Teaching and Learning Network Library

Many of you may not know that the Teaching and Learning Network has a small library of reading materials on teaching. For example, *Make It Stick: The Science of Successful Learning*, by Peter C. Brown, Henry L. Roediger III, and Mark A. McDaniel (Belknap, 2014), is a book that we have recommended in the past and is available in this library: “Drawing on recent discoveries in cognitive psychology and other disciplines, the authors offer concrete techniques for becoming more productive learners” (from the dust jacket).

There are two other books, available through Amazon, by James E. Zull that may appeal to you especially as you contemplate your summer reading and plans for fall semester, or if your research is sending you down this path. The first is *From Brain to Mind: Using Neuroscience to Guide Change in Education* (Stylus, 2011); the second is *The Art of Changing the Brain: Enriching the Practice of Teaching by Exploring the Biology of Learning* (Stylus, 2002). “James Zull invites teachers in higher education or any other setting to accompany him in his exploration of what scientists can tell us about the brain and to discover how this knowledge can influence the practice of teaching” (from the dust jacket).

All the above-mentioned books were recommended to us when we attended a Cognitive Neuroscience workshop at the last Professional and Organizational Development Network in Higher Education conference. We wish to pass these recommendations on to you and also invite you to consider browsing through the TLN library. If you are interested, please contact either one of us and we will send you directions to where they are located. We can also send you a list of available books available if that is more convenient.

Crystal Bruxvoort and Jo-Ann VanReeuwyk, Teaching and Learning Network

The Ready for Life Academy

Two new students joined the Calvin community for the spring semester. They are participants in the Ready for Life Academy, an inclusive college program for students with identified intellectual disabilities. After a multi-year absence, the Academy has returned to campus as a partner with the college. The Academy is structured as a life-long learning model that emphasizes accomplishment of person-centered goals and functional independence. RFLA students participate in traditional Calvin courses based on their personal interests, seating availability, and professor approval. Although they are not earning college credit for their experiences and do not live on campus, RFLA students develop personal skills and responsibilities and learn how to be in community with peers their own age.

The RFLA students engage in a variety of activities intended to prepare them for life after college, including (1) personalized transition and independent living courses taught by an RFLA instructor endorsed in special education; (2) work opportunities on campus and in the community; and (3) campus recreation and leisure activities. Traditional Calvin students serve as mentors and study assistants with Calvin RFLA students, as well as simply becoming friends.

We opened the Academy cautiously, to make sure that Calvin’s new RFLA students succeed. They are taking three different Calvin classes in addition to several transition classes taught by an RFLA instructor. It is a joy to see friendships developing between Calvin RFLA students and traditional Calvin students, with new relationships starting every week. With those involved, we are seeing a deepening appreciation for the gifts of all people.

If you are interested in hosting an RFLA Calvin student in a future class, watch for an announcement later this spring about fall opportunities, or contact RFLA staff member Amber Gilliland.

Phil Stegink (Education), RFLA liaison
From the Faculty Activity Reports


Be sure to fill out your Faculty Activity Reports regularly. If you have questions, see the FAQ page.

Coming Up on Campus (Check the campus calendar for a full list of events)

**Monday, March 6**
- Chapel. Suzanne McDonald (Western Theological Seminary). 10:00 a.m., Chapel

**Tuesday, March 7**
- Chapel. “Storytelling: We Live in a World Where a Resurrection Has Happened.” 10:00 a.m., Chapel
- Sexuality Series panel discussion. Julie Rodgers, Nate Collins, Darren Calhoun, and Lindsey Nelson, “Sexual Orientation, Change, and Healing: Our Stories.” 7:00 p.m., CFAC recital hall

**Wednesday, March 8**
- Chapel. Sounds of gospel worship. 10:00 a.m., Chapel
- Jellema Series lecture. Christian Miller (Wake Forest U.), “Test of Character: How Good (or Bad) Are We?” 7:30 p.m., Meeter Center lecture hall

**Thursday, March 9**
- Chapel. Taizé with Karen Saupe and Debra Rienstra. 10:00 a.m., Chapel
- CALL lecture. Randy Bytwerk, “Making Sense of News in an Age of Propaganda.” 12:00 noon, Chapel
- Chemistry seminar. Percy Julian Video. 11:30 a.m., SB 010
- Jellema Series lecture. Christian Miller, “Test of Character: Improving our Character.” 3:30 p.m., Meeter Center lecture hall

**Friday, March 10**
- Chapel. Student worship team. 10:00 a.m., Chapel
- Christian Perspectives in Science seminar. William Byl, “Managing Stormwater for Quantity and Quality.” 3:30 p.m., SB 110