

The Joy Shechtman Mankoff
Center for Teaching & Learning presents ...

Talking Teaching

Fall 2019



PLEASE SAVE THE DATES & JOIN US FOR GREAT CONVERSATIONS . . .

Talking Teaching is a series of informal discussions of teaching-related topics—typically suggested by our colleagues. Talking Teaching provides an opportunity to build community and to stop & reflect on our teaching and on our students’ learning experiences. Topics are listed below, with dates & times and preliminary descriptions.

For each conversation, eight to ten discussants will bring their thoughts or questions to spark the collective exchange of ideas. ***We are still seeking additional discussants for these events.*** Interest in the topic, not extended preparation, is the only requirement to be a discussant.

Please contact Derek Turner (dtur@conncoll.edu) or Afshan Jafar (ajafar@conncoll.edu) if you are interested in attending or serving as a discussant. We hope to see you at these events!

Embodied Teaching

WEDNESDAY 25 SEPTEMBER, 4 PM to 5:30 PM HOOD in BLAUSTEIN
A TALKING TEACHING “TEA”

Our classroom presence, energy, voice, body are central to how our students perceive us and our “performance” in class. Yet, not all bodies are perceived to be the same by students even when the “performance” is similar, as race, gender, gender performance, sexuality, nationality, and ability influence student perceptions of their teachers. In this follow-up to the exciting embodied learning session from last year, we will discuss questions such as: How can we be more intentional in the use of our bodies in the classroom? How can we address some of the student misconceptions/biases which emerge in response to certain bodies? Please join us for what promises to be a wide-ranging and interesting discussion about the theory and practice of our own embodied identity and power in our classrooms, studios, labs, and beyond.

Discussants include Sunil Bhatia, Rachel Black, David Dorfman, Marc Forster, Heidi Henderson, Afshan Jafar, Ariella Rotramel, and Kristin Steele.

Teaching & Advising

Our First-Year Seminars

A DISCUSSION FOR FACULTY & STAFF ADVISORS

THURSDAY 17 OCTOBER, 8:30 AM to 10:15 AM ERNST in BLAUSTEIN
BREAKFAST SERVED at 8:15 AM

How are our First Year Seminars going so far this semester? In our ongoing effort to improve the FYS program, we continue to refine the teaching, team-advising, activities, and course designs in order to meet the diverse goals of these important courses. How are we doing? What should we be doing?

This session, for FYS faculty and staff advisors and anyone interested in first-year seminars, will provide the opportunity for those teaching and advising an FYS this semester to share their experiences with each other. We will discuss large issues (e.g., What is this year's class "like"?), teaching-related strategies (e.g., What are some of the ways different disciplines are fulfilling the writing component of your course?), and other issues (e.g., What successes and challenges are you having with coordinating your advising team? How are your modules going?). During part of the session we will divide into two groups, allowing faculty and staff to focus on issues particularly relevant to their roles.

Discussants include Cheryl Banker, Ben Beranek, Danielle Egan, Heidi Henderson, Suzuko Knott, Kate McDonald, Angela Nzegwu, Maggie Redfern, Karen Gonzalez Rice, Sara Rothenberger, Melissa Ryan, Melissa Schafner, and Ann Schenk.

Finding, Using, and Creating

Open Access Course Materials

WEDNESDAY 23 OCTOBER, 11:50 AM to 1:30 PM

HOOD

LUNCH SERVED at 11:40 AM

Using more open access materials is one thing we can all do to help address the ever-increasing costs of a college education. Open access materials can make our classes more inclusive by reducing students' financial burdens. But how do we go about finding good open access materials? When and how might we modify them for our own purposes? What exactly are we allowed to do with materials published under creative commons licenses? What support is there for faculty members who wish to create their own open access materials? And what questions does the open access movement raise about intellectual property rights?

Co-sponsored by Instructional Technology, who will offer a hands-on follow-up workshop on Friday 25 October from 10 AM to 11:15 AM.

Discussants include Warren Johnson, Emily Kuder, Jessica McCullough, Kate McDonald, Kathy McKeon, Joe Schroeder, Derek Turner, and Sufia Uddin.

Invisible Disabilities: A Conversation with Christina Irene

FRIDAY 25 OCTOBER, 8:30 AM to 10 AM
BREAKFAST SERVED at 8:15 AM

HOOD in BLAUSTEIN

This special Talking Teaching interactive workshop will focus on an intimate understanding of the diverse diagnoses and obstacles faced by people with hidden disabilities from the standpoint of real people and their stories. Classroom how-to's, relevant to both faculty and staff, will include: universal design in instruction and assessment, creating an inclusive atmosphere, facilitating self-identification and self-advocacy, do's and don'ts surrounding "illness shaming," and communication and collaboration strategies for students with disabilities.

Co-sponsored by the Office of Student Accessibility Services.

Christina Irene travels the world as a motivational speaker, educating students, faculty/staff, and the corporate world about invisible disabilities through her own personal story as well as stories of others. As a former secondary school teacher, she has particular insight into what is important for educators to understand about invisible disabilities and their impact on the students they teach, as well as the expertise to share what faculty can do to support students with invisible disabilities to reach their full potential.

Our New Social Difference & Power (SDP) Requirement

FRIDAY 8 NOVEMBER, 8:30 AM to 10:00 AM
BREAKFAST SERVED at 8:15 AM

HOOD in BLAUSTEIN

Do you have questions about the new Social Difference and Power requirement? Are you thinking about revising your syllabus but don't know where to begin? Come join us for a conversation over breakfast to learn more about the new requirement and what that entails. Bring your questions and ideas!

Discussants include Deb Eastman, Afshan Jafar, Sufia Uddin, and other members of the Social Difference and Power Steering Committee.

Precarity in the Classroom

TUESDAY 3 DECEMBER, 11:50 AM to 1:30 PM
LUNCH SERVED at 11:40 AM

HOOD in BLAUSTEIN

As faculty in the classroom, we have institutional power in the classroom. Yet, for many of us, our experiences in the classroom reflect a tenuous relationship with power. How do social location and identity play into our experiences in the classroom? How do gender, race, sexuality, nationality, tenure status, to name a few, affect how we and our students experience “authority” in the classroom? Are there certain topics which increase our sense of precarity in the classroom? We will discuss how these dynamics impact our teaching—and our students’ learning—as well as strategies for all faculty and our institution as a whole to acknowledge, address, and perhaps mitigate the sense of precarity in the classroom

Discussants will include Chris Barnard, Hubert Cook, Michelle Dunlap, Deb Eastman, Danielle Egan, Rae Gaubinger, Judelysse Gomez, Afshan Jafar, Tek-wah King, and Emily Kuder.

***Willing to serve as a discussant for one of these events?
Interested in attending any or all?***

Please contact Afshan Jafar (ajafar@conncoll.edu) or
Derek Turner (dtur@conncoll.edu)

Stay tuned for details regarding a NEW CTL Discussion Series ...
Talking the Profession!

Please remember to save the dates for
Camp Teach & Learn 2020
Wednesday, Thursday & Friday
May 20, 21, & 22

If you have any suggestions for discussions or workshops for this year’s
Camp Teach & Learn please contact Michael at rededer@conncoll.edu.
