task than explaining the same to a journalist. By contrasting these two likely situations, the importance of knowing your audience(s) comes into relief. For students, thinking about audience can help them understand the expectations readers have of them that are often unspoken, but essential to their success. This session will provide you with research-supported classroom practices that are easily implemented in W classes. We will discuss how to help students understand the concept of audience and use it to improve their writing. Assignment sheets and supporting texts will be provided.</p>
<p>November 12, 2018 On demand at http://9nl.pw/MUMentors</p>	<p>Monday Morning Mentor: How Can I Engage the Emotions of My Students to Maximize Learning? Ann Taylor, PhD Director and Assistant Dean, Penn State University Managing the workload of an online course can be more challenging than managing a face-to-face course. In the absence of weekly face-to-face class meetings, online instructors have to work hard to make sure a course is running smoothly and to ensure students are progressing toward course goals while staying engaged in the material. How can you keep everything organized when teaching online?</p>
<p>November 13, 2018 Tuesday Common Hour (12:05 – 1:10 PM) McNairy 502</p>	<p>Brown Bag Discussion: Office 365: Digital Collaboration and Group Work Matt Fox, Instructional Designer, Office of Online Programs Office 365 is a suite of online Microsoft applications that all MU faculty, staff and students can access for free. Together, we will explore some of the newer resources within 365 including OneNote, Forms, and Teams and discuss ways you may consider implementing these resources in group projects and collaboration opportunities within your courses.</p>

<p>November 13, 2018 Tuesday Common Hour (12:05 – 1:10 PM) McNairy 118</p>	<p>Brown Bag Discussion: Develop and Lead an MU-Guided Study Abroad Program Dr. Jason Petula, Faculty Coordinator of Internationalization and Dr. Patricee Campbell, Director of International Programs Interested in taking students abroad! Learn about ways to design and lead a successful short-term study abroad experience. You will have the opportunity to discuss the process and gain insight into program leader responsibilities, choosing a location, risk assessment, and budget and administrative matters.</p>
<p>November 13, 2018 Tuesday Common Hour (12:05 – 1:10 PM) Ford Atrium McComsey Hall</p>	<p>Curricular Innovation and Models for Program Delivery Presentation Matthew Pellish, Managing Director of Strategic Research and Education, EAB A light lunch will be served. RSVP to Kay Keen at Kay.Keen@millersville.edu</p>
<p>November 19, 2018 On demand at http://9nl.pw/MUMentors</p>	<p>Monday Morning Mentor: How Can I Gain Valuable Insight from Course Evaluations? Maryellen Weimer, PhD Professor Emerita of Teaching and Learning, Penn State-Berks Surveys have shown that faculty members in the middle of their careers are often dissatisfied with the way their institutions handle end-of-course ratings. Evaluations may provide some value, but they often lack the details that help faculty improve and reach their full potential as teachers.</p>
<p>November 20, 2018 Tuesday Common Hour (12:05 – 1:10 PM) McNairy 118</p>	<p>Brown Bag Discussion: Introducing A New Dual Degree Program - The Masters of Social Work/ Master of Education in Sport Management Dr. Marc Felizzi, School of Social Work In this session, we will discuss the new Masters of Social Work/ Master of Education in Sport Management dual degree program. This first of its kind dual degree will enable master's level social workers to work effectively within the sports management realm. Additionally, for those who received a Bachelor's degree in sports management, the dual degree would prepare those students to accrue the necessary skills to understand and apply the mission of professional social work within settings in the world of athletic administration and management.</p>

<p>November 26, 2018 On demand at http://9nl.pw/MUMentors</p>	<p>Monday Morning Mentor: How Can I Encourage Students to Stay Connected with Course Content After Class? Flower Darby Senior Instructional Designer, Northern Arizona University Faculty tend to separate emotions from the teaching and learning that takes place in classes. Many have bought into a well-established tradition that college instruction should be dry, dusty, and academic in order to be authentic. But recent research shows that emotions have a strong impact on cognition. Instead of excluding emotion from the classroom, instructors would do well to acknowledge and take advantage of the impact emotions have on students' ability to learn new material. Drawing on a proposed addition of Emotional Presence to the Community of Inquiry Framework, examine why and how emotions can increase learning and retention.</p>
<p>November 27, 2018 Tuesday Common Hour (12:05 – 1:10 PM) McNairy 502</p>	<p>Brown Bag Discussion: Protecting Student Data Privacy Nancy Pruskowski, Associate VP for Information Technology and Alison Hutchinson, Registrar With all of electronic data that we collect on students, how do we keep it (and our students' privacy) safe and secure? In this session, we outline some ways to protect student information.</p>
<p>November 27, 2018 Tuesday Common Hour (12:05 – 1:10 PM) McNairy 118</p>	<p>Brown Bag Discussion: Advising from the Heart: Strategies for advising international students Margaret Mbindyo, Academic Advisement and Student Development & Patriece Campbell, Director of International Programs International undergraduate students face unique challenges across the united states which may hinder their successful transition and success in the american college classroom. In addition, academic advisers may not feel at ease advising international students because of perceived cultural, language, and knowledge barriers. In order to support and ensure academic success for this population, academic advisers should be aware of ways to connect with their students. The session will provide tools advisers can use to enhance international student advising competencies. Among other things, grading differences, cultural proximity/distance, language proficiency, academic preparedness, and immigration policy impact on course selection, advising format, and adviser and instructor characteristics will be addressed.</p>
<p>December 3, 2018 On demand at http://9nl.pw/MUMentors</p>	<p>Monday Morning Mentor: How Can Talking through Course Evaluations Improve my Teaching? Maryellen Weimer, PhD Professor Emerita, Penn State Berks This program explores three conversations faculty might have when discussing course evaluation results—the conversation with one's self about negative feedback, the conversation with an academic leader about evaluations, and the conversation with students about course ratings. Through these three scenarios, learn to have constructive conversations about course evaluations, and gain a better understanding of how to react and move forward through negative feedback, large-scale changes in feedback from one semester to the next, and positive feedback. By approaching these scenarios with the information provided, faculty can improve their teaching.</p>

<p>December 4, 2018 University Room Gordinier Hall 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM</p>	<p>Middle States Luncheon Institutional Assessment and Planning & Middle States Steering Committee</p> <p>In this session, we will examine the following: What are Middle State’s expectations regarding assessment? How do we help make faculty assessment efforts more transparent? How do we communicate with evaluation team members about our assessment efforts?</p> <p>Lunch will be served. To RSVP, contact Kay Keen at Kay.Keen@millersville.edu.</p>
<p>December 10, 2018 On demand at http://9nl.pw/MUMentors</p>	<p>Monday Morning Mentor: How Can Promoting Academic Integrity Improve Learning Outcomes for Students? Maryellen Weimer, PhD Professor Emerita, Penn State Berks</p> <p>Cheating and its related issues have been studied extensively for decades. There’s an overwhelming amount of literature on the topic. However, results from the past and the present confirm that cheating has been and continues to be a serious problem in higher education. This program explores a straightforward approach to combating academic dishonesty in the classroom through changing the focus from one of preventing cheating to one of promoting academic integrity. By adopting new ways of communicating about academic integrity, learn to reduce cheating in your classroom.</p>