

## DIRECTOR OF THE CENTER, Patricia Hoffman

One of the best things about working in The Center for Excellence and Innovation is the synergy that comes from interacting with staff and faculty from all across campus. While our Center has been less accessible over the summer during construction of the "Connection" to the lower level of the Student Union, we will soon be fully connected. Watch for announcements later in October for its completion.

Speaking of "connections", Professional Development is all about sharing good information and connecting with others to reflect on our own

practices to create a culture of continuous improvement and learning. I see evidence of this every day among the more than 100 faculty members who are participating in various certificate programs, as well as with numerous others who come to The

Center for Brown Bag Discussions, Tech Tactics, help with assessment, scholarly research and writing, and assistance with integrating new technologies into their coursework.

While face-to-face interaction is wonderful, we also hope to connect with everyone in one way or another. With that goal in mind we are producing additional "5-Minute Workshop" videos that highlight one of our own faculty members discussing and demonstrating an effective strategy for teaching and learning. We are aware of much of the good work going on across campus, but would like to ask you to contact us with recommendations for people to highlight, as we know much great work goes unnoticed.

As one additional part of each newsletter, I would like to make you aware of other

professional development resources. Many of you are also aware of a great resource for faculty-The Faculty Focus. You are able to browse a wide variety of topics and articles related to effective teaching and learning. Recent articles include Instructor Strategies to Improve Online Student Retention; Three Teaching Styles; and 10 Effective Classroom Management Techniques

Every Faculty Member Should Know. You can find these articles and others online as well as subscribe to a weekly email that provides you with researched, best practice strategies. I routinely send out information from this website to participants in the Faculty Teaching

Certificate Program and frequently get messages back of how helpful the articles are. The website is located at <http://www.facultyfocus.com>



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## Mentoring Program

CETL also works with interested new faculty to find a **Mentor** with whom they can meet throughout the year. Our mentoring site in D2L provides resources and areas for discussion. We also provide mentors and mentees with some lunch coupons so that some of the conversations can be more informal. Please contact Patricia Hoffman if you are interested in having a mentor or in volunteering to be a mentor.

## INTERCULTURAL SEMINAR SERIES - CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS! - AVAILABLE AT MSU ML 94B & EDINA 307

The Intercultural Seminar Series is a year-long professional growth opportunity for faculty and staff designed by an interdisciplinary group on campus and offered through CETL. The Council of Deans has provided financial support in order to make this professional development experience available.

Learning objectives include growth in the following areas: a) intercultural awareness; b) intercultural knowledge/understanding; c) repertoire of intercultural skills and instructional strategies; d) knowledge of relevant learning and instructional resources. The learning process will start with the completion of the Intercultural

Development Inventory (IDI) and subsequent engagement in two intercultural coaching sessions. Participants will design their own Individual Development Plans (IDP's) in consultation with their coach. IDP goals and objectives may be aligned to Article 22 criteria. Each participant will select one of two options to pursue in this year-long learning process. Option 1 includes attendance in four seminar sessions across the academic year. Option 2 is an independent learning experience designed with an intercultural coach.

Fall seminars will be held on the following dates (each seminar will be repeated three times to accommodate busy schedules.

**Seminar 1:** October 14th (3:00-4:00) or October 16th (3:00-4:00) or October 18th (11:00-12:00)

**Seminar 2:** November 11th (3:00-4:00) or November 13th (3:00-4:00) or November 15th (11:00-12:00)

A schedule for the spring seminars will be determined by participants. Please contact Patricia Hoffman if you are interested in participating or need information.

Additional information is included in the CETL Fall Newsletter [http://www.mnsu.edu/cetl/newsletter/cetl\\_newsletter\\_september-2013.pdf](http://www.mnsu.edu/cetl/newsletter/cetl_newsletter_september-2013.pdf)

## CERTIFICATE TRAINING and INDIVIDUALIZED TRAINING

### Build-Your-Own Certificate - YEAR LONG, ON-GOING

Participants develop their own professional-learning plan. Choose seven sessions from a variety of opportunities: Tech Tactics, Scholars-At-Work, Brown Bag Discussions and sessions from Teaching the 21st Century Learner. Times and dates will vary to meet the needs of everyone. Please see our calendar at <http://www.mnsu.edu/cetl/calendar.html> for specific information.

