Fabulous First Friday: Student Wellness—Helping Your Students Decompress for Finals  
Friday, December 5, 2014  
9:30 to 11:00 a.m., CH-119  
Cosponsored by: Center for Health and Wellness Promotion  

Finals are coming and our students are overworked and anxious which can greatly impact their performance. Come hear from our Wellness staff and learn from each other about things you can do in and out of the classroom to help students prepare for finals and the end of the semester with better organization and less stress. RSVP Here

New and Junior Faculty Holiday Social  
Wednesday, December 10, 2014  
4:00 to 6:00 p.m., FH-French Parlor  

All new and junior tenure-track faculty are invited to attend this purely fun celebration of the holidays and semester’s end. We hope you will be able to join us for a time to mix and mingle with your peers at this wine & cheese event. RSVP by Monday, December 8, 2013

Post Doc Research Colloquium: Surface Chemistry and Properties of Single Crystalline and Nanoporous Material  
Friday, December 12, 2014  
11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., CH-130  
Presenter: Dr. Fangyuan Tian, Chemistry and Biochemistry  
RSVP Here

Interactive Workshop  
How to Teach Metacognition: Mentoring Students to Higher Levels of Thinking  
Friday, December 12, 2014  
9:00 to 11:00 a.m., UC - Forum C  
Presenter: Ed Nuhfer  
Cosponsored by: Office of Undergraduate Research and College of Arts and Sciences  
Special RSVP: http://usd.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_7PNOqTiY1kAYDTT

Metacognition: A Practical Overview & Practical Strategies for Student Metacognition  
Friday, December 12, 2014  
12:00 to 1:15 p.m., UC - Forums A & B  
Presenter: Ed Nuhfer  
Cosponsored by: College of Arts and Sciences  
RSVP by Wednesday, December 10, 2014
Innovation in Experiential Education Award: Fall 2014 Call for Nominations & Applications

The Center for Educational Excellence is proud to sponsor the Innovation in Experiential Education (IEE) Award to signify our commitment to facilitating student-centered experiential learning, including but not limited to service learning, internships, classroom simulations, and research. The awardee will receive a $500 stipend and an award certificate at a luncheon/dinner presentation scheduled for Fall 2015.

All full-time and benefit based USD faculty members are eligible. Faculty should submit nominations (or self-nominations) to Sandra Sgoutas-Emch (emch@sandiego.edu). Nominees will be notified and encouraged to apply. All materials in support of a faculty member’s nomination must be submitted by Wednesday, February 11, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. to be considered for the award.

For more information on the nomination and application process, which includes an application rubric, please visit the CEE website awards page: http://www.sandiego.edu/cee/grants/awards.php

Announcing the 2015 Innovation in Community Engagement Award

The Innovation in Community Engagement Award recognizes faculty who, through innovation and imagination, connected their expertise and scholarship with community outreach in ongoing ways that benefitted the public, the campus, and the scholarly community. The award winner will receive $500 honorarium and an opportunity to present his/her work at a University-wide reception.

Specifically, the award seeks to identify faculty who:

- Have developed innovative scholarly approaches to engage external community partners in a meaningful and sustainable manner.
- Have a shared and transparent vision of the project goals with community stakeholders.
- Have used early stage innovation to position the project for future growth.
- Have increased the institutional commitment to civic engagement through community-based work that is aligned with the mission of USD.

For more information please see: http://www.sandiego.edu/mccasa/course-based/eec/innovationaward.php

Deadline for receipt of materials is 5 PM Wednesday February 11, 2015.

Academic Technology Services - Faculty Technology Boot Camp

Thursday, January 22, and Friday, January 23, 2015
9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Serra Hall—Room TBD

At Boot Camp faculty can:

- Get help with Blackboard Olé, Mediasite, Adobe Connect, Microsoft Office - any of our supported products! Two days to explore the range of technologies we support and learn how to incorporate a few new ideas into your Spring courses.
- Get personalized service with any of your instructional technology needs. Learn about the classroom consoles or bring your course content with you on a flash drive and get assistance building your Blackboard course!

Interview with Frank Jacobitz, Professor, Mechanical Engineering, Shiley-Marcos School of Engineering

On Using “Stuffed and Starved” in Engineering 101: Introduction to Engineering

Dr. Jacobitz is a long-time preceptor who has been teaching Introduction to Engineering (ENGR 101) in the Intersections and Honors living learning communities (LLCs). This year, food was the designated theme for the Honors LLC, and Dr. Jacobitz decided to make this the project topic for both courses. Out of personal interest, he picked up a copy of this year’s USD Just Read! selection, *Stuffed and Starved*, and then decided to try using it as the central element for the food theme.

Each course has two assignments related to the book. One is a research paper using the book as a bridge to other topics and the other is a summary presentation followed by class discussion based on an assigned chapter.

