Emerging Technologies and Their Impact on Liberal Arts Faculty
Invited Speaker: Bryan Alexander

Bryan Alexander, Senior Fellow at the National Institute for Technology in Liberal Education (NITLE), will speak about the many new social networking and media tools that are putting new expectations on liberal arts faculty. Emerging pedagogical environments, the rise of digital humanities, and the growth of mobile technologies are converging in ways that are also changing the expectations of students.

Co-sponsored with the Office of the Dean of Faculty.
Lunch provided at CTLR following the event.

Dr. Alexander is author of The New Digital Storytelling: Creating Narratives with New Media, published in April 2011 by Prager. He is active online, combining research with communication across multiple venues.

Thursday, May 31, 10:30 AM to 12 Noon
Davis Family Library 230

Teaching While We’re Still Learning: A Conversation on Social Justice Education
Priscilla Brenner, Roman Castiglione Isham, Kathy Skubikowski, Catharine Wright

In a joint publication, Harvard's diversity office and its Bok Center for Teaching and Learning challenge educators of the 21st century: “Colleges and universities are at a turning point. Teachers of many years are being asked to acknowledge… perspectives other than their own and to include… material that may be unfamiliar and uncomfortable…. Our collective ability to respond to and be enriched by these challenges will determine the success of our institutions in the next century.”

Come discuss ways to help make our course content and our pedagogical choices inclusive.

Light refreshments provided.

June 4 to 8

Leadership: Inborn or Incubated?
Invited Speaker: Pamela Lewis ’59

Can leadership skill be taught to students who are not “born leaders”? Can students be taught skills that help them “make a difference” whether or not they become known as “leaders”? This workshop will explore ways in which students’ self-perceptions as change agents can be strengthened through use of strategic presentation skills. This interactive session will (1) define principles and practices that underlie a core presentation course taught at the Heinz College of Information Systems and Public Policy at Carnegie Mellon, (2) show how the course has reinforced students’ self-perceptions as change agents, and (3) explore ways in which principles and practices underlying this course can be adapted in a variety of classroom settings.

Lunch provided at CTLR following the event.

Pamela Lewis is a teaching professor at the Heinz College of Information Systems and Public Policy, Carnegie Mellon, where she has taught since 1986. She earned her B.A. from Middlebury College, an M.A. from Stanford University, and an M.E.A. and D.A from Carnegie Mellon.

Tuesday, June 5, 10:30 AM to 12 Noon
Davis Family Library 230

Annual Grant-Writing Workshop

This annual workshop focuses on writing grant proposals for humanities and social science research projects, but the general advice provided about proposal preparation applies to all types of grant proposals. Faculty panelists will include Anne Knowles and Cynthia Packer, who will provide their advice and insights about the process. There will be an exercise designed to illuminate the ins and outs of good grant-writing and an opportunity to review successful grant proposals.

Sponsored by the Offices of the Dean of Faculty and Sponsored Research.
Lunch provided.

Wednesday, June 6, 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM
Crest Room

Clickers and Classroom Interactivity
Catherine Combelles, Molly Costanza-Robinson, Andi Lloyd

The use of “clickers” (also known as personal response systems) has been growing in the academy. Clickers can serve a number of pedagogical purposes: for formative assessment, gauging student understanding of assigned readings, evaluating comprehension of material just covered in class, anonymous polling on sensitive or controversial topics, and stimulating peer-to-peer instruction. In this session, Catherine Combelles, Molly Costanza-Robinson, and Andi Lloyd will discuss their experiences. The newest generation of clickers enable any student to use a cell phone, smart phone, laptop, or internet-connected device to respond to questions posed in class. Results can be displayed in real time to prompt discussion, or can be saved for evaluation purposes. As part of this session, Andi Lloyd will talk about a spring semester pilot that she undertook in one of her classes using the newer technology and will demonstrate in its use.

Lunch provided at CTLR following the event.

Thursday, June 7, 10:30 AM to 12 Noon
Davis Family Library 230

Introduction to Disability Studies: Its Relevance to Our Work in Higher Education
Tina Afifoto, Susan Buch

In this workshop participants will be introduced to disability studies, an interdisciplinary field that approaches disability as lived experience, as a category with a rich and complex history, and as a framework for analysis. Intended for faculty and staff from across the College, this session offers participants tools to integrate disability studies questions, methodologies, and perspectives into their classes and workplaces. This workshop is the first in a multi-year planned series intended to explore the concept of Universal Design as it applies to our learning and working environment.

Light refreshments provided.

Thursday, June 7, 1:00 to 2:30 PM
Davis Family Library 230

Problem-based Learning with Computers but (perhaps) not Computer Laboratories
Jeff Howarth

Problem-based learning (PBL) challenges students to learn by solving problems. Integrating PBL in teaching also challenges instructors to solve problems related to instructional design. In this session, Jeff Howarth of the Geography Department will explain his use of problem-based learning and the issues he’s encountered related to sequencing material and integrating lectures and lab content. This session will be of particular interest to those faculty whose courses include the use of a specialized software package (for example, SPSS, Stata, Final Cut Pro, ArChip, Mathematica, Maple). Jeff will also discuss using instructional video to help students learn technical content outside of class meeting times and new opportunities for engaging students in the computer laboratory.

