



ANNUAL REPORT 2008-2009

**FACULTY DEVELOPMENT
AND INSTRUCTIONAL
DESIGN CENTER**

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Foreword

This annual report summarizes Faculty Development and Instructional Design Center’s programs, activities, and services for faculty, supportive professional staff, and graduate teaching assistants at Northern Illinois University during 2008-2009. The information summarized in the report clearly indicates the continuing demand for development programs and services, and faculty, staff, and graduate teaching assistants’ interest in participating in development activities in fulfillment of NIU’s mission on teaching and scholarly activities.

Faculty Development and Instructional Design Center has been able to meet the continuing demand by offering a comprehensive range of programs, resources, and services on teaching, technology integration, diversity, research and scholarly activities, and professional development opportunities, which only a very few faculty development centers in U.S. offer under one campus unit.

Center’s accomplishments during 2008-2009 would not have been possible without the support of the Office of the Provost and the hard work and dedication of the Center staff. Center staff seeks the continued support of academic and support units, and the enthusiastic participation of faculty, staff, and graduate teaching assistants in development programs and activities.

Yours truly,

Murali Krishnamurthi
Director

Mission

The mission of Faculty Development and Instructional Design Center is to support faculty, academic supportive professional staff, and graduate teaching assistants through a variety of programs, resources, and services in fulfilling the Northern Illinois University’s mission on teaching and scholarly activities.

Vision

Faculty Development and Instructional Design Center envisions an enriched academic environment at Northern Illinois University that facilitates and promotes effective teaching, supports professional development, stimulates research and scholarly activities, and encourages the integration of instructional technologies.

Functions

The major functions of the Center are to: provide opportunities to improve teaching effectiveness, promote research and scholarly activities, facilitate the use of instructional technologies in teaching, provide professional development opportunities, and serve as a referral service and as a resource unit.

Introduction

The 2008-2009 annual report of Faculty Development and Instructional Design Center summarizes the programs, activities, and accomplishments of the Center during its tenth full academic year of operation since its reorganization in August 1998. The significant accomplishments of the Center during 2008-2009 include:

- Offering over 160 programs for more than 2,000 participants.
- Inviting 9 experts from outside NIU to present programs on teaching and related topics.
- Promoting the integration of technologies in teaching and the use of Blackboard.
- Supporting programs and activities on research and scholarly activities.
- Offering development programs for academic administrators, including new department chairs and school directors.
- Participating in externally funded projects for faculty development initiatives.
- Promoting accessibility and diversity issues.
- Offering graduate teaching assistant training and development programs.
- Awarding several professional development grants and opportunities to faculty and SPS.
- Developing and publishing several online tutorials for faculty, staff and students.
- Awarding Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant awards.
- Coordinating a year-long Faculty Leadership Initiative for faculty.
- Working on numerous projects for the Office of the Provost.

During 2008-2009, Center staff collaborated with various academic and support units to meet the ongoing and evolving needs of NIU faculty, academic supportive professional staff (SPS), and graduate teaching assistants (GTAs) in their teaching, technology integration, professional development, and research and scholarly activities.

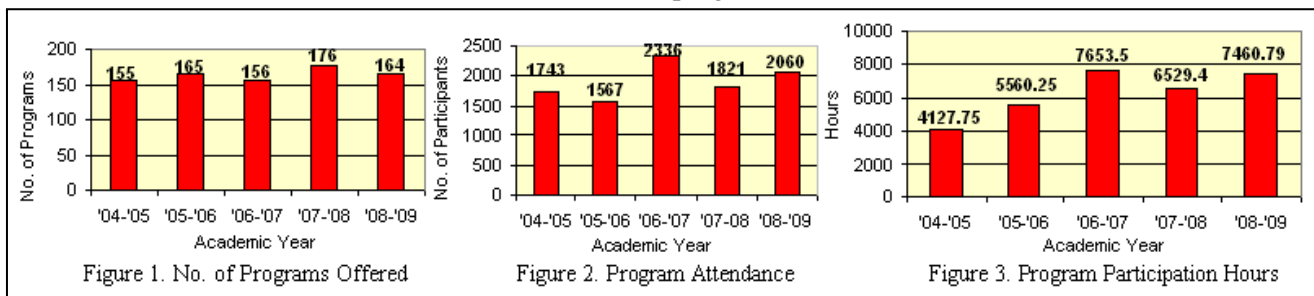
Without the help and support of the various campus units, administrators, faculty, supportive professional staff, operating staff, and graduate assistants, the Center could not have accomplished its goals during 2008-2009. Center staff members would like to express their sincere appreciation to the NIU community for its continued support of faculty development activities.

The Center is especially grateful to Executive Vice President and Provost, Raymond Alden III, and his staff for their support of the Center's activities. Faculty Development Advisory Committee members' advice and participation in the Center's programs, and the academic and support units' support of the Center's activities were also invaluable for the Center's operation during 2008-2009.

Program Data

The Center offered 164 formally-scheduled programs between August 16, 2008 and August 15, 2009. The total attendance for these programs was 2,060, and the total number of contact hours the attendees spent at these programs was 7,460.79. These numbers include one-time and repeat participation by faculty, instructors, supportive professional staff, teaching civil service staff, graduate teaching assistants, and guests.

Figures 1, 2 and 3 show the number of programs offered by Center staff each academic year for the past five years, program attendance and program participation hours of those who attended the programs.



Program participation had to be limited in some cases due to space and coordination staff constraints. Program data reported here does not include information dissemination meetings. Some programs were co-sponsored by the Center with other units on campus. Data on consultations, grants, and other development programs offered are included in separate sections of this report.

Participation in Center's programs is completely voluntary and the continued participation of faculty, teaching staff, and GTAs in the programs indicates their sustained interest in professional development programs on teaching improvement, technology integration, and related areas.

As the number of programs and program attendance figures alone cannot give a true picture of the actual duration of professional development activities during an academic year, Center staff also track the actual number of hours that participants spend on programs offered by the Center. This data is helpful to the Center to assess the cost effectiveness of programs offered and use its resources effectively. Whenever possible the Center requests sponsorship or co-sponsorship of programs by other units on campus.

In spite of being down one staff member at the beginning of fall 2008, the Center managed to offer 164 programs during the 2008-2009 academic year. It should also be emphasized that attendance figures and the actual number of hours that participants spent on professional development programs offered by the Center during 2008-2009 were actually higher than that of 2007- 2008 academic year.

Teaching Effectiveness

Faculty Development and Instructional Design Center promotes effective teaching through the following activities and services:

- Arranging workshops, seminars, institutes and related programs on teaching effectiveness.
- Providing instructional design consultations.
- Offering workshops on integrating technology into teaching.
- Offering teaching-related consultations and classroom observations.