For this specific certificate, you will also need to register through the STARS system at <https://secure.mnsu.edu/mnscupd/login/default.asp?campusid=0071>. Interested individuals will need to arrange a meeting with CETL Director, Patricia Hoffman, 389-3233 or by email, [patricia.hoffman@mnsu.edu](mailto:patricia.hoffman@mnsu.edu) to create a personalized participation plan.



### Tech Tactics ON-GOING

2:00-3:00 P.M., ML 94B AND Edina 307, Suite A

These engaging one-hour sessions will talk about a variety of topics from current technology to new innovations to teaching methods. They are held weekly in ML 94B and in Edina via TelePresence from 2:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m. Check the Academic Technology Services faculty training calendar for a complete and up-to-date list of Tech Tactics sessions.

Thurs., Oct. 10 - Applying the QM Template

Wed., Oct. 16 - Smartboards: What Are These Things?

Thurs., Oct. 24 - Effective Discussions in D2L

Wed., Oct. 30 - Virtual Meetings (Google Hangout, Skype, Lync, etc.)

Thurs., Nov. 7 - STAR ID: How Does It Affect Me? Marni Dunning

Wed., Nov. 13 - Accessibility Matters, Julie Snow, Beth Claussen and Ginny Fitzloff

Thurs., Nov. 21 - Copyright FAQ, Barb Bergman

Wed., Nov. 27 - (Subject Matter TBD)

Thurs., Dec. 5 - iPad: The Basics, Gary Urban

Wed., Dec. 11 - Applying the QM Matters Template

### Scholars-At-Work

#### FALL SEMESTER SCHEDULE

3:00-4:00 P.M., ML 94B AND Edina 307

Each week a MSU faculty member will share their expertise in areas of interest. Work towards a Build-Your-Own Certificate, 3:00-4:00 p.m.

Oct. 2: Gen Ed and Institutional Student Learning Outcomes, Lynn Akey

Oct. 9: Online Advising, Becky Copper Glenz

Oct. 16: The Curriculum Design System (CDS), Ron Nickerson (repeated), ML 94A (TelePresence not available at this session.)

Oct. 23: Writing Across the Curriculum

Oct. 30: Electronic Submission of Capstone Projects, Chris Mickle

### Writing Intensive

#### Brown Bag Discussions

##### FALL SEMESTER SCHEDULE

12:00-1:00 P.M., ML 94B AND Edina 321

Oct. 15: What Is the "W" (Writing) Requirement at MSU, Mankato?

Oct. 22: Assignments and Assessments

Oct. 29: Time Management for "W" (Writing) Course

Nov. 5: Writing to Learn

Other Brown Bag Discussions to be based on faculty interest. Watch CETL calendar for additional Brown Bag Discussions.



### Brown Bag Discussions

#### FALL SEMESTER SCHEDULE

##### Miscellaneous Brown Bags

12:00-1:00 P.M., ML 94B AND Edina 307

Fall Semester when school is in session.

Oct. 2: Helping Your Students Be Workforce Ready (Kristin Underwood & Deenna Latus)

Oct. 9: Reliance on Technology - A Discussion of What Works in the Classroom, Karla Lassonde

Oct. 16: **Writing at the End of the World Dr. Miller Brown Bag Discussion\***

(different location, CSU Heritage Room)

(TelePresence not available at this session.)

Oct. 23: Personalize Your Leadership (Julie Carlson)

Oct. 30: Incorporating Study Abroad Into Your Course or Degree Program (Steve Stoyhoff)



### OTHER PROGRAMS through CETL - OPEN to ALL Faculty!

#### Students Consulting On Teaching (SCOT) Program

Student consultants respond to professors' invitations to gather data on classroom activities and give them feedback.

