

The Ninth Annual Midwest Conference
on the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning
April 11, 2008

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

“Cultivating Excellence through Mentoring and Collaboration”

9:00 – 10:30 a.m.

Presenter: James M. Lang, Assumption College

Room: DW 1001

Drawing upon a recent and provocative study of first-year college students, Dr. Lang’s talk will consider the extent to which parallels between freshman and new faculty members might help us think about structuring faculty mentoring programs. The focus will fall primarily on how we mentor new faculty as teachers. The presentation will leave plenty of time for discussion among the group on how to mentor new faculty most effectively in their first years in the classroom.

SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS

TITLE: *“Fifteen Years of Mentoring New Faculty at Saint Mary’s College”*

Presenters: Amy Cavender, Jerry McElroy, MaryAnn Merryman - Saint Mary’s College

Room: DW1175

ABSTRACT: The panel presentation by three faculty will describe the inception, implementation, and experiences of three participants of a mentoring program for new faculty that began in 1992 at Saint Mary’s College. It will cover three areas – the early years describing its conception and implementation, progress through the middle years as the program matured, and end with more recent outgrowths and changes associated with the “changing demographics” and expectations of new faculty.

TITLE: *“Mentoring Faculty during Preparation of the Tenure Dossier: The Third Step”*

Presenters: Gwendolyn Mettetal, Gretchen Anderson, Sara Sage – IU South Bend

Room: DW1165

ABSTRACT: This paper describes a group mentoring program that supports junior faculty during the semester in which they construct their tenure dossiers. Since 1999, over 60 pre-tenure faculty have participated. Feedback from various levels of tenure review suggests that the resulting dossiers are noticeably well-organized, complete, and make their case well.

TITLE: *“Parallel and Interesting Approaches for Mentoring Students and Faculty”*

Presenters: Duane McBride, Curt VanderWaal, Herb Helm, Lionel Matthews,
Janice Wrenn, Derrick Proctor – Andrews University

Room: DW1135

ABSTRACT: This presentation focuses on specific mentoring approaches developed at Andrews University. The approach emphasizes faculty-student and senior faculty-junior faculty mentoring through a learning and teaching as scholarship focus. Specific strategies are presented as well as the outcomes of these strategies for developing students into professionals and university faculty/scholars and junior faculty into full professors.

TITLE: *“Institutional Support for Pre-tenure Faculty: Preliminary Analyses”*

Presenter: Gwendolyn Mettetal, Gail McGuire, Linda Chen, Betsy Lucal – IU South Bend

Room: DW1165

ABSTRACT: This presentation will discuss early findings of a qualitative study of the mentoring received by pre-tenure faculty at a regional Midwest comprehensive university. The effectiveness of both formal and informal mentoring will be discussed, as well as variation across units.

(Poster Session) *“Designing and Implementing a Faculty Mentoring Program in a Multidisciplinary Setting”*

Presenters: Sara Hook - IUPUI

Student Activities Center (SAC)

ABSTRACT: This presentation will outline the components of a faculty mentoring program in a multidisciplinary environment, including the decision to implement a program, designing a program, selecting, training and evaluating mentors, administrative support, providing rewards and recognition for mentors and how mentoring can contribute to excellence in teaching and in the overall work climate of an academic institution. The presenter has been involved in faculty mentoring at many levels within the university. Research clearly points to the important role of mentors in the success of employees in all kinds of organizations.

(Poster Session) *“The Scholarship of a Welcoming Space: Starting a Faculty Writing Group Learning Community”*

Presenters: Sue Wiegand, Amy Cavender – Saint Mary’s College

Student Activities Center (SAC)

ABSTRACT: Starting with some of the scholarship about writing groups and learning communities, a political science professor and a librarian at Saint Mary’s College collaborated to start a Faculty Writing Group. While still working out details for building an ongoing, sustainable learning community, they are experimenting with different formats and gathering data from a survey of faculty to determine what works best in attracting faculty to Writing Days in the Library. Goals include improving scholarly productivity and providing the benefits of a supportive writing group in a welcoming space.

(Poster Session) *“Mentoring Future Scholars”*

Presenters: James VanderVeen, Lisa Zwicker – IU South Bend

Student Activities Center (SAC)

ABSTRACT: This presentation outlines the experiences of two faculty in assisting future scholars to develop creative, analytical, and well-researched independent projects. The authors have sought to institutionalize their mentoring of undergraduate students in two different ways: a course on research conducted in the field and a class that prepares students to present their research at conferences.