



# Center for Teaching and Learning Newsletter

## Dates to Note!!

**Tuesday, November 3**

[Publish and Flourish](#)

[Gaming](#)

**Wednesday, November 4**

[Visual Artifacts Across the Curriculum](#)

**Thursday, November 5**

[Communicating with Students in Bb](#)

[Is There a War on Science?](#)

**Monday, November 9**

[Capstone Courses](#)

**Tuesday, November 10**

[Digital Pedagogy Unconference](#)

[Intro to Office 365](#)

**Wednesday, November 11**

[Engaging the Online Learner](#)

[Poll Everywhere](#)

**Thursday, November 12**

[Intro to Bb](#)

[Integrating International Students into Campus Life](#)

**Monday, November 16**

[Global Studies Anniversary Symposium](#)

**Tuesday, November 17**

[Can Images Make Good Arguments?](#)

[How to Meet on WebEx](#)

**Wednesday, November 18**

[FLIP for Flipped Learning](#)

[Citing Digital Research](#)

[Using Rescue and Recovery and Time Machine](#)

**Thursday, November 19**

[Intro to Office 365](#)

[POGIL](#)

To see a list of all upcoming events go to: <http://campusguides.stjohns.edu/ctlevents>

<http://campusguides.stjohns.edu/ctlevents>

Vol. 21, No 2

October 2015

## CTL October Newsletter

The *CTL Newsletter* is distributed electronically every month during the academic year.

Highlights from our October issue include:

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**Remember:** The best places to look for faculty-related information are the [CTL Webpage](#) and the [CTL Forum](#).

### Follow Us on Twitter

The CTL is pleased to announce that it is now on Twitter [@sjuctl](#). Follow us for the latest news in teaching and learning as well as announcements of upcoming events.





# Center for Teaching and Learning Newsletter

Vol. 21, No 2


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## What Are High-Impact Educational Practices?

The first of the University's Strategic Priorities is to ensure student success and one stated objective is to embed high-impact educational practices into the curriculum for all majors. But what are these practices, and what makes them so important? The term was popularized by George Kuh, founder of NSSE, the National Survey of Student Engagement. It is from the results of this survey over several years that he and his colleagues were able to identify practices that were particularly memorable and valuable to students in their college education. There are ten of these, and here they are:

1. First-year seminars and experiences
2. Common intellectual experiences (ie core curriculum)
3. Learning communities
4. Writing-intensive courses
5. Collaborative assignments and projects
6. Undergraduate research
7. Diversity/global learning
8. Service learning
9. Internships
10. Capstone courses and projects

I am sure it is obvious to you that St. John's University faculty engage in each of these approaches and that many of us are personally involved in one or more of them. In other words, we are already doing a good job of following Kuh's advice. The point, however, is that we can always do better. And that is why a focus on high-impact practices is now a part of the University's Strategic Priorities. At the moment, the University's Core Curriculum Council is working on a revision of the core curriculum. While we have had the first-year Discover New York course for almost 15 years, there are now plans to replace it with a first-year seminar organized around a compelling question. This work on the core is also fostering other initiatives including greater interest in learning communities, writing-intensive courses, capstone courses, etc. In other words, in *all* the high-impact practices.

It is time for all faculty to consider how we can contribute to this revitalization of undergraduate education at St. John's. This is an exciting prospect that will reenergize not only the curriculum but the faculty as well. 

### Teaching for High Impact

[Capstone Courses](#)

Mon, Nov 9, 2015 1:50pm

[POGIL](#)

Thu, Nov 19, 2015 1:50pm

### Celebrate National Distance Learning Week

In celebration of National Distance Learning week, November 9-13, the Online Learning Consortium is offering **3 free webinars**.

Visit their [website](#) for more information.

