**From Our Director** 

## **Faculty Development Workshops**

In this Newsletter: **Events & Deadlines** 

- 1. ITL Keynote speaker 2. Webinars
- <u>Development</u> <u>Workshops</u>
- 3. Continuing Professional 4. Teaching Squares
- 5. Teaching Reflection Circles 6. ITS Blackboard Webinars/Workshops
- 7. Educational Technology and Webinar Support

- Writing Across the <u>Curriculum</u>

- 1. Faculty Learning **Community** 2. Faculty Writing **Community**

**Stearns Center News** 

1. Stearns Center

**Consultations** 

3. TEA Nominations 4. Stearns Staffing

1. Evaluating of Teaching

2. Grants

<u>Updates</u>

From Our Partners

2. NFO/NAFSW

Faculty Affairs

- Greetings, Friends, and Welcome to Fall 2022!
  - semesters. We hope you were able to find opportunities for relaxation, connection, reflection, and rejuvenation over the summer, and that you're excited about your upcoming classes and projects in Fall 2022. keep you up-to-date on good resources, advice, and events that can enhance your teaching, connect you with peers in your area and across campus, and help you
  - grow as a teacher and leader on campus. (If you prefer, you can use the link at the end of this email to unsubscribe). We are looking forward to reconnecting with **you** this fall. For instance, Many of our Stearns Center Team members are
    - already familiar to you, but we're growing! In this newsletter we want to introduce some of our new team members. Our website has all the great information you're used to: You might return to the updated <u>Classroom Guide</u> for information about and
      - teaching strategies for your physical classrooms,
    - our other Fall 2022 resources. Our **Innovations in Teaching and Learning**

    - check our updated **Syllabus Guidance**, brush up on your strategies for **teaching online**, or explore and staff in helping one another improve our
    - Conference is back—on campus and streaming on Friday September 30, to engage Mason faculty teaching. Our keynote speaker, Claire Howell
    - Major, will talk Friday morning (and lead a Thursday afternoon workshop) on strategies for engaged teaching and learning. See below for information on how to join over 250 of your peers who have already registered for this free conference! We have some new programming! See below for options to join a Reflective Teaching Circle to make more holistic connecting with your peers across the university, and check out the new software apps that will help you engage your students.
    - and supporting webinars (including Class for Zoom) Our other regular supports and opportunities consultations, webinars, Teaching Squares, Write-Ins, faculty communities, workshops, academies, and newsletters—are continually updated, so keep checking our calendar and website to see how we can best help you have a Fabulous Fall! Along with our partners (including the Office of the
    - Provost, Faculty Affairs and Development, Writing Across the Curriculum, Mason Impact/Undergraduate Education/CECiL, Graduate Education, GradLife, University Libraries, and Information Technology Services) we wish you an excellent conclusion to your summer and an energizing start to your Fall 2022 semester, Shelley E Shelley Reid, Ph.D. Director for Teaching Excellence
    - Stearns Center for Teaching and Learning Associate Professor, English Department ereid1@gmu.edu
  - **Events & Deadlines**
  - Save the Date! Innovations in Teaching & Learning conference The Stearns Center invites you to the Innovations in Teaching & Learning (ITL) conference Sept. 30, 2022. Join us for a day of workshops, panels, teaching-focused

INMOVATIONS in Teaching & Learning

presentations, and networking with colleagues -- not to mention a free lunch and our end-of-day reception! This conference will include a variety of in-person activities, a diverse menu of live-streaming options, and on-demand content. Visit the ITL website

Techniques: A Handbook for College Faculty (available online for free, courtesy of University Libraries), will share her principles of teaching students to advance learning and develop classroom engagement in higher education. Also, see below for details

Friday, September 30, 2022

for more information and registration details.

#### Want to help? We're seeking volunteers! Volunteers make this event possible! We are currently seeking faculty, staff, or graduate students to "host" the conference breakout sessions to help ensure that sessions run smoothly (introduce the presenter, keep an eye on time, etc.) We also seek volunteers

provide general conference support. If interested, please complete our volunteer

to help welcome participants, to help usher participants for the keynote address, and to

Keynote speaker Dr. Claire Howell Major, author of Student Engagement

about her pre-conference workshop: Thursday, September 29, 3:00-4:30pm.