- Promoting multicultural and international education.
- Providing access to resources on teaching.

During 2008-2009, the Center offered teaching effectiveness programs of varying durations on a number of topics of interest to faculty, academic supportive professional staff, and graduate teaching assistants. The Center invited 5 nationally or regionally recognized presenters to offer workshops on various topics on teaching.

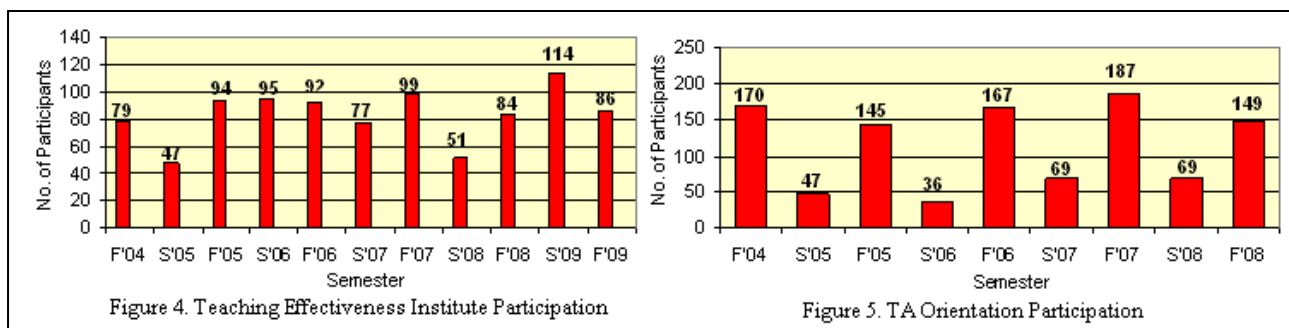
- Maurianne Adams (University of Massachusetts Amherst)
- Ray Wells (Company of Experts)
- Linda Suskie (Middle States Commission on Higher Education)
- Susan Hatfield (Winona State University)
- Constance Staley (University of Colorado, Colorado Springs)

Teaching Effectiveness Institutes

As in previous years, the Center offered Teaching Effectiveness Institutes at the beginning of fall and spring semesters for faculty and teaching staff during 2008-2009. The fall and spring Teaching Effectiveness Institutes consisted of two one-day workshops on separate advanced topics of interest.



Maurianne Adams presents the Teaching Effectiveness Institute on January 9, 2009



Faculty participation in Teaching Effectiveness Institutes during 2008-2009 remained comparable to previous years. Attendance for the institutes reflects faculty members' continued interest in teaching effectiveness and the Center's effort in offering programs that meet their needs and interests. Figure 4 shows the attendance for the fall and spring Teaching Effectiveness Institute for the last five academic years.

Teaching Assistant Orientation

Since Fall 2003, the Center has been offering daylong Teaching Assistant Orientations at the beginning of fall and spring semesters. These orientations are attended by graduate teaching assistants, research assistants, and staff assistants at NIU. The Fall TA Orientation usually includes a series of presentations in the morning for all attendees and concurrent sessions on different topics of interest in the afternoon. The sessions are presented by NIU faculty, staff, and GTAs. Since Spring 2004, the spring TA Orientation has included a series of sessions on a number of advanced teaching topics of interest for all attendees.

In spring 2009, Center staff decided not to offer a spring TA Orientation but allowed TAs to attend the spring '09 Teaching Effectiveness Institute so that they could have the opportunity to attend a workshop on an advanced topic on teaching.

Participation in TA Orientations is voluntary for graduate teaching assistants from a majority of academic units, but some academic units require their graduate teaching assistants to participate in the orientation. Many academic units require their GTAs to participate in the fall TA Orientation, but not in the spring TA Orientation. Fall 2008 TA Orientation included a series of presentations in the morning for all attendees and the afternoon

sessions included 5 concurrent sessions on different topics of interest to GTAs.

Figure 5 shows TA Orientation participation since Fall 2003, the first year the Center was in charge of the program. Similar to faculty programs, attendance for GTA programs also varies from year to year due to a number of factors including the topics of programs, name recognition of invited speakers, incentives, such as lunch or door prizes offered to participants, date, and time of program offerings, and whether program participation is required by academic units or not.

Teaching effectiveness programs offered by the Center during 2008-2009

"Fall 2008 TA Orientation," facilitated by Center staff on August 19, 2008.

"Designing Group Work for Meaningful Learning," by Janet Giesen on August 28, 2008.

"Scaffolding to Improve Learning," by Janet Giesen on September 10, 2008.

"Accountability Pressures and Their Impact on Regional Accreditation," and "Understanding and Using Assessment Results," offered by Linda Suskie (Middle States Commission on Higher Education) on September 12, 2008 sponsored by the Office of Assessment Services.

"Constructivism: A Holistic Approach to Teaching," was offered by Janet Giesen on September 25, 2008.

"Online Teaching Series: Principles of Effective Online Course Design," was offered by Janet Giesen on September 26, 2008.

"Presidential Teaching Professor Seminar: Innovation Management in Local Government," was offered by Gerald Gabris (Division of Public Administration) on October 7, 2008. Sponsored by

the Office of the Provost.

“Rubrics for Meaningful Evaluation and Assessment,” offered by Janet Giesen on October 23, 2008.

“Critical Thinking for the 21st Century Student,” offered for GTAs by Bonniejean Hinde (Communication) on October 30, 2008.

“Gagne’s Nine Events of Instruction,” offered by Janet Giesen on November 6, 2008.

“Teaching Large Classes,” by Janet Giesen on November 19, 2008.

“Using PowerPoint to Engage and Motivate Students,” was facilitated by Janet Giesen on December 18, 2008.

“Teaching Effectiveness Institute: Teaching Inclusively: An Approach to the Dynamics of Diversity in the University Classroom,” was facilitated by Maurianne Adams (University of Massachusetts Amherst) on January 8, 2009 sponsored by Office of Assessment Services.

“Appreciative Inquiry: A Positive, High Engagement Process and Philosophy for Increasing Teaching and Institutional Effectiveness,” was facilitated by Ray Wells (Company of Experts) on January 9, 2009.

“Delivering Effective Lectures,” was offered by Janet Giesen on January 22, 2009.

“Microteaching (No, That Doesn’t Mean Tiny



Rick Ridnour presents the Presidential Teaching Professor Seminar March 18, 2009.

Classes),” was offered by Stephanie Richter on February 11, 2009.

“Teaching with the Revised Bloom’s Taxonomy,” was offered by Janet Giesen on February 12, 2009.