The research paper gives his students a jump-start on the library research and writing skills they will need to be successful in college, as well as professionally. The process of choosing a research topic starts with a librarian giving them a primer on internet searching. Students then conduct and document their search for engineering and food intersections, generally using Google because they are most familiar with this way of getting information. Students display their results in class and the entire class works on pooling the individual topics (e.g., genetically modified foods, packaging, treatments) into categories (e.g., food production, food distribution). Each team of two picks a topic from one of the categories; making sure individual topics are not duplicated and each category is well represented. Once team topics are solidified, Dr. Jacobitz invites the librarian back to class to teach students how to conduct a more extensive literature search; one that helps them go beyond Google. Several aspects are figured into the final grade for the research paper: the first draft, short presentation about the content, written and oral peer reviews from another team, final draft, and the grade the team gives their peer reviewer.

All students are assigned the entire book to read but are responsible for presenting on just one chapter. Each team of two gives a quick summary presentation and then leads a discussion that focuses on the point of their chapter. This process takes three class periods.

Many of his students attended Raj Patel’s talk on November 11 and were taken by surprise by his affability. Patel’s amusing stories and lively interaction with his audience were a far cry from an expected dry academic presentation.

Dr. Jacobitz’s students were able to find connections between engineering and food. He knows that connections will always exist and is enthusiastic about using the USD Just Read! selection every year in his preceptorial courses.

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**Congratulations Fall 2014 CEE Travel Grant Recipients!**

Lisa Burgert, Copley Library
Thomas Barton, History
Adina Batnitzky, Sociology
Maura Giles-Watson, English
Robin Sanford Roberts, Theatre Arts & Performance Studies
Course Design Workshop  
Wednesday, January 7, 2015  
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., MRH (SOLES)-135

Whether you are rethinking your course from the ground up or just tinkering with an assignment or two, this is the workshop for you!! In a thoroughly hands-on session, we’ll help you explore your course ideas by:

- Crafting and tailoring your ideas and expectations to assignments and assessments.
- Improving the connection between your assignments and your grades.
- Examining your course fit with the learning outcomes of your department.
- Constructing a syllabus that moves beyond the basics to establish a climate of interest for your students.

Using key models of course design and tested assignment solutions, Dr. Sandra Sgoutas-Emch, CEE Director; and Marcelle Darby, Adjunct Instructor, Biology, will facilitate this session to help you with your course questions.

*Bring any and all of your syllabi to work on as time permits.*  
*We will also be on hand to arrange future individual consultations.*

**RSVP** by Monday, January 5, 2015

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**Syllabus Construction Workshop**

- **Friday, January 16, 2015**  
  1:30 to 3:00 p.m., Copley Library Seminar Room

The course syllabus is an indispensable guide for your students. Often described as a contract, the syllabus should make clear both the students' and your responsibilities. What goes into your syllabus and the tone are key to facilitating a positive learning environment for all of your students. Bring your ideas and existing syllabi and find out more about designing a comprehensive learning-centered syllabus for your courses. **RSVP Here**

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**Drop in Course Design Sessions**

- **Thursday, January 15, 2015**  
  9:30 to 11:30 a.m., Copley Library Seminar Room
- **Tuesday, January 20, 2015**  
  1:30 to 3:30 p.m., Copley Library Seminar Room

The spring semester is rapidly approaching and maybe you are in the midst of revising an old course or even designing a new one, or maybe you just want to breathe new life into your old syllabus. Faculty and CEE staff will be on hand to consult with you about any and all aspects of your course design from developing learning outcomes to creating assignments and other assessments to enhance student learning. **RSVP Here**

*Please note, you may drop in and out of these sessions as your time allows.*
Fabulous First Friday: To Test or not to Test, Different Forms of Assessing Student Learning
Friday, January 9, 2015
9:30 to 11:00 a.m., MRH (SOLES)-135

The two basic types of assessment, formative and summative, will be discussed with a special emphasis on Classroom Assessment Techniques (CATs). CATs are formative assessments done during the class period and provide timely feedback for you to guide improvements in student understanding. You will leave with several CATs to try in your courses as well as ideas about using formative assessments to prepare your students for exams. RSVP Here

New and Junior Faculty Social @ the Cosmopolitan
Thursday, January 29, 2015
4:30 to 6:30 p.m., Cosmopolitan Hotel & Restaurant in Old Town (2660 Calhoun Street)

Located in the heart of Old Town, The Cosmopolitan Restaurant & Hotel is the ideal setting for USD’s new and junior tenure-track faculty to meet and mingle. A special patio area has been reserved for us, complete with an appetizer buffet and refreshments.

Free parking is available in the lot adjacent to the restaurant. It is accessible from Juan Street, just north of Mason Street. Web address: http://www.oldtowncosmopolitan.com/
Please RSVP by Tuesday, January 27, 2015

CEE & ATS Tech Talk: Strategies for Enhancing Academic Integrity for Your Online Assessments
Friday, January 30, 2015
2:00 to 3:00 p.m., MRH (SOLES) 135

Join us as USD faculty share some long-standing (Turnitin & SafeAssign) and new (ExamSoft) technologies for assuring academic integrity in online assessments. RSVP Here

February 2015

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| 2/13 | Post Doc Research Colloquium  
Academic Technology Services presents: Technology in Motion! 10th Annual Technology Showcase and Open House |
| 2/27 | CEE & ATS Tech Talk: Digital Humanities |

To RSVP: Phone: (619) 260-7402  Email: cee@sandiego.edu  Online: sandiego.edu/cee/events/registration.php