# application form.

**Faculty Development Workshops** 

Featured Workshop: ITL Keynote Speaker

participate in the learning process.

Facilitator: Dr. Claire Howell Major

Register for this webinar

Facilitators: Honorlock <u>Register for this webinar</u>

Facilitators: Gradescope Register for this webinar

Mason faculty.

Facilitators: Gradescope Register for this webinar

**Save the date!** Registration information comming soon.

September 29 | 3:00- 4:30 PM | RSCH 163 Terms of Engagement: Understanding and Promoting Student Engagement Student engagement is important for learning across levels and disciplines. All faculty can learn some planning and course design strategies for increasing engagement -- and all students, especially those who may still be struggling to engage consistently in college learning environments, can benefit from structures that invite and support their participation.

Recent research on motivation makes it clear that for students to be successful, they have to value the task, expect to succeed, and be active participants in their own learning. In this hands-on, collaborative workshop, we will explore the practical

implications of this research. In addition to examining a model of student engagement, we will discuss and share specific teaching techniques that can motivate students to

**Webinars** August 19 | Online | 1:00 - 2:00 pm How to Check the Quality of Your Online Courses & Online Teaching Does your online course and teaching reflect quality? In this webinar, Stearns Center Quality Assurance (QA) Team will review our resources for online course quality. We'll share how to use the Faculty Self-Checklist to ensure that your online course is ready

for Fall 2022. Experienced online faculty will showcase their online courses, sharing how their course design, teaching & facilitation demonstrate online quality criteria

Securing assessment content can be one of the most challenging aspects of teaching online. In this webinar, we will explore Honorlock's Search & Destroy technology that searches the internet to identify exam questions that have been shared online and, if leaked exam questions are found, faculty are given simple steps to take control of their exams' integrity. Search & Destroy provides an added layer of content protection and insights into the uniqueness and quality of exam questions. Honorlock can be found in

Grading can take a considerable amount of time, especially in sections with large

enrollments. In this webinar, we will focus on how to leverage assessment features that can speed-up grading and feedback, return work electronically, and use assignment analytics to gain more insight into student learning. Gradescope can be found in

September 22 | Online | 2:30 - 3:30 pm **Automating Assessments for Large Section Courses** 

Blackboard and is available to all Mason faculty.

September 29 | Online | 2:30 - 3:30 pm

Blackboard and is available to all Mason faculty.

Facilitators: Darlene Smucny and Monisha Tripathy

September 8 | Online | 2:30 - 3:15 pm **Securing Course Content with Honorlock** 

Leveraging Gradescope in STEM-based Courses Online assessments, especially in STEM-based courses that require students to complete proofs, diagrams, graphs, or other hand-written work. In this webinar, we will focus on how to leverage online assessment features with Gradescope that support freeform submissions. Gradescope can be found in Blackboard and is available to all

hour, interactive CPD workshops might be just the thing!

Fundamentals of Effective Teaching | CPD Level 1 Design

Professional Development Program.

Teaching Squares Return in September

you through a quick four-part approach:

early October.

benefits, can be challenging.

Application Deadline: Friday, September 9, 2022

Facilitator: Crystal Anderson Register for this workshop

Continuing Professional Development Workshops for Fall 2022

workshops throughout Fall 2022. These workshops cover topics including efficient grading, engaging students, and providing feedback for written assignments. Please register via links on our **Events** page; workshops will be virtual or have a virtual option throughout Fall 2022. Faculty who complete three CPD workshops and upload a revised course document during one calendar year will receive the Stearns Center Level One Faculty Development Credential. September 7 | Online | 12:00 - 1:00 pm

Do you want to be an effective teacher? Do you want to know how to measure your teaching effectiveness? In this workshop, you will learn about elements of effective teaching, including engagement, multiple modalities, inclusive teaching and assignment design. You will also learn how to set achievable teaching goals and measure them. This workshop is in the Design category for Level 1 Teaching Essentials in the Continuing

What do other faculty actually do in their courses? How are they adapting to new opportunities, engaging their students, providing feedback, managing their time, and supporting long-term learning? If you joined a Teaching Square, you could find out!