“Understanding and Integrating Teaching and Learning Styles,” offered by Janet Giesen on February 25, 2009.

“Presidential Teaching Professor Seminar: Using Video-Taped Role Plays to Simulate Reality,” offered by Rick Ridnour (Department of Marketing) on March 18, 2009. Sponsored by the Office of the Provost.

“Electronic Feedback to Enhance Teaching and Learning,” offered by Janet Giesen on March 19, 2009.

“Leave No Outcome Behind: Teaching, Learning and Assessment,” and “Getting Students Involved in Assessment,” offered by Susan Hatfield (Winona State University) on March 20, 2009.

“Effective Delivery Techniques: Little Things that Make a Big Difference,” offered by Stephanie Richter on March 25, 2009.

“Dynamic Classroom Discussions,” offered by Janet Giesen on March 31, 2009.

“Problem-Based Learning,” offered by Janet Giesen on April 15, 2009.

“Greener Teaching Techniques,” presented by Stephanie Richter on April 22, 2009.

“Introduction to Online Teaching and Learning,” presented by Janet Giesen, with Stephanie Richter on April 30, 2009.

“Religious Diversity in the Classroom,” presented by Leroy Mitchell (Former Director of CHANCE Program), Sabiha Daudi (Department of Teaching and Learning), and Murali Krishnamurthi on May 12, 2009 at the Multicultural Curriculum Transformation Institute.

“Designing a Writing-Enhanced Course,” offered by Brad Peters (English) on May 21, 2009.

“Teaching A New Course,” offered by Janet Giesen on May 27, 2009.

“Writing Goals and Objectives: There is a Difference,” offered by Janet Giesen on June 10, 2009.



Constance Staley interacts with a participant during the Teaching Effectiveness Institute on August 13, 2009

“Creating and Delivering Effective PowerPoint Presentations,” offered by Janet Giesen on June 24, 2009.

“Formative and Summative Feedback for Teaching and Learning,” offered by Janet Giesen on July 8, 2009.

“Concept Mapping for Teaching and Learning,” offered by Janet Giesen on July 30, 2009.

“Teaching Effectiveness Institute: Fundamental Principles of Effective Instruction,” facilitated by Janet Giesen on August 13, 2009.

“Teaching Effectiveness Institute: Teaching Strategies to Help First-Year Students Do Their Best,” offered by Constance Staley (University of Colorado, Colorado Springs) on August 14, 2009.

Technology Integration

The Center promotes technology integration into teaching, courses, and curricula through the following activities and services:

- Offer workshops, seminars, institutes, and related programs on integrating a wide range of technologies into teaching.

- Provide a laboratory environment for faculty to experiment with instructional technologies.
- Serve as the initial point of contact for faculty teaching online credit courses.
- Offer training programs on Blackboard, web course management software and online pedagogy.
- Make available resources on instructional technologies and related topics.
- Collaborate with other units to provide support for faculty in integrating instructional technologies.

The Center views technology integration as part of teaching effectiveness and not independent of teaching. Technology integration programs offered by the Center focus on both pedagogy and technology skills and range from the integration of basic instructional technologies to advanced multimedia technologies.

Technology integration programs offered by the Center during 2008-2009

“Blackboard I: Introduction to Blackboard,” offered by:

- Jason Rhode on August 18, 2008.
- Jason Rhode on August 22, 2008.
- Olga Urban on September 11, 2008.
- Olga Urban on October 3, 2008.
- Olga Urban on November 5, 2008.
- Jason Rhode and Stephanie Richter on December 15, 2008.
- Olga Urban on January 13, 2009.
- Olga Urban and Stephanie Richter on February 6, 2009.
- Olga Urban on March 4, 2009.
- Olga Urban on April 1, 2009.
- Jason Rhode on June 4, 2009.
- Olga Urban on July 15, 2009.

“New Tools and Features in Blackboard,” offered by Jason Rhode on August 20, 2008.

“Blackboard II: Building Your Blackboard Course,” offered by Jason Rhode on:

- August 26, 2008.
- October 7, 2008.
- February 10, 2009.
- March 16, 2009.
- June 25, 2009
- July 23, 2009.

“Effective Teaching with Interactive Pen (SMART Panel) Displays,” offered by Janet Giesen and Dan Cabrera on:

- August 27, 2008.
- January 27, 2009.

“Multimedia Sampler,” offered by Dan Cabrera on September 3, 2008.

“Promoting Online Collaboration with Wimba Classroom in Blackboard,” offered by:

- Jason Rhode and Dan Cabrera on September 9, 2008.
- Dan Cabrera and Olga Urban on December 4, 2008.
- Dan Cabrera and Jason Rhode on February 19, 2009.
- Dan Cabrera and Olga Urban on June 11, 2009.

“Blackboard Open Lab,” offered by:

- Jason Rhode and Olga Urban on September 15, 2008.
- Olga Urban and Jason Rhode on October 28, 2008.
- Olga Urban on November 12, 2008.
- Olga Urban on December 10, 2008.
- Olga Urban and Stephanie Richter on January 16, 2009.
- Olga Urban and Jason Rhode on February 25, 2009.
- Olga Urban and Jason Rhode on April 3, 2009

“Configuring the Blackboard Gradebook,” was offered by Olga Urban on September 17, 2008.

“Podcast Series: Audio Podcasting,” was offered by Dan Cabrera on:

- September 17, 2008.
- October 24, 2008.
- February 17, 2009.
- June 18, 2009.

“Online Teaching Series: Overview of Online Teaching and Learning,” was offered by Dan Cabrera and Jason Rhode on September 19, 2008.

“Introduction to Blackboard Communities,” was offered by:

- Jason Rhode on September 23, 2008.
- Olga Urban on September 27, 2008.
- Jason Rhode on January 20, 2009.

“Blackboard Communication Tools,” was offered by Olga Urban on:

- October 1, 2008.
- April 14, 2009.

“Advanced Video Editing,” was offered by Dan Cabrera on October 9, 2008.

“Capturing Audio on Your Computer,” was offered by Dan Cabrera on October 15, 2008.



Jason Rhode presents a session at the Teaching with Technology Institute on June 6, 2009

“Conducting Online Office Hours Using Wimba,” offered by Jason Rhode on October 16, 2008.

“Online Teaching Series: Strategies for Promoting Communication in the online Learning Environment,” offered by Olga Urban and Dan Cabrera on October 17, 2008.

“Plagiarism Prevention Using Blackboard SafeAssign,” offered by Olga Urban on:

- October 22, 2008.
- February 23, 2009.
- Special workshop for College of Business faculty and staff on February 27, 2009.

