After talking about the new office space for the better part of the last year, CETL has decided it’s finally time to show it off. Faculty are, of course, always welcome to come by ML 88 to browse our collection of teaching resources or to gather and socialize with colleagues from around the university. We have also set aside Tuesday, October 2nd and Wednesday, October 3rd for a full scale Open House for the Center for Excellence and Innovation in Memorial Library 88 from 8:30AM until 4:30PM.

We will be providing coffee and other refreshments, including popcorn and some light snacks. Ice cream sundaes will be served on Wednesday, Oct. 3rd from 1:30-3:30. The Open House is designed to familiarize faculty with our new space and provide information about all of the offerings through CETL, CESR, and Academic Technology. It’s also a great opportunity to meet other faculty members and enjoy a quick break from your hectic course schedule. We encourage you to come by any time. We’re excited about the 2012-2013 academic year in our lovely new surroundings.

ML 88 is located in the lower level of the library, right next to the Electronic Resource Center. You can find it by entering through the main doors, taking a right and proceeding down the stairwell past the array of computers. Our glass doors are located at the bottom of the steps, and you’re welcome to join us at any time.
Upcoming Event Schedule

CETL Open House:
Join us in ML 88 for refreshments and conversation.
- Tuesday, October 2nd, 8:30AM-4:30PM
- Wednesday, October 3rd, 8:30AM-4:30PM
- Ice Cream Sundaes served from 1:30-3:30PM on Wednesday!

Community Engagement Discussion:
In late October, we will be holding a discussion on community engagement. See the “Message from the Director” on Page 3 for more information.
- Tuesday, October 30th, 4:30-6:30PM, CSU 284

Brown Bag Discussions:
October features a number of exciting Brown Bag Discussions.
- Quality Matters, Tuesday, October 9th, 12-1PM
- Online Assignments and Assessments, Thursday, October 18th, 12-1PM
- Creating Presence for Online Learners, Wednesday, October 24th, 12-1PM
- Quality Matters Q+A *, 11:30-1PM, either Wednesday, October 31st, or Thursday, November 1st.

*Do you have questions about Quality Matters? Ask an expert. Linda Jacoby will answer to basic as well as more advanced questions.

Team-Based Learning Professional Learning Community Set to Begin in October

Learn About TBL

Beginning in the second week of October, CETL will be offering a new learning community dedicated to Team-Based Learning (TBL). The program will be led by Mary Hadley from the Department of Chemistry and Geology. Professor Hadley has extensive experience incorporating TBL into her courses and has found it to be an effective tool for engaging students. “With Team-Based Learning,” she said, “I find that students are more active and engaged. I have 100% attendance. Unless a student is really sick, he or she shows up to class.”

Of course, TBL has benefits beyond increased participation. “I have found,” Professor Hadley said, “that students in my courses do 10-15% better than those who take the same course, with the same exams, but without Team-Based Learning.” According to Professor Hadley, that 10-15% number is supported by broader academic research as well. “The studies I encounter show that students involved in Team-Based Learning learn information better and retain it longer.”

Beginning in October, Professor Hadley will lead a learning community that will help MSU faculty learn to implement TBL in their own courses. The group will model TBL by example. It will also include discussion of some of the key components of TBL. Though she currently uses TBL in science courses, Professor Hadley added, “The idea began in a business school and we’ve had to adjust it to fit a discipline where there are concrete answers.” TBL has the potential to be adapted for use in all academic areas. Faculty from all departments are encouraged to sign up for the learning community, which will meet Tuesday from 11:30-1 on October 9th, October 23rd, November 6th, November 20th, and December 4th in ML 88. To sign up, contact patricia.hoffman@mnsu.edu. Feel free to email cetl@mnsu.edu with any questions.

For more information about TBL, visit the Team-Based Learning Collaborative at http://www.teambasedlearning.org.

Going Green

Wanted: MSU, Mankato coffee mugs for use in the new Center for Excellence and Innovation.

Please contact: patricia.hoffman@mnsu.edu if you have a mug you are no longer using.
Message From the Director

Dr. Patricia Hoffman

This last month has brought a myriad of new and old faces to our new Center for Excellence and Innovation. A total of 72 faculty and staff are currently participating in various Certificate programs. Additionally a wide variety of Brown Bag discussions and technology trainings have meant constant traffic through our doors. As was said in “Field of Dreams”, *if you build it they will come.* Thank you SO much for coming! We especially hope you will join us for our Open House on October 2nd and 3rd. You can find details on the cover page of the newsletter.

In other news, an upcoming event that CETL and the Office of Community Engagement are co-hosting at MSU, Mankato is a dialog with campus and community members to consider the varied purposes of public higher education. These include both individual and communal goals such as advancing economic competitiveness, offering individual opportunities, and preparing people to work together to solve problems.

The goal of the campus/community dialog is to foster civic engagement between campus and community members that can identify common ground and focus on specific priorities for local action.

The **Community Engagement Dialog** will occur from 4:30-6:30 in room 284 of the **Centennial Student Union.** During the first hour, participants will consider and discuss the role of higher education from three different perspectives. After a short break we will identify common goals for action and discuss local priorities for collaboration.

The event is free and open to the public as well as to MSU faculty, staff and students. Please register by Oct. 25th at [http://msudialogue.eventbrite.com](http://msudialogue.eventbrite.com). Off campus participants may park in the Pay Lot near the Student Union. Parking passes will be available. If you have any questions or problems registering, please email [patricia.hoffman@mnsu.edu](mailto:patricia.hoffman@mnsu.edu).  

*Along with MSU, Mankato and the Minnesota Campus Compact, partners sponsoring this initiative include the Blandin Foundation, the MSU Office of Community Engagement, the Kettering Foundation/National Issues Forms Institute, Public Agenda, and the Travelers Foundation.*

**Opportunity:** Sign up for a free newsletter with great ideas and research on student engagement.  
[http://www.facultyfocus.com](http://www.facultyfocus.com)

New Faculty Spotlight

**Dr. Rennesa Jessup, World Languages and Cultures**

For Dr. Rennesa Jessup, Scandinavia is both an academic passion and a part of her personal history. “I was named after a Norwegian Island,” she said, “And I have a Norwegian and Swedish heritage.” As an undergraduate at St. Olaf College in Northfield, Dr. Jessup says she “fell in love with the Norwegian language and Scandinavian literature.” She went on to earn an MA in Scandinavian Studies from the University of Wisconsin and a Ph. D. from the University of Washington. She has traveled throughout Scandinavia, including spending a year in Norway researching for her dissertation. As a new faculty member, she found CETL’s new faculty orientation to be particularly helpful. She said, “I enjoyed learning about all the resources and meeting people. Everyone was welcoming and supportive.” She also found the recent Brown Bag on writing a Professional Development Plan helpful. “It was an opportunity to learn a lot and casually meet other people,” she said. As an instructor, Dr. Jessup particularly enjoys seeing students grasp a new language. “With beginning language courses, students often start knowing nothing. By the end of the year, they can hold conversations and write page-long essays in the new language. You can really see the progress, and it’s great to see them learning about themselves in the process,” she said. This semester, Dr. Jessup is teaching Norwegian Language, Introduction to Scandinavia, and an online course in Norwegian Crime Fiction.