Stearns Center Teaching Squares are a kind of professional "pot-luck dinner": a quick way to build your teaching network and learn strategies that will support your teaching. For Fall 2022, we will match interested faculty with a Square of colleagues from across the university (usually four people, but sometimes a little larger or smaller) and guide

The whole Square meets in early or mid October for a conversation about what

they've learned and how they can support one another further

please complete our two-minute form by Friday, September 9, 2022.

See additional information on our website. To indicate your interest for Fall 2022,

time to build a regular reflective practice, and sticking with it long enough to see the

Joining a Stearns Center Reflection Circle can provide you the time, accountability, and community to support your own reflective practice and gain insights from others at Mason. For Fall 2022, we will match interested faculty with a Circle of colleagues from

Do you want to improve your assignments, your grading, or your online discussions this

portfolio and want to document your commitment to improving your teaching? Our one-

fall, but don't have time for a lengthy redesign? Are you completing an evaluation

The Stearns Center is offering a series of **Continuing Professional Development** 

 Each Square meets once near the middle/end of September for introductions and planning Each member of the Square shares some element of a course they're currently Each member provides reflective feedback to the others by late September or

across the university (usually 4-6), and help you arrange four monthly meetings (75 minutes, virtual or in-person). Using our reflection guides, each Circle meeting will include 15 minutes of introduction and conversation with your Circle · 30 minutes of individual reflective writing about your teaching and related experiences, using our three-part structure • 30 minutes of follow-up discussion based on insights and experiences that surfaced during the reflective writing Across a semester of this practice, participants in similar programs across the nation last spring noted that the repetition of the individual reflective practice, the shared reflective insights, and the connections to faculty colleagues across diverse backgrounds

strengthened their growth and meaning-making as educators and helped anchor daily events in more meaningful values and relationships. You don't need to light candles,

See additional information on our website. To indicate your interest for Fall 2022,

Are you looking to learn Blackboard basics, beyond basics, grade center, Kaltura media, Collaborate Ultra, using rubrics in Bb, or anything relevant to Bb? Consider attending any or all of these Blackboard training sessions/webinars facilitated by Mason's Bb team.

chant, or compose poetic sentences to benefit from professional reflection!

please complete our two-minute form by Friday, September 9, 2022.

The date, time, and registration links are here: Blackboard Support.

**New Educational Technology and Webinar Support** 

ITS Blackboard Webinars/Workshops

comments for discussion.

us.

**Faculty Writing Community** 

book. Click here for more information

kind of writing project are invited to participate. After a few minutes of check-ins and goal-setting, we will spend our time quietly working together. Add them to your calendar, tell your friends, and prepare to marvel at just how much you can accomplish in twohour bursts alongside your fellow Mason writers. Visit our website to learn more and to register.

Our Friday Writing Sprints will officially resume on August 26th, and all faculty with any

auto-grading options. Harmonize also supports Q&A boards and PDF annotations. VoiceThread is an interactive collaboration and sharing tool that enables students to build online presentations by adding images, documents, and videos, and other media to which other users can annotate and add comments for discussion.

managing, and developing your face-to-face, hybrid or online courses; we can respond via email or Zoom. Please submit your questions by clicking here. We work to answer your questions as quickly as possible; however, response times may vary. **Grants ARIT 2022-2023 Grant Recipients** Stearns Center for Teaching and Learning, in conjunction with the Anti-Racist and

Inclusive Excellence Initiative (ARIE), with the office of Community Engaged and Civic

A Guide to Writing Respectfully About Race and Racism in the United States. Faculty participants include LaNitra Berger, African & African-American Studies; Richard Craig, Communication; Kelly Knight, Forensic Science; Neesa Ndiaye, Educational Psychology;

Revising a Mason Core Social Work Course to Reflect Antiracism, Equity and Justice. Faculty participants include, Michelle Hand, Social Work; Daniel Freedman, Social Work; Jeanne Booth, Social Work; Rimsha Abassi, BSW Program Alumnus and Community

participants include Aditya Johri, Information Sciences and Technology; Nupoor Ranade,

Engineering and Computing: Inclusive Curriculum Building Initiative. Faculty participants include Mihai Boicu, Information Systems and Technology; Eugene Kim, Bioengineering;