“Online Teaching Series: Introduction to Online Course Construction,” offered by Janet Giesen on October 31, 2008.

“Short Focused Tutorials,” offered by:

- Dan Cabrera on November 4, 2008.
- Stephanie Richter on March 17, 2009.
- Stephanie Richter on June 17, 2009.

“Special Workshop: Wimba for Student Affairs,” offered by Dan Cabrera on November 6, 2008.

“Online Teaching Series: Redesigning a Face-to-



Stephanie Richer presents a teaching with technology workshop in the Altgeld 100 facility

Face Lesson for Online Delivery,” offered by Dan Cabrera on November 7, 2008.

“Using the Blackboard Content Collection to Manage Your Course Content,” offered by Olga Urban on November 13, 2008.

“Using Online Assessment to Facilitate Teaching and Learning,” offered by Jason Rhode on November 14, 2008.

“Redesigning Course Materials for Online Delivery,” by Jason Rhode on November 18, 2008.

“Mac Series: Introduction to GarageBand,” by Jason Rhode on November 20, 2008.

“End-of-Semester Considerations for Your Blackboard Course,” by Olga Urban on:

- December 2, 2008.
- April 28, 2009.

“Developing Discussion Board Assignments for Large Classes in Blackboard (N>40),” by Dan Cabrera on December 3, 2008.

“Clickers in the Classroom,” was facilitated by:

- Olga Urban on January 7, 2009.
- Janet Giesen and Olga Urban on June 3, 2009.
- Janet Giesen and Olga Urban on August 11, 2009.

“Creating Branching Tutorials in PowerPoint,” was offered by Stephanie Richter on:

- January 21, 2009.
- April 9, 2009.
- July 22, 2009.

“Creating and Sustaining Groups in Blackboard,” was offered by Jason Rhode on January 28, 2009.

“Special Workshop: Clickers in the Classroom for Department of Allied Health and Communicative Disorders,” offered by Olga Urban and Janet Giesen on February 6, 2009.

“Quick and Simple Creation of Educational Tutorials,” was offered by Jason Rhode on February 13, 2009.

“Blackboard Assessment Tools,” offered by Olga Urban on February 18, 2009.

“Structuring Your Online Course in Blackboard,” offered by Stephanie Richter on February 24, 2009.

“Developing Discussion Board Assignments with Large Classes in Blackboard,” offered by Dan Cabrera on February 26, 2009.

“Online Teaching Brown Bag,” offered by:

- Jason Rhode, Stephanie Richter, and Olga Urban on March 6, 2009.
- Jason Rhode and Olga Urban on April 10, 2009.

“New Tools and Features in Blackboard 7.3,” offered by Jason Rhode on March 3, 2009.

“Quality and Engagement in Online Courses,” offered by Burks Oakley (University of Illinois at Springfield) on March 6, 2009. Sponsored by College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

“Special Workshop: Technology for Online Teaching and Learning,” offered by Jason Rhode for the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Online Faculty Institute on March 20, 2009.

“Tracking Student Performance in Blackboard Using the Early Warning System,” offered by Olga Urban on March 24, 2009.

“Advanced Short Focused Online Tutorials,” offered by Dan Cabrera on March 26, 2009.

“Basic Video Capture and Editing,” offered by Dan Cabrera on March 30, 2009.

“Advanced Video Editing,” offered by Dan Cabrera on April 7, 2009.

“Using Wiki-Based Collaborative Authoring in the Lab and Classroom to Enhance Writing and Understanding,” by James Horn (Chemistry and Biochemistry) on April 16, 2009 as part of the David W. Raymond Grant for the Use of Technology in Teaching Presentation and Award Reception.

“Special Workshop: Blackboard Assessment Tools,” presented to the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Online Institute participants by Olga Urban on April 17, 2009.

“Podcast Series: Video Podcasting,” presented by Dan Cabrera on April 21, 2009.

“Requesting and Combining Blackboard Courses,” presented by Jason Rhode on April 23, 2009.

“Blackboard 8.0 Grade Center Preview,” presented by Jason Rhode on May 11, 2009.

“SLATE Midwest Blackboard Users Group,” coordinated by Jason Rhode on May 13, 2009.

“Blackboard 8.0 Self and Peer Assessment Preview,” offered by Stephanie Richter on:

- May 19, 2009.
- July 7, 2009
- August 12, 2009.

“Free Software Tools for the Classroom,” offered by Stephanie Richter on June 2, 2009.

“Teaching with Technology Institute,” offered on June 9, 2009 by:

- Dan Cabrera, “Collaborating through Mobile Devices.”
- Stephanie Richter, “Collaborating through Writing.”
- Jason Rhode, “Collaborating through Media.”
- Olga Urban, “Collaboration through Communication.”

“Online Teaching Series: Principles of Effective Online Course Design,” was offered by Dan Cabrera, Janet Giesen, Stephanie Richter and Olga



Dan Cabrera presents a teaching with technology workshop in the Altgeld 100 facility

Urban on June 16, 2009.

“Using Blackboard Content Collection,” offered by Olga Urban on June 23, 2009.

“Quick and Easy Video Editing Using iMovie,” offered by Dan Cabrera on July 16, 2009.

“Special Workshop: Enhancing PowerPoint Tutorials,” offered by Stephanie Richter on July 20, 2009 for eLearning Services.

“Blackboard 8.0 Grade Center I: Special Features,” offered by Jason Rhode on July 23, 2009.

“Blackboard 8.0 Grade Center II,” offered by Jason Rhode on July 28, 2009.

“Blackboard 8.0 Grade Center Overview,” offered by Jason Rhode on August 5, 2009.

“TwTI Showcase for Council of Deans,” offered by Jason Rhode and Dan Cabrera on August 12, 2009.

Facilities for experimenting with technologies

The Center has a twelve-station Collaboratory in Adams Hall Room 323 and a Digital Multimedia Studio in Adams Hall Room 334 with 4 PC workstations, 2 Mac stations, and a DVD duplicating station. The facilities are maintained by the Center for faculty, staff, and graduate teaching assistants to experiment with technologies, as well as for Center staff to conduct workshops on basic to advanced digital multimedia technologies.

Larger technology integration workshops are held in the Instructional Technology Teaching Laboratory in Altgeld Hall Room 100 or University Libraries’ computing facilities located in Founders Library Room 297.

Online teaching initiatives

During 2008-2009, the Center developed and delivered several new workshops for assisting faculty with online teaching and learning. These workshops covered a variety of topics, including advanced features of Blackboard and the following instructional technologies: Wikis, Blogs, Podcasting, Social Bookmarking, Screencasting, Social Networking, Synchronous Collaboration, Mobile Technologies, and Personal Response Systems. The focus of these workshops was not

only to introduce faculty to advanced technologies, but also to help faculty integrate sound pedagogical techniques in their teaching.

