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Fall 2009

Fall 2009 CTL Newsletter

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Center for Teaching and Learning

Fall 2009 Newsletter

In This Issue

[Save the Date](#)
[Using Blackboard](#)
[Using Course Portfolio](#)
[CourseMedia](#)
[Call for Proposals](#)
[Tech Tools We Love](#)

Quick Links

[Blackboard](#)
[DU CourseMedia](#)
[DU Portfolio](#)
[CTL Homepage](#)

Want the latest news and updates about Blackboard at DU?



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Stay Informed

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Save the Date!

CTL Winter Conference
January 29, 2010
Keynote Speaker:
[Michael Wesch](#)

Michael Wesch is a cultural anthropologist from Kansas State University who explores

News from the CTL

Where has the quarter gone? Once again a new academic year has gotten off to a whirlwind start. Faculty members and students were greeted back this fall with the urging of hand washing, flu shots, and requirements that course content and communication be available digitally.

The Center for Teaching and Learning offered over 30 workshops and held over 50 individual appointments since August 1st to help prepare faculty to continue teaching in the case of high student and faculty absences. While this was quite a workload, we enjoyed the opportunity to work with faculty to think about the ultimate goals of their courses and individual class sessions, brainstorm ways for students to learn material without a regular class meeting, and consider how different technologies could enhance their classes.

Even though the flu has already swept through many communities, it is always a good idea to rethink and revisit the different ways that teaching and learning occur. [Blackboard](#) is DU's learning management system and has numerous features for supporting teaching and learning. DU's Portfolio Community can also be used for course communication and teaching by setting up a [Course Portfolio](#). You'll find many resources in this newsletter and on our [website](#) about these teaching tools.

Enjoy the end of the fall quarter!

Visit our [H1N1 Continuity Plan Teaching Support Page](#).

Using Blackboard to Supplement your Courses

We've updated and created new resources about Blackboard. Find the support you need in a method that matches your individual preference.

Blackboard Basics

- [Self-paced Online Course](#)
- [Online how-to guides](#)
- [Blackboard tutorials and handouts](#)
- For individual support, contact [Kathy Keairns](#) or email blackboard@du.edu.

Teaching with Blackboard: In this short [video](#), Dr. Susan Sadler, Associate Professor, Biological Sciences describes the benefits of using Blackboard as a teaching tool.

the effects of new media on society and culture. Wesch has published and spoken extensively on the importance of pulling new media into the classroom.

Wesch is the creator of the immensely popular YouTube videos [A Vision of Students Today](#) and [Web 2.0 ... The Machine is Us/ing Us](#) and was the 2008 CASE/Carnegie U.S. Professor of the Year for Doctoral and Research Universities.

Sadler



Using Course Portfolios to Supplement your Courses

A [Course Portfolio](#) can be used by an instructor to post information for students. A course portfolio has features that allow members to email each other, conduct assessments, keep a calendar of events and a grade book, distribute documents, and hold threaded discussions.

[Click here for online how-to guides](#)

For individual support, contact [Jenn Light](#)

CTL Contact List

[CTL Helpdesk](#)
ctl@du.edu
303-871-2084

Blackboard Training and Support
[Jenn Light](#)
[Kathy Keairns](#)

DU Portfolio Community
[Jenn Light](#)
[Carrie Lorenz](#)
[Joseph Labrecque](#)

CourseMedia/ALORA
[Jenn Light](#)
[Alex Martinez](#)
[Joseph Labrecque](#)

Clickers (Student Response Systems)
[Jenn Light](#)
[Kathy Keairns](#)

Grants and Funding Opportunities
[Julanna Gilbert](#)
[Jeanie Tischler](#)

Coffee Breaks and Workshops
[Bridget Arend](#)
[Jenn Light](#)
[Kathy Keairns](#)

Instructional Design Distance Learning
[Kathy Keairns](#)
[Bridget Arend](#)

DU CourseMedia™ Showcased at National Conferences



There were multiple mentions of DU video delivery systems during Adobe MAX in Los Angeles. Joseph Labrecque demonstrated using Google Analytics with the ALORA Embed Generator player during his session for [FITC](#), and John Schuman had a strong focus on [CourseMedia™](#) during both of his presentations.

CourseMedia™ will also be featured this November during Educause in Denver at the [Adobe Booth](#).

If you missed the Adobe Education Seminar series in which CourseMedia™ was discussed at length, you can now view the [archives](#).

Announcement: Call for Proposals

The \$20K Grants Program
Supporting Innovations in Teaching and Learning
Proposal deadline: November 20, 2009

Software Development Projects

[Joseph Labrecque](#)

Teaching Consultations

[Julanna Gilbert](#)

[Bridget Arend](#)

Electronic Capstones, Theses and Dissertations

[Alex Martinez](#)

Online Surveys or Registration Forms

[Bridget Arend](#)

[Jenn Light](#)

At the beginning of each academic year the CTL requests proposals from faculty that describe the use of teaching strategies that will improve student engagement and learning.

Over the last 10 years, the CTL Advisory Board has approved the funding of over 90 grants that support innovative ideas from DU faculty members to create sustainable, collaborative, curricular change in teaching and learning.

[View proposal guidelines, forms, and past funded proposals](#)

Tech Tools We Love

[Jing](#) is free software that allows you to create screenshots and videos that can easily be shared online. Instructors and students can use Jing to create annotated visual elements or short narrated tutorials. Jing creations can easily be shared and stored for free at Screencast.com. Click [here](#) for more about Jing and examples. -Kathy Kearns

[Prezi](#) is a free online presentation software that uses one large canvas rather than slides. Similar to PowerPoint, you can easily create a linear presentation and add images, video and audio. But unlike PowerPoint, you visually alternate from a big picture view to details by zooming around the presentation. It works very well with presentations that are intended or turn out to be non-linear. You can view a sample presentation about presentations [here](#). -Bridget Arend

[Adobe ConnectNow](#) is a free online conferencing tool that is run on the Adobe Flash Platform. It is ideal for conducting online office hours or meetings with up to two other computers (it costs more for more participants). You can use various features such as an interactive whiteboard, chat, webcam, and screen sharing in your meeting. Hosts are required to sign up for an acrobat account, but participants are not. -Alex Karklins



Have a free technology tool that you love? Send us a short description and we'll share it with others in this newsletter.

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