The Students Consulting On Teaching (SCOT) program is dedicated to quality education at Minnesota State Mankato and to providing faculty members with information that helps them have a better sense of what is happening in their classrooms. Available to all instructors at the University.

#### Peer Faculty Consultation

CETL offers Peer Faculty Consultations for all interested faculty. The process is similar to the SCOT program, except that the class observer is a faculty member.

CETL retains a pool of qualified, experienced faculty who are regularly available to perform consultations. Any interested instructor can sign up, and The Center will pair you with a fellow faculty member. The goal of the program is to provide non-evaluative feedback designed to provide information about the direction of your course. All information collected and shared during the observation is kept confidential.

#### Quality Matters Training

Needed for Certificate of Excellence for Online Teaching & Learning  
<http://www.mnsu.edu/its/academic/qm.html>  
for information about QM Training.



## S. CRAIG WATKINS to speak at St. Cloud State University (SCSU) • Thursday, October 10

### Watch for link on <http://www.mnsu.edu/ctl> Thursday, Oct. 10, 9:00 – 11:15 KEYNOTE PRESENTATION -

Dr. S. Craig Watkins, Location: St. Cloud State University, Miller Center Auditorium, 122  
The students who arrive in our classrooms today are unlike students from any previous generation. They are wired, connected, and social in ways that are extraordinarily complex. In this talk, author and researcher S. Craig Watkins considers what it means to empower ourselves and our students for “connected learning” in a connected world. The debates about technology and social change continue to percolate every sphere and the stakes grow increasingly higher in education. No longer do educators debate if digital media technologies should be used in the formal learning environment; today, the questions relate to how. That is, how do we leverage social and digital media to create dynamic learning pathways that prepare our students for a rapidly evolving world and economy? What skills and dispositions do our students need in today’s world? How do we create learning experiences that are in sync with our era? An era in which learning is social, openly networked, and production oriented. This is a talk that is sure to raise timely questions and generate noteworthy ideas about the future of learning.

### Thursday, Oct. 10, 1:30 - 3:30 KEYNOTE WORKSHOP -

Dr. S. Craig Watkins, Location: SCSU, Atwood Memorial Center, Cascade  
In this hands-on workshop author and researcher S. Craig Watkins will share his efforts to design “connected learning environments.” What is a connected learning environment? In part, it is a reference to learning environments that are openly networked, that is, connected to diverse spheres of expertise and settings. More significantly,

connected learning entails the creation of learning environments wherein students are producers rather than mere consumers of knowledge and information. The goal of the workshop is to discuss real and practical strategies and actively build culturally relevant and stimulating learning environments that enhance student’s investment in their own social and educational development.

### KEYNOTE SPEAKER Dr. S. Craig Watkins

**S. Craig Watkins** studies young people’s social, digital, and mobile media behaviors. He is a Professor in the department of Radio-Television-Film at the University of Texas, Austin where he is also a Faculty Fellow for the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement. Craig received his PhD from the University of Michigan.

Craig is the author of three books including his most recent, *The Young and the Digital: What the Migration to Social Network Sites, Games, and Anytime, Anywhere Media Means for Our Future*. He is currently working on a new book that explores the changing contours of the America’s digital, economic, and learning divides. The book takes on one of the central challenges of the 21st century: designing learning futures and pathways that prepare our most disadvantaged youth for a rapidly evolving world.

He is a member of the MacArthur Foundation’s Connected Learning Research Network. His work in the network includes leading a team of researchers in a project titled, *The Digital Edge*—a reference to the growing diversity of young people using social, digital, and mobile media platforms. The Digital Edge team has spent a year in a Central Texas high school seeking to better understand the challenges that poor-resource schools face in engaging their students and building pathways to social, educational, and economic opportunities. The Digital Edge is piloting several education-based initiatives that explore the connections between youth, design literacy, digital media, and innovation.