The third Teaching with Technology Institute, held in June 2009, served as yet another venue for introducing these emerging technologies to the NIU teaching community. Center staff provided an overview of the aforementioned instructional technologies and shared with participants examples of how these technologies can be harnessed to enhance the teaching and learning environment. Hands-on activities afforded faculty the opportunity to experience the technologies first-hand and explore the pedagogical possibilities for incorporating these new technologies into teaching.

Building on the success of previous hands-on workshops on online teaching, the Center developed and offered during summer 2009, the new program “Online Teaching 101”. This program provided participants with a systematic overview of the various pedagogical and pragmatic considerations necessary in offering a quality online learning experience for students.

For the Online Teaching 101 program, participants met for an initial face-to-face orientation. The next five sessions were conducted online in Blackboard and structured as weekly modules of an online course. Each module included a variety of engaging and interactive activities (both synchronous and asynchronous) providing participants a taste of what it is like to be an online student. Topics covered included:

1. Overview of Online Teaching and Learning



Participants at a teaching with technology workshop in the Altgeld 100 training facility

2. Principles of Effective Online Course Design
3. Technologies for Online Teaching and Learning
4. Considerations for Content Use and Development
5. Strategies for Promoting Communication Online
6. Online Assessment Tools to Facilitate Teaching and Learning
7. Steps to Developing Your Own Online Course.

The sessions were well received and plans have been made to continue offering the Online Teaching 101 in the future.

Additionally, Center staff assisted numerous individual faculty members with their online teaching needs related to developing, organizing and delivering materials and evaluating students in the online environment. Many faculty members scheduled regular consultation sessions with Center staff both before and during their first semester of online teaching. These sessions provided them the opportunity to review what was working and inquire about new strategies they would like to implement.

During 2008-2009, Center staff continued to be active with the Blackboard Administrative and Blackboard Status groups, and handled faculty and teaching assistants' calls for assistance using Blackboard for teaching. This involvement included organizing the campus-wide pilot of the Wimba Classroom online collaboration suite and its integration to the Blackboard Learning System environment as well as organizing the design and development by ITS of a custom Blackboard Building Block for exporting final grades from the Blackboard Grade Center to MyNIU. Focus groups

seeking faculty input for the grade export tool were conducted during Summer 2009 with plans for development, pilot, and implementation of this new tool during Fall 2009.

The Wimba Classroom online collaboration suite was successfully implemented in Blackboard during the 2008-2009 academic year. Wimba Classroom is a feature-rich, online collaboration suite integrated with Blackboard that allows educators and students to engage in real-time interactions that include audio, video, and instructional content. As of Fall 2009, over 250 Wimba Classrooms have been created and are being used by NIU faculty. Utilizing Wimba Classroom, the Center began offering online workshops that faculty/staff and TAs could attend online or view archived versions at their convenience.

In May 2009, the Blackboard Learning System was upgraded to version 8.0 and Center staff assisted with the testing of the upgraded system. Center staff updated Blackboard Support materials on the Web to reflect new features available in version 8.0.

There has been a steady increase in the use of Blackboard during the past five years, as evidenced by the data on Blackboard usage provided in Tables 1 through 4. As evident from the tables, from spring 2005 to summer 2009, the number of faculty using Blackboard to teach credit courses has doubled at NIU.

The increase in use of Blackboard would not have been possible without the collaborative efforts of ITS, Registration and Records, and Faculty Development and Instructional Design Center for administering and supporting Blackboard, training faculty and graduate teaching assistants on

Table 1. No. of Students Using Blackboard

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
	18,406	19,399	20,319	21,171	21,156
Summer	4,248	4,592	5,348	5,811	6,259
Fall	20,596	22,625	22,873	22,752	

Table 2. No. of Faculty Using Blackboard

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
	618	702	721	880	1,110
	202	231	271	300	351
	667	865	909	1,070	

Table 3. No. of Course Sections on Blackboard

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
	1,272	1,314	1,445	1,827	2,150
Summer	236	239	287	351	418
Fall	1,314	1,857	1,876	2,084	

Table 4. No. of Course Enrollments on Blackboard

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
	45,192	48,842	56,267	65,916	70,462
	5,525	5,713	7,075	8,082	9,169
	50,229	69,126	71,311	73,215	

Blackboard by Center staff, the support of technical staff at various colleges and departments, and the enthusiasm of faculty and students at NIU for using online technologies.

Research and Scholarly Activities

The Center considers teaching, research, and scholarly activities as part of scholarship. The Center promotes research and scholarly activities through the following activities and services:

- Encourage collaborative research and scholarly efforts across disciplines.
- Refer faculty to appropriate resource units that support research and scholarly activities at NIU, and convey faculty needs to these units.
- Seek externally funded projects to support faculty development activities.
- Sponsor programs on research and scholarly activities with the help of other units.
- Facilitate weekly Writing Circle for faculty members.

During 2008-2009, the Center arranged the workshop, “Write Well, Publish More!” by Brad Peters (English) for a third consecutive year on May 28, 2009.

Sponsored Projects

The Center submitted or participated with other units on campus in the submission of the following proposals to internal and external agencies to obtain funding during 2008-2009:

“Training Teachers to Promote NCLI within NCLB to Promote Environmental Education,” proposal submitted to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Chicago, Illinois, \$26,689 for September 2008-August 2009. Co-Principal Investigators: Sabiha Daudi (Teaching and Learning) and Murali Krishnamurthi. Proposal funded.

The following two day-long workshops were held as part of the above mentioned project:

“Integrating NCLI within NCLB: Workshop for Educators,” was offered by Sabiha Daudi (Teaching and Learning) on January 10, 2009 for K-12 teachers.

“Integrating NCLI within NCLB: Workshop for Educators,” was offered by Sabiha Daudi (Teaching and Learning) on January 24, 2009 for K-12 teachers.

Professional Development

The Center provides professional development opportunities to faculty and supportive professional staff through the following activities and services:

- Arrange mentors for new faculty who request such support.
- Provide career consultation services to faculty.
- Offer professional development grants to faculty and supportive professional staff.
- Serve as a referral resource to faculty for their professional needs.
- Assist the Office of the Provost in hosting the New Faculty Forum for new tenure-track faculty and the Faculty Leadership Initiative.
- Convey faculty needs to the Provost’s Office, and foster faculty development.

During 2008-2009, the Center offered professional development programs of varying durations on a number of topics of interest to faculty and academic supportive professional staff. The Center invited 4 nationally or regionally recognized presenters to offer workshops on various topics on professional development.