Mason Korea DEI Faculty Learning Community. Faculty participants include James Brian Colchao, Computational and Data Sciences; Kimberlie Fair, School of Business; Hyunjin

Examining and Lessening Racism, Discrimination, and Microaggressions through Virtual Reality Simulation. Faculty participants include Bethany Cieslowski, School of Nursing; Catherine J. Tompkins, Social Work; Kim Holmes, CPH Student Affairs; Jhumka Gupta, Global and Community Health; Jeanne Booth, Social Work; Terri Ann Guingab, CPH

Deborah Kwak, Sociology; Eunhee Seo, English for Academic Purposes; Kent

Building Anti-Racist Approaches to Language in Composition Courses. Faculty

Participants include Hyunyoung Cho, English, Mason Korea; Anna Habib, English; Lisa Lister, English; Elizabeth Paul, English; James Savage, English; Courtney Adams

Social Justice and Anti-Racism in IT 304: IT and the Global Economy. Faculty

Idée Edalatishams, Writing Center; Susan Lawrence, Writing Center; & Courtney

Learning (home of the QEP for Transformative Education through Anti-Racist Community Engagement), and with Mason colleges and schools creating Inclusive Excellence Plans, is delighted to congratulate the recipients of our 2022-2023 grants.

See more about these fabulous projects on our website.

Summer 2022 ARIE Kickoff Grant

2022-2023 ARIE Course Impact Grants

2022-2023 ARIE Faculty Capacity Building Grants

First Nomination Deadline: Friday, October 7, 2022

Katherine "Raven" Russell, Computer Science

Zimmerman, School of Business

Instructional Designer.

Wooten, English

**TEA** nominations

teams.

John Schell, Instructional Designer

Massie, Writing Center.

Partner.

English.

Stearns Center staff will be glad to assist you with any questions related to teaching,

## departing staff in the Stearns Center Team! Bryan Fede, Instructional Designer Bryan is an instructional designer interested in the Learning Sciences and driven by evidencebased practices regarding teaching and learning. In addition to his Ph.D. in Mathematics

Education, Bryan has a graduate certificate in Instructional Systems Technology from UNC at Charlotte. In his free time, Bryan is a sports fan who closely follows all New England sports

John brings over five years of experience as an instructional designer to supporting GMU faculty in their course design processes. Beginning his career in government consulting and contracting, John transitioned to instructional design in higher education three years ago. John

instructional design and technology from George Mason University. In his spare time John

Breana (rhymes with "Montana") started her teaching career abroad, teaching K12 and

postsecondary English in France, and has been teaching adult English language learners and working in curriculum development, assessment, and teacher preparation for over 20 years.

Rachel has an interdisciplinary background with expertise in global climate change, renewable

environmental justice. She is a skilled educator and diversity, equity, and inclusion practitioner, including professional development as a Certified Diversity Professional through the National Diversity Council. She received her PhD in Biological Design and a Graduate Certificate in Scientific Teaching in Higher Education from Arizona State University, as well as a BA in Biology

Over the summer, we said farewell to instructional designers Larisa Olesova and Laura Todd, and operations manager Charlotte Petsche. We wish them all well in their new

From Our Partners

energy technologies, and environmental health, with particular emphasis on social and

has a MA in English literature from Virginia Commonwealth University and a M.Ed in

#### Laina Lockett, STEM Education Specialist Laina was an active member for Rutgers Academy for the Science of Teaching and Learning where she led workshops for professors and TAs about various best teaching practices. She has also worked with developing and teaching STEM outreach activities for middle school students in New Jersey. She has a Ph.D. in Ecology and Evolution from Rutgers University and a M.S. in Environmental science from Towson University. In her spare time, Laina likes to make

music, travel, and work out.

from Capital University.

**Fond Farewell** 

positions.

Rachel Yoho

## Learning. As evaluation policies at Mason evolve to include a multi-factor or portfoliobased approach to evaluating teaching, we hope that these resources can help faculty identify ways to document the work and achievements of their teaching, and help departments and evaluators review the work of their colleagues.