Lunch provided at CTLR following the event.

Friday, June 8, 10:30 AM to 12 Noon
Davis Family Library 230

Gender, Sex, and Language Learning
Roman Castiglione Isham, lovers: Zenteno, Karin Hanta

For several years, students and faculty at Middlebury have grappled with how to respond to narrow constructions of gender and sexuality in textbooks, assignments, and discussions in foreign language classes. They have discussed the discomfort that many queer and trans and gender non-conforming students feel when facing norms of pronoun usage and lifestyles in narratives and role-plays. These issues are compounded by other critical factors, such as race and ethnicity and socioeconomic class, at play in both the curriculum and classroom. Panelists will share strategies that they have developed in their classes to address these issues. We especially urge colleagues from the foreign languages to attend this roundtable, but also invite faculty from all disciplines to come consider ways to create more inclusive classroom climates.

Light refreshments provided.

Thursday, May 24, 1:00 to 2:30 PM
Davis Family Library 230

Focus on First Year
Jim Berg, Mary Ellen Bertoloni, Carrie Magdalenus, Yvonni McShane, Pete Nelson, Kathy Skubikowski

How can we best plan our First-Year Seminars to help our students make the transition from excellent high school thinkers and writers to excellent college thinkers and writers? What are the best uses we can make of our library, technology, CTLR, and Commons resources? Come share your ideas and jump-start the planning for your upcoming seminar.

Lunch provided at CTLR following the event.

Tuesday, May 29
10:00 AM Light refreshments and book display at CTLR
10:30 AM to 12 Noon Discussion
Davis Family Library 230

Role-Play Across the Curriculum
Aline Germain-Rutherford, Jessica Holmes, Jeffrey Lamstead, Matthew Kimbiri, Elizabeth Morison

Classroom activities such as role-play, debate, and simulation have been shown to help students develop critical thinking skills, encourage empathy, and facilitate deeper understanding of course material. In this panel, faculty from a variety of disciplines, including Religion, Economics, and Linguistics, discuss how they use role-play as a pedagogical tool. Panelists will consider questions such as: What is the value of using role-play in the classroom? What types of role-play and simulation activities are most effective? How do students respond to these activities? We invite attendees to share insights and experiences as well.

Lunch provided at CTLR following the event.

Wednesday, May 30, 10:30 AM to 12 Noon
Davis Family Library 230

Clickers and Classroom Interactivity
Catherine Combelles, Molly Costanza-Robinson, Andi Lloyd

The use of ‘clickers’ (also known as personal response systems) has been growing in the academy. Clickers can serve a number of pedagogical purposes: for formative assessment, gauging student understanding of assigned readings, evaluating comprehension of material just covered in class, anonymous polling on sensitive or controversial topics, and stimulating peer-to-peer instruction. In this session, Catherine Combelles, Molly Costanza-Robinson, and Andi Lloyd will discuss their experiences. The newest generation of clickers enable any student to use a cell phone, smart phone, laptop, or internet-connected device to respond to questions posed in class. Results can be displayed in real time to prompt discussion, or can be saved for evaluation purposes. As part of this session, Andi Lloyd will talk about a spring semester pilot that she undertook in one of her classes using the newer technology and will demonstrate its use.

Lunch provided at CTLR following the event.

Thursday, June 7, 10:30 AM to 12 Noon
Davis Family Library 230

Introduction to Disability Studies: Its Relevance to Our Work in Higher Education
Tina Afifoto, Susan Buch

In this workshop participants will be introduced to disability studies, an interdisciplinary field that approaches disability as lived experience, as a category with a rich and complex history, and as a framework for analysis. Intended for faculty and staff from across the College, this session offers participants tools to integrate disability studies questions, methodologies, and perspectives into their classes and workplaces. This workshop is the first in a multi-year planned series intended to explore the concept of Universal Design as it applies to our learning and working environment.

Light refreshments provided.

Thursday, June 7, 1:00 to 2:30 PM
Davis Family Library 230

Problem-based Learning with Computers but (perhaps) not Computer Laboratories
Jeff Howarth

Problem-based learning (PBL) challenges students to learn by solving problems. Integrating PBL in teaching also challenges instructors to solve problems related to instructional design. In this session, Jeff Howarth of the Geography Department will explain his use of problem-based learning and the issues he’s encountered related to sequencing material and integrating lectures and lab content. This session will be of particular interest to those faculty whose courses include the use of a specialized software package (for example, SPSS, Stata, Final Cut Pro, ArChip, Mathematica, Maple). Jeff will also discuss using instructional video to help students learn technical content outside of class meeting times and new opportunities for engaging students in the computer laboratory.

Lunch provided at CTLR following the event.

Friday, June 8, 10:30 AM to 12 Noon
Davis Family Library 230

Pedagogy Roundtable Descriptions: May/June Events 2012