

Center for Teaching Excellence

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

<http://cte.illinois.edu/>

Announcements:

Building on the Faculty Retreat

Here are [four workshops](#) building on the 7 Research-Based Principles presented by the 2012 Faculty Retreat plenary speaker Susan Ambrose.

Call for Posters: Service-Learning and Social Entrepreneurship Showcase

This all-campus [showcase](#) is May 2, 3:30-5:00 p.m., Illini Union Rooms A & B and features academic and co-curricular service-learning and social entrepreneurship courses and programs. Click [here](#) for details and to submit a proposal online. Proposals due by March 30.

Working on a CTE certificate? Having trouble getting workshop hours? TA Reading Groups are still forming and count for workshop hours. You can sign up alone or with colleagues by contacting Sandy Finley (sfinley@illinois.edu). Meeting days and times are scheduled by the participants. You may also want to check out an online option for a workshop at <http://go.illinois.edu/OnlineWorkshopOption>.

The following workshops take us through to spring break. All count toward CTE's Certificate Program. Remember, registration is required. Click on the link for any workshop to read more about it and to register.

Late February/Early March Workshops:

Monday, February 27, 2012

3:00 pm - 4:30 pm Diana Steele

[Test Construction: Got Questions?](#)

Thursday, March 1, 2012

12:00 pm - 1:30 pm Sandy Finley

[Using Students' Prior Knowledge to Help Learning](#)

Tuesday, March 6, 2012

3:30 pm - 5:00 pm Jane Alsberg

[Writing your Teaching Philosophy Statement](#)

Thursday, March 8, 2012

12:00 pm - 1:30 pm Cheelan Bo-Linn

[Going Beyond "Practice Makes Perfect": Key Features of Practice and Feedback](#)

1:00 pm - 3:00 pm CITES Academic Technology Services
[Blended Learning: Meeting the Challenge of Blended Learning](#)

Monday, March 12, 2012

12:00 pm - 1:30 pm Cheelan Bo-Linn, Center for Teaching Excellence and Laurie Kramer,
Associate Dean, College of ACES
[\(For Faculty\): Creating a Teaching Philosophy Statement that Describes and Documents
Your Teaching](#)

Tuesday, March 13, 2012

3:00 pm - 4:30 pm Sandy Finley
[Making Sense of it All: Using Concept Maps for Teaching and Learning](#)

Teaching Tips

Helping Students Read Difficult Texts. When students have problems understanding a difficult text, simply rereading the text won't help them to understand it any better. [This article](#), from the Tomorrow's Professor mailing list, will provide reasons for your students' difficulties and strategies to assist them in comprehending these texts more easily.

Promoting Student Motivation. According to an article from the Tomorrow's Professor mailing list, the best way to motivate and engage students is to show them the relevance and significance of the material. [This article](#) will show how to use case studies, guest speakers, and other strategies to promote intrinsic motivation.