**CENTER FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING****DIRECTOR:**

Maura C. Flannery

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**2015-2017 FELLOWS:**

Joan DeBello  
 Roseanne Gatto  
 Katie Lebel  
 Sharon Marshall  
 Mark Tannian  
 Heidi Upton

**2014-2016 FELLOWS:**

Alyse Hennig  
 Samantha Jellinek-Cohen  
 Raeann Kyriakou  
 Zaidalynet Morales  
 Richard Waller

**CAMPUS GUIDES:  
 CTL TEACHING AND  
 LEARNING FORUM**

The site's main aim is to highlight the great teaching strategies developed by St. John's faculty.

Please visit: <http://stjohns.edu/campusguides.com/ctlforum>.

Follow Us on



Twitter


## Valuable Resources

It is to state the obvious to say that there are a great number of wonderful resources on the web. The problem is sifting through and finding those that can be of most value to us. Here are two that I found to be particularly thought-provoking and useful.

The first is [Recognizing and Addressing Cultural Variations in the Classroom](#). It was produced by the Eberle Center for Teaching Excellence at Carnegie Mellon University and is sub-titled: "Teaching in an Increasingly Multi-cultural Setting: A Guide for Faculty. The main argument here is that the best approaches to teaching an increasingly international and multicultural student population are actually beneficial for *all* students. Runs less than 30 pages and covers a wide range of topics from dealing with English Language Learners to the culture of the American classroom. It is succinct and balanced. This publication is well-worth reading—and thinking about in terms of your own teaching.

[Framework for Information Literacy for Higher Education](#) may not have a snappy title, but it's definitely packed with interesting ideas. It is a report of the Association of College and Research Libraries, and updates a framework for information literacy that was originally published 15 years ago. The authors argue that information literacy needs to be viewed through a "richer, more complex set of core ideas," and the six concepts they have crafted are indeed interesting:

- Authority Is Constructed and Contextual
- Information Creation as a Process
- Information Has Value
- Research as Inquiry
- Scholarship as Conversation
- Searching as Strategic Exploration

These point to a much more sophisticated way of looking at what libraries—and all of higher education—aim to do. This publication introduces each concept and then outlines the outcomes in terms of student learning that follow from each of them. 

## Global Studies Anniversary Symposium

Over the past three decades, St. John's has been increasingly "global" in its outlook and programming — a facet of a St. John's education that is now featured in our mission statement. This year marks three major anniversaries in our University's international history: 30 years of study abroad, 20 years of graduate degree programs in Rome, and 10 years of our Rome-based Masters program in Global Development & Social Justice. To mark this special occasion, we ask that you join a panel of prominent, internationally-engaged faculty members who will share their leadership in and experiences with SJU's internationalization efforts. This session will be video conferenced to Queens, Rome and Paris.

**Presenters:**

Raj Chetty (SJC), Yvonne Pratt-Johnson (EDU), Annalisa Sacca (SJC), Denis Sullivan (SJC), Bernie Zirnheld (Paris Campus)

**Date:** Monday, November 16

**Time:** 1:50 to 3:15 p.m.

**Queens Location:** HR Training Center, University Center

[REGISTER NOW!](#)

## Faculty News

**Dr. José G. Centeno** (Communication Sciences and Disorders, [centenoj@stjohns.edu](mailto:centenoj@stjohns.edu)) was the invited international speaker and presented five papers at the Conferencia sobre Trastornos de la Comunicación de Origen Neurológico en Adultos 2015 (TCON 2015) sponsored by the Departamento de Neurología y Neurocirugía, Hospital Clínico, Universidad de Chile in Santiago, Chile (August 2015); and gave an invited paper, "Aphasia Management in Multilingual Communities: Linking Evidence to Clinical Decisions," at the Multilingualism and Cultural Diversity: Language and Literacy Challenges in Diverse Populations International Conference sponsored by the International Association of Logopedics and Phoniatrics (IALP)-Multilingual Affairs Committee and the Department of Speech-Language-Hearing Sciences, CUNY-Lehman College, Bronx, NY (September 2015).

