

APRIL 2018

The Inspired Instructor

A Monthly Newsletter for Faculty

Our Website is Ready!

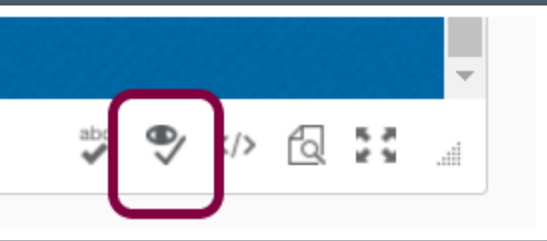
Our website can be found by going to the GFC MSU homepage, clicking "Faculty & Staff", and then selecting "Faculty Development Center" from the list of links on the lefthand side of the page. You can use the page to register for Professional Development Workshops offered by GFC MSU, learn more about the D2L Brightspace Course Design Guidelines, book an appointment with a Faculty Development Center staff member, and more!

High-Impact Educational Practice: Service Learning

Students that work to solve problems in their communities are better prepared as citizens and employees. It is important that educators require students to apply what they are learning and then reflect on the experience in the classroom setting for transformational learning to occur. Some ideas for service learning may be a US Government class assisting in voter registration, an accounting class providing money management workshops for the public, or a chemistry class presenting to a high school STEM club. **The University of Wisconsin Service Learning link** has some interesting ideas!

Spotlight on Accessibility

Have you ever observed screen reader software in action? **This screen reader video** demonstrates why accessibility matters, what it is like to navigate an inaccessible document with a screen reader, and what it is like to navigate an accessible document with a screen reader. Did you know that D2L has a built-in accessibility checker that you can click just like spell check? Visit D2L Help to learn more.



What is Active Learning?

Active learning requires the students to DO something with the information provided to them instead of learning passively. **The Center for Teaching at Vanderbilt University link** includes the theoretical basis behind active learning, the evidence gathered on active learning, how to get started, and more. There are active learning ideas that can be integrated right away, and some that take more time to develop. The FDC can help you generate ideas that will work for your class.

D2L Brightspace Webinars

Webinars are a great way to learn tricks and tips that can improve your teaching. D2L Brightspace offers a variety of webinars, and also records the webinars for those that are not able to attend the live sessions. Great sessions include "Adding Action to Your Online Course" and "Join the Rubrics Revolution", just to name a few. The benefit of attending the webinars in real-time is that you can ask questions using the Question/Answer or Chat feature. Check the webinars out on **D2L's Higher Education Webinar site**.



Upcoming Faculty Development

April & May

- **Inclusive Online Course Design:** April 2-27 (OPI & Tenure/Promotion Eligible)
- **Getting Started with 8-Week Courses:** Sessions begin April 3rd (OPI & Tenure/Promotion Eligible)
- **Designing 8-Week Courses for the [Face-to-Face, Hybrid, or Online] Educator:** Sign-ups begin after you complete "Getting Started..."
- **Video Development for Educators:** April 23 & May 14 (OPI & Tenure/Promotion Eligible)