- Walter Gmelch (University of San Francisco)
- Mimi Wolverton (University of Nevada-Las



Sabiha Daudi presents the Integrating NCLI within NCLB workshop on April 25, 2009

Vegas)

- Patrice Buzzanell (Purdue University)
- Rusty Barceló (University of Minnesota)

During 2008-2009, the Center coordinated the New Faculty Forum for the Office of the Provost and also arranged a number of development programs for faculty, staff, and graduate teaching assistants. The professional development programs offered during 2008-2009 include:

“New Faculty Forum,” coordinated by Center Staff for the Office of the Provost on August 21, 2008.

“Positive Leadership and Managing Conflict: Mending the Cracks in the Ivory Tower,” a presentation by Walter Gmelch, (Dean, Education, University of San Francisco) for department chairs on October 3, 2008.

“Management and Leadership,” by Mimi Wolverton, Professor Emerita, Educational Leadership, University of Nevada-Las Vegas presented on October 31, 2008 for the Faculty Leadership Initiative.

“MBTI and Leadership,” by Nancy Apperson (Employee Assistance Program) on October 31, 2008 for the Faculty Leadership Initiative.

“Maintaining Constructive Relationships In and Out of the Classroom,” offered by Lois Self (Communication), Bill Minor (Sociology), and Deborah Haliczzer (Employee Relations) on November 11, 2008.

“What I know Now that I Wish I Could Have Known Then: Reflections and Tips for Potential Leaders,” by Joe Grush (Vice Provost for Resource Planning) on December 12, 2008 for the Faculty Leadership Initiative.

“Perspectives on University Leadership: Current NIU Leaders Panel Presentation,” by Harold Kafer, (Deputy Provost), Chris McCord, (Dean, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences), Mary Pritchard, (Associate Dean, College of Health and Human Sciences), and Lemuel Watson (Dean, College of Education) on December 12, 2008 for the Faculty Leadership Initiative.

“Conflict Management and the Academy,” by Alan Rosenbaum (NIU Faculty Personnel Advisor) on

December 12, 2008 for the Faculty Leadership Initiative.

“Boundary Issues and Conflicts: Administrative Responsibilities,” by Deborah Haliczzer (Employee Relations) on December 12, 2008 for the Faculty Leadership Initiative.

“MBTI, Leadership, and Dealing with Difficult Conversations,” by Nancy Apperson (Employee Assistance Program) on December 12, 2008 for the Faculty Leadership Initiative.

“Communication: Current Trends in Higher Education,” Patrice Buzzanell (Purdue University) on January 30, 2009 for the Faculty Leadership Initiative.

“Community College Relationships: Future Challenges and Opportunities,” presented by Anne Kaplan (Vice President for Administration and University Outreach) and Virginia Cassidy (Vice Provost for Academic Planning and Development) for department chairs on February 19, 2009.

“Where the Rubber Meets the Road: Panel Discussion on Chairing an NIU Academic Department,” by Alex Gelman (Theatre and Dance), Sarah Marsh (Management), Sue Ouellette (Allied Health and Communicative Disorders), Greg Waas (Psychology) on February 27, 2009 for the Faculty Leadership Initiative.



Walter Gmelch presents the Department Chair Development workshop on October 8, 2008

“Personnel Matters: Criteria-based Merit Evaluations,” by Lemuel Watson (Dean, College of Education) on February 27, 2009 for the Faculty Leadership Initiative.

“Administrative Responsibilities and Avoiding Pitfalls: Boundary Issues and Conflicts of Interest,” by Deborah Haliczzer (Employee Relations) on February 27, 2009 for the Faculty Leadership Initiative.

“How Leaders Can Have Positive Impact, Even in Tough Times: Some Basic Principles,” by Joe Grush (Vice Provost for Resource Planning) on February 27, 2009 for the Faculty Leadership Initiative.

“Reframing Diversity in Higher Education for the 21st Century,” by Rusty Barceló (University of Minnesota) on March 27, 2009 for the Faculty Leadership Initiative.

“Panel Presentations and Reactions by Chairs of NIU Presidential Commissions,” by Norden Gilbert (Presidential Commission on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity), Greg Long (Presidential Commission on Persons with Disabilities), Rhonda Robinson (Presidential Commission on the Status of Women), and Kay Shelton (Presidential Commission on the Status of Minorities) on March 27, 2009 for the Faculty Leadership Initiative.

“Moving Forward Together: Affirmative Action and Diversity Resources at NIU,” Roselyn Snell (Assistant Director of Outreach, Affirmative Action and Diversity Resources) on March 27, 2009 for the Faculty Leadership Initiative.



Lois Self introduces the panel at the Faculty Leadership Initiative on March 27, 2009

“Enrollment Management Roles and Responsibilities of Departments,” by Earl J. Seaver (Vice Provost) and Brent Gage (Assistant Vice Provost for Enrollment Services) for department chairs on April 9, 2009.

“Leadership and Team Building,” by Terrence Bishop (Management) on April 24, 2009 for the Faculty Leadership Initiative.

“Panel Discussion on Team Building and Collaboration,” by Carolinda Douglass (Director, Office of Assessment Services and Professor of Public and Community Health), Karen L. Baker (Assistant Vice President, Human Resource Services), and Kurt Thurmaier (Director and Professor, Division of Public Administration) on April 24, 2009 for the Faculty Leadership Initiative.

“Former NIU Leaders Reflect on Leadership, Career Choices and Balance,” by Lynne Waldeland, (Interim Provost, Retired), Clark Neher (Director, Center for Southeast Asian Studies, Retired), Jim Lockard (Director, The Learning Center, Retired) on May 8, 2009 for the Faculty Leadership Initiative.

“New Academic Administrator Forum,” coordinated by Murali Krishnamurthi for the Office of the Provost on August 6, 2009.

In addition to inviting presenters to offer workshops on professional development topics, Center staff worked on a number of projects for the Office of the Provost. These projects included:

- Faculty Leadership Initiative planning and development (facilitated by Lois Self)
- Sabbatical Outcomes Survey design and implementation (Murali Krishnamurthi)
- Collegiality Statement development (Kay Forest and Murali Krishnamurthi)
- Chair Handbook development (Kay Forest and Murali Krishnamurthi)
- Diversity Initiatives Website development (Jason Rhode)
- Digital Measures Faculty Activity Insight System implementation (Murali Krishnamurthi)

Professional Development Grants

During 2008-2009, the Center coordinated the following grant programs:

- Faculty Development Grants.
- Supportive Professional Development Grants.
- David Raymond Grant for the Use of Technology in Teaching.