For updates on these and other projects visit his website, [theyoungandthedigital.com](http://theyoungandthedigital.com).

## DR. RICHARD MILLER to Speak at Minnesota State University, Mankato • October 15 & 16

Richard Miller, Professor at Rutgers University, is optimistic. For him, the learning opportunities that higher education might provide have never been greater. “For those who believe, as I do, that one of the university’s primary responsibilities is to promote the acquisition of knowledge in depth,” he states, “there has never been a more exciting time to be involved in higher education.” From his perspective, the Internet, in particular, has been a boon to education.

And yet, the Internet poses challenges of its own.

Miller acknowledges that our “technologically saturated time” is plagued by “the punctuation of our movement from moment to moment by distractions that respect no boundaries: text messages, phone calls, and the chime of the inbox.” Restlessness and distraction seem to be symptoms of these, our “connected” times.

In his scholarship, Miller has examined the challenges and possibilities of teaching and learning in the digital age in provocatively titled texts like *As if Learning Mattered*, “The Coming Apocalypse,” and *Writing at the End of the World*.

On October 15th and 16th, Miller will be exploring these themes in a series of events for the MSU, Mankato campus community.

On Tuesday, Oct. 15th, Miller will be delivering a lecture entitled “Cultivating Curiosity in These Our Distracted, Polarized, Irate, Ill-Informed Times.” This lecture is open to faculty, staff, and students and will be held in Centennial Student Union 201 at 7:00pm.

On Wednesday, October 16th, Miller will be leading a lunch discussion entitled “The Pleasurable Apocalypse: Teaching at the End of the World.” This discussion is open to faculty, staff,

and students and will be held in the Heritage Room at 12:00pm. Register through the STARS system: <https://secure.mnsu.edu/mnscupd/login/default.asp>. Lunch provided for the first 30 registrants, a copy of Miller’s book, *Writing at the End of the World*, provided for the first 15 registrants.

Miller will also be leading two smaller workshops on the 15th and 16th focused on teaching students researching skills. Individuals interested in receiving more information about these events should contact Heather Camp at [heather.camp@mnsu.edu](mailto:heather.camp@mnsu.edu).

Miller’s visit is made possible by the generous support of the College of Arts and Humanities, the English Department, Honors, the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, and the Library.

### Campus-wide Lecture • Tuesday, Oct. 15th, 7pm • Centennial Student Union 201 Cultivating Curiosity in These Our Distracted, Polarized, Irate, Ill-Informed Times

Educators have always worked to unsettle confirmation bias—the tendency we all have to seek out information that confirms our biases. But what are educators to do now that the algorithms of the search engines, the online shopping sites, and the many forms of social media all generate bias-confirming information that seeks us out? This talk will discuss how the shift from a paper-based world to a screen-based world requires a redefinition of both the form and the function of public education.

### CETL Lunch and Discussion • Wednesday, Oct. 16th, 12pm-1pm • Heritage Room The Pleasurable Apocalypse: Teaching at the End of the World

Registration required through STARS: <https://secure.mnsu.edu/mnscupd/login/default.asp>

- Lunch provided for the first 30 registrants. (The first 30 registrants will be contacted for their lunch selection.)
- A copy of Miller’s book *Writing at the End of the World* provided for the first 15 registrants. (All 15 books have been claimed by the first 15 registrants.)

The title of this discussion comes from a video lecture created by one of Dr. Miller’s students last fall—it was the students way of naming the successful marketing of an apocalyptic encounter with zombies.

What are we, as teachers, to make of the fact that many of our students believe that a zombie apocalypse is possible? (Really, ask them.) What does the desirable apocalypse suggest about the challenges we face as teachers in the 21st century?

This discussion will include problems and questions explored by Dr. Richard Miller in his 2005 book *Writing at the End of the World*. Individuals need not have read the book in order to participate in the discussion.