FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear colleagues,

This past May, over 50 faculty and staff came together to learn about the 508 refresh for making electronic teaching information accessible to all students. Although many attended the workshop to find out how to comply with the legal aspects of the law, all attendees learned how making teaching materials accessible accelerates learning for all students by enabling multiple modalities of information processing.

Our programming for this academic year will continue this focus on enhancing student learning in ways that all students benefit. Our workshops will share "best practices" in student engagement and active learning according to leading experts in higher education pedagogy. However, our programs will be more than just “talk”—we will model best practices within our workshops so that attendees can experience these techniques and feel their impact.

Our year will culminate in May with our summer institute focused on a selection of the Association for American Colleges and Universities’ “High Impact Practices”. Specifically, we will explore innovative pedagogies relating to capstone courses, undergraduate research, and collaborative learning approaches. Buckle up and get ready for an active year of professional development!

Regards,
—Alicia Nordstrom, Center Director

MENTORING COMMITTEE WORKSHOP DATES FOR NEW FACULTY

- **Monday September 25th**
  Student Services: Student Affairs, Insalaco Center, CAPS, SSC

- **Friday October 20th**
  Reappointment and Tenure/ Promotion: Deans, VPAA, Status Committee members

- **Friday November 17th**
  Research and Funding: IRB, FRG Committee, Deans, VPAA, Grants Office

- **Friday December 8th**
  E-Achievement: Christine Slacktish

Please RSVP to Kathy Fritzges at kfritzge@misericordia.edu and advise of any dietary needs.

ACADEMIC TECHNOLOGIES

Out with the old, in with the new. Adobe Connect has been replaced with Blackboard Collaborate. Blackboard Collaborate is a real-time video conferencing tool that lets you add files, share applications, and use a virtual whiteboard to interact. Collaborate with the Ultra experience opens right in your browser, so you don’t have to install any software to join a session.

For questions and training opportunities, please reach out to Morgan Sadowski (msadowsk@misericordia.edu or x3331) or Rich Hancuff (rhancuff@misericordia.edu or x8177).

As always, we have Technology on Demand Training where faculty can contact us to set up individual training sessions.
FALL PROGRAMS

Creating a Natural Critical Learning Environment: Lessons learned from “Best Teachers Institute”

September 20, 2017, 12:00-1:15 pm
Insalaco Hall 218/219

October 18, 2017, 6:00-8:00 pm
Insalaco Hall 218/219

Presenters
Dana Chalupa, Sociology
Kristen Karnish, Physical Therapy
Maureen Rineheimer, Physical Therapy
Allison Maloney, Nursing

This past June, four faculty attended the Best Teachers Institute, a three-day conference hosted by education experts and leaders including James Lang and Eric Mazur. This workshop will share concepts, ideas and strategies from the Institute to improve teaching and share insights into creating a Natural Critical Learning Environment. The presenters will describe and actively demonstrate deep, surface, and strategic learning and formal assessment strategies as well as reasons why students cheat and how instructors can prevent academic dishonesty.

RSVP to Kathy Fritzges at kfritzge@misericordia.edu and advise of any dietary requests.

Digital Tools for Organizing Research: Zotero, Trello, OneNote and Evernote

November 9, 2017, 5:00-7:00 pm
McGowan Room

November 10, 2017, 12:00-1:15 pm
Insalaco Hall 218/219

Presenters:
Jennifer Black, History
Ryan Watson, Fine Arts
Alicia Nordstrom, Psychology

This workshop will provide a brief overview of each of these tools, demonstrating their use for bibliographic management, collecting and managing sources, organizing ideas and concepts, and pre-writing. Bring your devices for hands-on training.

RSVP to Kathy Fritzges at kfritzge@misericordia.edu and advise of any dietary requests.

Save The Date May 16–18, 2018
Summer Institute on High Impact Educational Practices

Our summer institute in May 2018 will focus on three of the AAC&U’s ten “high impact practices” for active student learning:
• Capstone courses
• Undergraduate research
• Collaborative learning