The Center offered the following development grant writing seminars during 2008-2009:

“Faculty Development Grant Writing Seminar,” offered by Brenda Hodges on October 6, 2008.

“Supportive Professional Staff Development Grant Writing Seminar,” offered by Brenda Hodges on November 3, 2008.

Development Grants were suspended for the July to December 2009 cycle due to budget constraints.

Faculty Development Grants: Faculty Development and Instructional Design Center offers a number of development grants annually in two cycles (depending on the budget situation) to regular, continuing faculty (tenured or tenure track). The purpose of these grants is to encourage and support faculty development activities, such as attending/arranging workshops or seminars on teaching effectiveness, new learning that includes supplemental training that is not available on campus, learning or development of new technologies for teaching, and career redirection.



Pi-Sui Hsu, recipient of the 2009 David Raymond Grant Award with Provost Alden

Faculty development grant recipients received a maximum of \$2,000 each from the Center. They were required to submit a formal proposal, indicate matching funds, include letters of support from their academic units, and submit final reports after completing their development activities. The following faculty members were awarded faculty development grants during 2008-2009:

Grants Awarded for July to December 2008:

- Sonya Armstrong (Literacy Education)
- Charles Carter (Kinesiology & Physical Education)
- Meri Goehring (Allied Health Professions)
- William Goldenberg (Music)
- Ashley Nason (Art)

Grants Awarded for January to June 2009:

- Judith Chitwood (Theatre & Dance)
- Lorraine Schmall (College of Law)

Supportive Professional Staff Development Grants:

Similar to faculty development grants, Faculty Development and Instructional Design Center and Human Resource Services offer Supportive Professional Staff Development grants annually in two cycles to Supportive Professional Staff at NIU.

The purpose of the SPS grants is similar to that of faculty development grants, and the recipients are offered a maximum of \$1,000 each. They were required to submit a formal proposal and a letter of support from their supervisors, and submit final reports after completing their development activities. The following SP were awarded grants during 2008-2009:

Grants Awarded for July to December 2008:

- Deborah Booth (Office of External Programs, College of Visual & Performing Arts)
- Gail Jacky (University Writing Center)
- Karen Schnite (Public Opinion Laboratory)

Grants Awarded for January to June 2009:

- Julia Lamb (Center for Southeast Asian Studies)
- Patricia Wallace (Psychology)

[David Raymond Grant for the Use of Technology in Teaching](#): This grant is sponsored by Mr. David Raymond, former Member of NIU Board of Trustees, the Office of the Provost, and the NIU Foundation. One recipient is awarded \$2,500 through the grant each year and required to give a public presentation of grant outcomes.

The 2009 grant was awarded to Pi-Sui Hsu (Educational, Technology, Research and Assessment) at a formal reception on April 16, 2009. At this reception, James Horn (Chemistry and Biochemistry) presented the accomplishments of the grant project he was awarded in 2008.

Recognitions

In spring 2004, the Center established the Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant Award to recognize the contributions of graduate teaching assistants to the teaching mission of NIU.

The award review subcommittee of the Faculty Development Advisory Committee reviewed the nominations for the awards and selected the following three recipients for 2009:

- Nicole Allgood (Leadership, Educational Psychology and Foundations)
- Ed Hansen (Psychology)
- Geoff Rogal (Political Science)



Recipients of the 2009 Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant Awards with Interim Vice President for Research, James Erman

Each recipient of the award was presented with a plaque and recognized at the Graduate Student Reception sponsored by the Graduate School on April 22, 2009.

Consultations, Requests, and Referrals

Apart from offering workshops on teaching, technology integration, research and scholarly activities, and development grants, Center staff offer consultations, requests, and referrals to other units on campus and requests for information on a range of issues for faculty, academic Supportive Professional Staff, and graduate teaching assistants. A majority of the consultations were on technology issues, especially on the use of Blackboard web course management system for teaching purposes.

During 2008-2009, Center offered a total of 783 consultations, requests, and referrals to 345 faculty, staff, and graduate teaching assistants. Many of these required numerous consultations of varying durations during the same period, and some were offered to groups of faculty on technology issues.

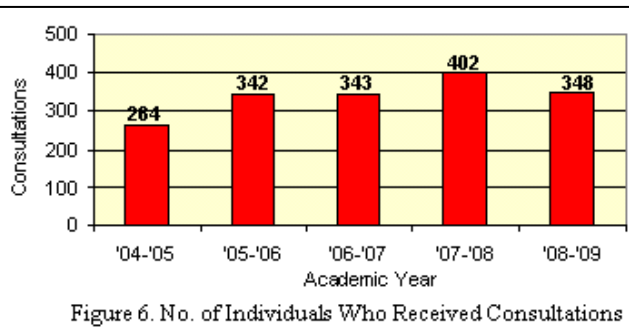
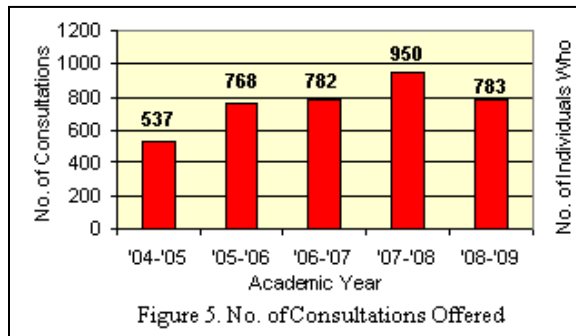
Figures 5 and 6 show the number of consultations offered by Center staff each academic year for the past five years, and the number of individuals (tallied monthly and added annually) who received such consultations. The consultations ranged from half an hour to several hours, and took place face-to-face, online, or via the telephone.

Aside from the mentioned consultations, Janet Giesen, Instructional Design Coordinator, at the Center, offered detailed classroom observations and feedback for faculty who requested such support during 2008-2009.

Resources

Center staff developed or acquired and made available during 2008-2009 numerous resources on various topics of interest to faculty, staff, and graduate teaching assistants in fulfilling NIU's mission on teaching and scholarly activities. These include:

- Blog
- Resources for Teaching After a Crisis
- Podcasts



- Quick Tips for Effective Instruction
- Tutorials on academic integrity, responsible conduct of research, effective writing practices, and teaching effectiveness.

