Faculty-created Working Groups

Why this kind of group? A working group allows you to focus on topics of interest or concern to you. It taps into the power of accountability and connects you with colleagues, providing opportunities for brainstorming, feedback, and cross-disciplinary conversations.

What would be the focus on the group? Anything as long as it fits within the mission of the JCCTL (creative teaching and learning). Here are some suggestions, but don’t limit yourself to these:
- Small changes, such as how to design better rubrics or develop more effective group projects.
- Bigger changes, such as how to reframe a lecture style course into a discussion focused one or how to improve student engagement.
- Approaches to skill development, such as how to improve your students’ writing ability, that could be used in several different courses.
- Sharing ideas for bringing a more diverse set of scholarly work into your courses. Or ways to allow students to apply ideas to real world problems.

How does a group come to be? Find some like minded colleagues and decide on a focus. Or, let me know about a topic you are interested in and I will assist in finding others who share your interest.

How many participants in a group? I recommend two to five people.

What is the next step? Send me a short write up by February 15th that identifies the focus of your group and its membership, provides a plan for how you will proceed, establishes at least one concrete goal that you wish to accomplish by the end of the semester, and a schedule of meetings and activities. I ask that you submit a short report in May on what you accomplished and next steps.

What is the JCCTL’s role?
- Support: I will be a facilitator, scheduler, nag, participant or visitor. I will help with ideas, feedback, suggestions, resources. I will assist with matching your group up with people you might wish to consult, such as our Diversity Matters presenters, members of CPS or other campus organizations, other faculty, etc. In short, I am ready to help however I can.
- Funding: I can offer modest support for your group. Up to $250.00 for books, materials, supplies, food for the group as a whole. Other expenses may be reimbursable from this allocation; please contact me.

A $100.00 stipend to each participant paid once I have received your group’s report.
Learning Lunch: What can you do with a JCCTL Grant?

Please join us to learn more about how faculty have used JCCTL grants to enhance their courses, improve student learning, or address difficult questions. Amy Evrard (Anthropology), Nathifa Greene (Philosophy), and Eleanor Hogan (East Asian Studies) will be our presenters today. Amy received a Workshop Follow-up Grant to redesign her introduction to anthropology course. Nathifa used her Information Literacy Grant to help develop her students’ research and critical thinking skills. Eleanor’s Johnson Teaching Grant allowed her to visit Japanese festivals and events and bring those experiences into her courses. These presentations are always informative and inspiring. Don’t miss it! A light lunch will be served on a first come, first served basis.

Workshopping Research Based Assignments

Library workshop, 3:30 pm-5:00 pm, Glatfelter 301
This workshop focuses on designing and improving research-based assignments to develop students’ research and information literacy skills. Come with an existing assignment, a possible one, or a general set of questions and draw on the expertise of Research and Instructional Librarians, Clint Baugess, Kerri Odess-Harnish and Julie Hendon (Director, JCCTL), as well as feedback from your peers. This workshop is open to all who teach at the college. New and recently hired faculty are particularly encouraged to attend. Space is limited. Please email Paula Baer to sign up by February 1st.

Deadline for faculty to propose Faculty-created Working Groups.

New JCCTL Initiative: Faculty-created Working Groups
The JCCTL has offered presentations with some discussion for several years. Most recently, I hosted the Diversity Matters series of lunches last semester. One message that has emerged from your feedback is that you would like to have the chance to discuss issues in greater depth. As a result, I have decided to create Working Groups. This will allow faculty to bring questions and share ideas. Light refreshments. RSVP TO Paula Baer by March 19th.

Faculty Kayaking Trip
Co-sponsored with Gettysburg College Experiential Education.
Contact Tucker Little, Director of Experiential Education for details.

Learning Lunch: Using JCCTL Grants to Enhance your Courses

Please join us for our second lunch of the semester devoted to hearing from colleagues who have received JCCTL grants, including recipients of our two newest funding opportunities, the Digital Literacy Assignment grant and the Johnson Teaching with Special Collections grant plus . Steffanie Sobelle (English), Josef Brandauer (Health Sciences), and Sarah Sillin (English) will be our presenters today. Steffanie will tell us about her Digital Literacy Assignment Grant. Josef will report on his collaboration with colleagues from several Division 3 departments supported by a JCCTL Department/Program grant. Sarah will show us how her Teaching with Special Collections grant helped her First Year Seminar. These presentations are always informative and inspiring. Don’t miss it! A light lunch will be served on a first come, first served basis.

Publishing in Journals.
Join Betsy Duquette (English), editor of J19: the Journal of Nineteenth-century Americans, for a discussion of writing for academic journals, getting your work accepted, dealing with reviewers' comments (especially the infamous Reviewer 2), and other matters. Participants are encouraged to bring questions and share ideas. Light refreshments. RSVP TO Paula Baer by March 19th.

Learning Lunch. Diversity Matters: Diverse Learners in the Classroom:
Join Jen Cole (Academic Advising) and student discuss our growing population of neurodiverse students. Barriers and ways to lower them will be discussed. As with all the Diversity Matters lunches, the emphasis is on ways of teaching that ultimately improve learning opportunities for all students. A light lunch will be served on a first come, first served basis.

Intercultural Communication
Spring Workshop, 8:30 am-4:00 pm, Glatfelter Hall 301
Erin Santana and Keshia Abraham (CIEE), This workshop focuses on communicating appropriately and effectively in intercultural contexts, including our classrooms, meetings, and research settings. The Center on International Educational Exchange, which sponsors some of our global education opportunities for students, has a deep interest in improving intercultural communication. Workshop leaders Erin Santana and Keshia Abraham will guide participants through the concepts and practice of more effective intercultural communication. This workshop is jointly sponsored by the JCCTL and the Center for Language and Intercultural Communication, directed by Alan Perry (Italian Studies).