**Dr. Zhe-Sheng Chen** (Pharmaceutical Sciences, [chenz@stjohns.edu](mailto:chenz@stjohns.edu)) published the articles: "The Modulation of ABC Transporter-mediated Multidrug Resistance in Cancer: A Review of the Past Decade" in *Drug Resistance Updates*; "Multidrug Resistance Proteins (MRPs) and Cancer Therapy" in *AAPS Journal*; "Ganoderma Lucidum Derived Ganoderenic Acid B Reverses ABCB1-mediated Multidrug Resistance in HepG2/ADM Cells" in the *International Journal of Oncology*; "Esters of the Marine-Derived Triterpene Siphonolol A Reverse P-GP-Mediated Drug Resistance" in *Marine Drugs*; "ATP-binding Cassette Subfamily B Member 1 (ABCB1) and Subfamily C Member 10 (ABCC10) are not Primary Resistance Factors for Cabazitaxel" in the *Chinese Journal of Cancer*; "The Reversal Effect on ABCB1-mediated Drug Resistance by the Semi-synthetic Ocotillol Analogues" in *Oncotarget*; and "Exploring Naturally Occurring Ivy Nanoparticles as an Alternative Biomaterial" in *Acta Biomaterialia*; was invited to give seminars in several universities

in China including Fudan University, Sun Yat-Sen University, Huazhong University of Science and Technology, Jinan University, Weifang Medical University, Zhengzhou University, Hunan University and Qingdao Agriculture University (Summer 2015).

**Dr. Keith Cozine** (Criminal Justice and Legal Studies, [cozinek@stjohns.edu](mailto:cozinek@stjohns.edu)) published "Thinking Interestingly: The Use of Game Play to Enhance Learning and Facilitate Critical Thinking Within a Homeland Security Curriculum" in the *British Journal of Educational Studies* (September 2015).

**Dr. Maura C. Flannery** (Computer Science, Mathematics and Science, [flannerm@stjohns.edu](mailto:flannerm@stjohns.edu)) gave an invited presentation, "Traveling Plants: Dried Specimens Essential for Understanding Our Past and Future," at the Natural Discourse Symposium held at the Los Angeles County Natural History Museum; she also led a workshop on plant preservation at this event (October 2015).

**Prof. Lucy Heckman** (University Libraries, [heckmanl@stjohns.edu](mailto:heckmanl@stjohns.edu)) published *The ALA Guide to Information Sources in Insurance, Risk Management, and Actuarial Science* (2015).

**Steve Reichstein** (Discover New York [reichsts@stjohns.edu](mailto:reichsts@stjohns.edu)) published *Born in Brooklyn* (2015).

### Faculty News:

If you would like to send an entry to "Faculty News," the deadline for the November issue is **November 6**. We prefer that you email the information to [CTL@stjohns.edu](mailto:CTL@stjohns.edu). Please have your entries follow the style presented in "Faculty News."

### Fall Technology Forum

On **October 19** the **first annual Fall Technology Forum** was held in D'Angelo Hall room 416. The Forum showcased 30 faculty members from across the University who shared how technology can be used to enhance teaching and learning. Faculty were invited to engage these academic technology pioneers on their experiences in applying technology into their pedagogy, and how their students reacted to the technology.

To view the faculty abstracts go to the [Tech Forum campusguide](#).

## Physics Professor Secures Competitive NIH Award

Christopher Egan (Associate Director, Grants and Sponsored Research, [eganc@stjohns.edu](mailto:eganc@stjohns.edu))


Dr. Huizhong Xu of the St. John's College Department of Physics was awarded his first National Institutes of Health (NIH) Academic Research Enhancement Award (AREA) grant in the amount of \$396,000 in response to his proposed research *Nanowaveguide Illuminated Fluorescence Spectroscopy for Studying Membrane Protein Dynamics*.