**New Faculty Orientation and New Adjunct Faculty Orientation** 

Faculty Affairs and Development, Human Resources, and Stearns Center are

collaborating again to support new faculty. Full-time (term and tenure-line) faculty are invited to attend our in-person New Faculty Orientation Monday August 15 – Tuesday August 16. See this page for NFO schedules and registration. Adjunct faculty are invited to attend our virtual New Adjunct Faculty Success Workshops on Saturday August 13. See this page for NAFSW schedules and registration. (If you were new faculty in the past year or so and were not able to attend these workshops, we welcome

## Share something for next month's newsletter Add someone to our mailing list

**New! Teaching Reflection Circles Debut in September** Application Deadline: Friday, September 9, 2022 You probably know that taking time to reflect—as a person and as a teaching professional—is beneficial to your practice and also your overall wellbeing. But finding

Mason is adopting new technology tools to support your teaching! Harmonize and VoiceThread were piloted last year, and we are bringing even more options to Mason

this fall. See below for basic information about the tools and applications, and check the Stearns Center Events page to see upcoming workshops for faculty. See IT website or contact Stearns Center for more information. online presentations by adding images, documents, and videos, and other media to which other users can annotate and add

Poll Everywhere - Use multiple poll types to gauge your students understanding. Login can be required for students and poll results can be synced with the Blackboard grade

Class for Zoom creates a teaching specific interface on top of Zoom. It adds features such as viewing all breakout groups at once, tracking who is paying attention, and allows students to share their camera only with the instructor. Click here for more information

Gradescope is a tool designed to streamline and standardize paper-based, digital, and

quizzes, exams, and papers. With Gradescope students can upload hand-written work,

Honorlock is an online proctoring service that combines AI & live test proctors to make online proctoring more effective. Additionally, Honorlock's Search & Destroy technology searches the internet to identify exam questions that have been shared online and, if

**Writing Across the Curriculum** 

This semester, the Writing Across the Curriculum (WAC) Program will be leading an online faculty learning community (FLC) focused on writing-enriched teaching and learning. This FLC is designed to help faculty align learning tasks with the new WI

course outcomes and incorporate more active learning opportunities for students. Visit our website for more details, or complete this survey if you're interested in joining

Our Friday Writing Sprints will officially resume on August 26th, and all faculty with any kind of writing project are invited to participate. After a few minutes of check-ins and goal-setting, we will spend our time quietly working together. Add them to your calendar,

Faculty Learning Community on Writing-enriched Course Design

coding assignments. It supports proofs and problem sets, as well as worksheets,

leaked exam questions are found, faculty are given simple steps to take control of their exams' integrity. Harmonize is an online discussion board built to increase student engagement, promote equitable learning environments, and ease instructor workload through milestones and

to be graded by an instructor in an online interface.

tell your friends, and prepare to marvel at just how much you can accomplish in twohour bursts alongside your fellow Mason writers. Visit our website to learn more and <u>to register.</u> **Stearns Center News Stearns Center Consultations** 

## with significant teaching experience at George Mason. See more information online, and watch for further updates in our newsletter next month. In the meantime, please be thinking of great colleagues you can nominate! **Stearns Center Staff Updates**

We are pleased to announce some new additions and to wish the best to some

The 2022 George Mason University Teaching Excellence Awards are open to faculty

Breana received her EdD from Manhattanville College, where she focused on how faculty professional development influences teaching practices. She received an MEd with a focus on adult education from George Mason University and a BA in French and history from the College of William & Mary.

Breana Bayraktar, Blended Learning/ Hybrid Pedagogy Specialist

enjoys reading, playing soccer and basketball, and gaming.

**Faculty Affairs Guidelines for Evaluation of Teaching** If you are evaluating or being evaluated on teaching this fall, please consider checking the resource page Supporting Efforts to Document and Assess Teaching and

Manage your preferences | Opt out using TrueRemove® Got this as a forward? Sign up to receive our future emails View this email online. Stearns@gmu.edu

your participation this year!)

Share this email: Fairfax, VA | 22030 US This email was sent to . To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.

Subscribe to our email list.

Our warmest welcome to those of you who are connecting to Mason and the Stearns Center for Teaching and Learning for the first time—and of course, welcome back to those of you who have been participating in our events and relying on our resources for many previous Our Stearns Center team uses this monthly newsletter to