The AREA program is designed to enable qualified scientists to receive support for small-scale research projects. In addition to supporting Dr. Xu's meritorious research, this grant will provide students with the opportunity to benefit from exposure to (and participation in) scientific research in the biomedical and behavioral sciences. In turn, this AREA grant will serve to strengthen the ever-growing research environment of St. John's University.

In response to securing the AREA grant, Dr. Xu stated: "This grant will not only allow us to develop novel high-resolution microscopy and spectroscopy techniques, but also provide opportunities for our students to participate in cutting-edge research that will expand their scope of knowledge and develop their critical thinking abilities and problem solving skills. In addition, as this research involves faculties from several disciplines including biological sciences, pharmaceutical sciences, and physics, it will further enhance the collaborative research environment on our campus."

Dr. Xu proposed an efficient high-resolution nanowaveguide illuminated fluorescence spectroscopy (NIFS) technique to study the dynamics of membrane proteins and their responses to various external stimuli. The study of protein molecules on the cell membrane is significant due to the important roles they play in the function of a cell as well as the fact that membrane proteins are the common target of modern drug development. However, it remains a challenge to study them at the single molecule level (i.e. one by one) as a result of their dense population on the cell membrane and the resolution limit of current microscopy techniques. The proposed technique in this NIH-funded project will overcome this limitation. It is based on the use of a nanowire light-guiding device to create a nanoscopic illumination spot. The spot, which is on the order of tens of nanometers (one nanometer is one-billionth of a meter), can be used to improve the resolution of existing fluorescence spectroscopy techniques and is perfectly suited for studying membrane proteins at the single molecule level. The research is potentially transformative as the technique being developed can be utilized to study a variety of membrane protein molecules and may lead to new therapeutics for cancer and other diseases.

Physics Chair, Dr. Mostafa Sadoqi, stated "First I would like to congratulate Dr Huizhong Xu on his NIH Area R15 grant. We are so excited for Dr Xu's grant and what it brings to the physics department and St. John's University. Students will benefit tremendously from the research opportunities made available by this grant. St. John's University as well will benefit from the research resources that will be enhanced by this grant."

The St. John's University community commends Dr. Xu on this significant accomplishment and his commitment to academic excellence and the pursuit of wisdom. 

### Office of Grants and Sponsored Research Bulletin

The OGSR [bulletin](#) contains information on the following:

- OGSR Staff
- Grants Workshop Series
- NIH Proposal Deadlines
- Awards
- Women in Science Program

## LIBRARY CORNER


### Library Services in an OER Environment

(Kathryn Shaughnessy, University Libraries, [shaughnk@stjohns.edu](mailto:shaughnk@stjohns.edu))

*Open Educational Resources (OER), freely accessible on the web, are a growing and increasingly rich resource available to faculty. To raise our awareness of their potential and diversity, contributors from the University Libraries will share articles about different aspects of OER each month. In this issue, Kathryn Shaughnessy highlights the importance of OERs.*

While the libraries have always helped our users to find, cite, and generate research as part of the traditional scholarly communication cycle, keeping the hallmark [5R Activities](#) of open content in mind helps in understanding the import of OERs in the greater Open Ecology of Scholarly Communication. Truly OPEN content allows a user to do the following: (1) **Retain**: own copies of the content; (2) **Reuse**: unaltered; (3) **Revise**: adapt, adjust, modify or alter; (4) **Remix**: original or revised content can be combined with other content to create something new, like a "mash-up"; (5) **Redistribute**: Copies of original, revised or remixed form can be shared with others.

The SJU Libraries support Open Scholarly Communication because, by breaking down economic barriers to access, and by allowing users to alter and freely re-distribute materials, OERs help our students and alumni to remain both life-long learners and contributors to poverty-alleviating research.

SJU librarians can help you in finding existing OpenTextbooks, which keep textbook prices down for current students. If your area of interest doesn't have a suitable OpenText yet, [SJU subject librarians](#) can help you to find open resources that get close to what you want and work with e-reserves to have the resources "all in one spot." The soon-to-be-launched BePress Digital Commons repository can help serve as a platform for faculty who wish to create an open textbook or disseminate their own licensed articles. Our librarians can guide you through the SPARC guidelines for negotiating licensing agreements with publishers that are not OA (Open Access), or help set up an "unglue it" campaign to crowdfund and buy-out the licensing agreement on the books you think should be Open. Finally when you are looking for research, music, images or videos that you can incorporate into a lesson or project so that it can be published as an OER, we can help you navigate through the Creative Commons environs. 

### "Joni Mitchell in Crisis" with David Yaffe

[David Yaffe](#), 2012 winner of the Roger Shattuck Prize for Criticism, will discuss globalization, writing, and American music in a presentation entitled "Joni Mitchell in Crisis" on **Friday, November 13 at 12:15 p.m. on the Staten Island Campus.**

David Yaffe, a nationally renowned arts critic and a Professor of English in Syracuse University's College of Arts and Sciences, was awarded the prestigious Roger Shattuck Prize in Criticism. Named for the late National Book Award-winning American critic and Proust scholar who authored several major works of criticism, the prize is awarded annually to two emerging critics who have already established themselves with a substantial body of work. Yaffe—along with The New Republic's Ruth Franklin—were honored at a special ceremony in New York in May, sponsored by The Center for Fiction. Distinguished critics across the United States served as nominators for this year's award. The final selection was made by a panel of professionals at The Center for Fiction. This year's committee members were Adam Gopnik, Rosanna Warren, Eleanor Cook, William Carter, and Jed Perl. Fifty nominators across the country submitted nominations.

Click [here](#) for more information.



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[www.stjohns.edu/  
CTL](http://www.stjohns.edu/CTL)

*This newsletter is published monthly during the academic year by the Center for Teaching and Learning.*

**Managing Editor:**  
Lisa Getman

## Faculty Writing Retreat

The Faculty Writing Retreat offers you the opportunity to commit to a day of writing surrounded by your colleagues who will have made the same commitment as you. Published research – and our own experience from previous St. John's Faculty Writing Initiative writing retreats we've held – tells us the positive energy of being around faculty peers who are also writing (and struggling to write) helps faculty get substantial work done, even in one day.

As to the schedule for the retreat, you will arrive and begin writing. We are certain there will be much writing advice to be shared during lunch, which will be served at 12:30 pm. We hope you will be able to join us.

If you would like to learn more about writing retreats or you are interested in research about faculty writing productivity, go to the CTL Forum Writing Page at <http://campusguides.stjohns.edu/ctlforum/writing>.

**Date:** Monday, December 21

**Time:** 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**Location:** Institute for Writing Studies Conference Room, Library 150

**[REGISTER NOW!](#)**

## Digital Measures

Digital Measures is a tool for academic faculty to track in- and out-of-classroom instructional; research; creative; clinical and service activities. By adding our scholarly achievements to this comprehensive repository, Digital Measures will enable us to enter information once for various individual, department, college, and university uses — such as annual faculty activity reports; midtenure, tenure and promotion applications; vitae and bio-sketches for grant applications; accreditation self-studies and college bibliographies.

### Portable Professor Workshops: Introduction to Digital Measures

Monday, November 23

1:50 to 2:50 p.m.

[REGISTER](#)

Wednesday, December 2

12:15 to 1:15 p.m.

[REGISTER](#)

**CampusGuide:** <http://campusguides.stjohns.edu/dm>

## Faculty Growth Grant Program

The upcoming deadlines to apply for a Faculty Growth Grant are:

**December 1, 2015**

**May 2, 2016**

If you have any questions regarding the application procedures look at our website under [Growth Grant Program](#) or email us at [CTL@stjohns.edu](mailto:CTL@stjohns.edu).