Apart from the previously mentioned resources, Center staff maintained the following computing facilities with the assistance of Michael Vannoy, Information Technology Coordinator at the Center, during 2008-2009:

- A twelve-station Windows-based Collaboratory with various general-purpose software, Symposium Interactive Pen Display, laser printers and scanners, a projection system for workshops and for faculty to experiment with a variety of instructional technologies.
- A six-station Digital Multimedia Studio where faculty can experiment with multimedia content and develop instructional materials (managed by Daniel Cabrera, Multimedia Coordinator at the Center).
- A Teaching Resource Room with books and videos, PC, TV, VCR and DVD player setup for faculty and teaching assistants to view instructional videos.
- A small conference room with a projection system for seminars and workshops.
- A small work group of 16 workstations for Center staff and graduate assistants.
- Five file servers: Servers are used as development servers for the Program Registration Databases and file sharing, a testing environment and temporary backup system, for multimedia streaming video, and for programs and staff files. A fifth server is a

Linux server which is used for podcasts blogs and other online content.

- Four PC laptops and seven Mac laptops, five video-data projectors are used to deliver workshops for faculty and staff at different locations on campus.

The Center's Collaboratory and Digital Multimedia Studio were regularly used by individual and small groups of faculty and supportive professional staff for experimentation as well as developing materials during 2008-2009.

Center staff moderated the following listservs that served as both informational and networking resources for faculty:

- New Faculty Virtual Forum
- Faculty Development and Instructional Design Center Listserv
- Graduate and Teaching Assistant Listserv

Center staff also posted information on other listservs on campus to disseminate information about Center's programs, grant opportunities, etc., and periodically issued news releases through Northern Today and other media resources at NIU. Notices of new resources and news items were also posted on Facebook and Twitter as well as made available by RSS feeds.

Publications and Presentations

Center's publications during 2008-2009 included the following newsletters every fall and spring:

- "Spectrum" newsletter for faculty and supportive professional staff.
- "TA Connections" newsletter for graduate teaching assistants.

The following is a list of presentations and publications by Center staff at various conferences, and professional meetings 2008-2009:

Giesen, J. (2008, Sept. 8). Creating and delivering effective PowerPoint presentations. Presented for UNIV 101 instructors group, NIU.

Krishnamurthi, M. (2009, June 17.) Scaffolding techniques for improving engineering students' writing skills. Proceedings of the 2009 ASEE Conference on Engineering Education. Austin, Texas.

Rhode, J. F., & Constant, S. (2008, Oct. 10). Trends in education and technology: Best practices in online instruction. Presented at the 2008 SLATE Conference, Chicago, IL.

Rhode, J. F. (2008, Nov. 7). Using educational social software to foster socially constructed self-paced learning. Presented at the 2008 AECT Convention in Orlando, Florida.

Rhode, J. F. (2009). Interaction equivalency in self-paced online learning environments: An exploration of learner preferences. *The International Review of Research in Open and Distance Learning*, 10(1).

Cabrera, D. M. (2009, May 18-20). Podcasting in Higher Education Learning Team. Facilitator, at Faculty Summer Institute on Teaching and Technologies, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

Cabrera, D. M. (2009, May 19). Audio Podcasting in Blackboard. Presented at Faculty Summer Institute on Teaching and Technologies, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

Rhode, J. F. (2009, May 19). Quick and simple creation of educational tutorials. Presented at Faculty Summer Institute on Teaching Technologies, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

Rhode, J. F. (2009, May 19). Getting started creating web pages with Google Sites. Presented at Faculty Summer Institute on Teaching Technologies, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

Rhode, J. F. (2009, May 20). Web 2.0 gizmos and gadgets. Presented at Faculty Summer Institute on

Teaching Technologies, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

Rhode, J. F. (2009, May 20). Mastering microblogging. Presented at Faculty Summer Institute on Teaching Technologies, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

Center Staff Development

Center staff attended many professional development programs during 2008-2009. Listed below is a sample of professional development activities in which Center staff participated outside NIU:

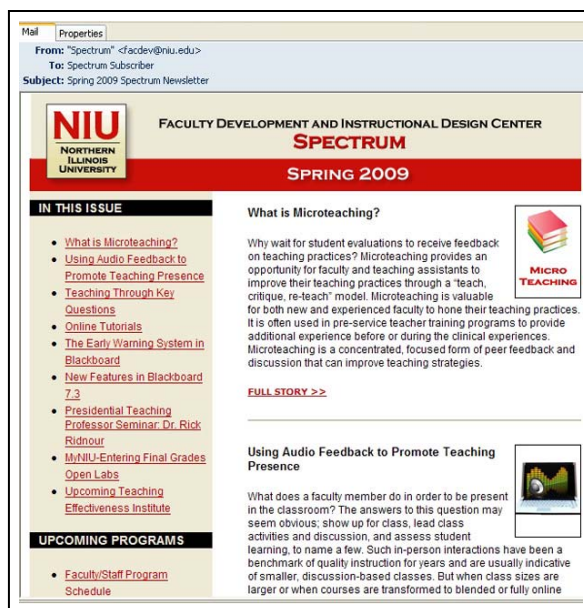
Dan Cabrera, Janet Giesen and Murali Krishnamurthi attended the Creating Significant Learning Experiences workshop on May 29-31, O'Hare, Illinois.

Janet Giesen participated in LGBT Ally training on September 22 and October 9, 2008.

Janet Giesen attended the SPS luncheon presentation, "The Illinois Constitutional Convention," on October 3, 2008.

Michael Vannoy attended the Red Hat Linux Training at Chicago, IL on December 8-12, 2008.

Murali Krishnamurthi attended the International Conference on Information Systems in Paris, France on December 13-17, 2008.



Center's newsletter Spectrum sent to faculty and staff through email from fall 2008

Murali Krishnamurthi attended the American Society for Engineering Education Conference in Austin, Texas on June 15-17, 2009.

Jason Rhode and Olga Urban attended the 2008 Midwest Blackboard Users Group (SLATE) Conference at:

- Chicago State University on October 9-10, 2008.
- Concordia University Chicago on November 19, 2008.
- Roosevelt University on December 17, 2008.
- Moody Bible Institute on February 11, 2009.
- Loyola University, Chicago on April 15, 2009.
- Northern Illinois University on May 13, 2009 with Dan Cabrera and Stephanie Richter.
- College of Lake County on June 17, 2009.

Jason Rhode attended the 2008 Association for Educational Communications and Technology (AECT) Convention on November 5-7, 2008 in Orlando, Florida.

Janet Giesen, Brenda Hodges, and Stephanie Richter attended “Maintaining Constructive Relationships in and out of the Classroom,” on November 11, 2008.

Brenda Hodges and Stephanie Richter attended the Presidential Commission on the Status of Women’s Networking Luncheon on Second Life on November 19, 2008.

Brenda Hodges and Janet Giesen attended the NIU Memorial Quilt Dedication at Founders Library on

January 30, 2009.

Brenda Hodges attended LGBT Awareness Event, “Alone in the Trenches: My Life as a Gay Man in the NFL,” by Esera Tuaolo, on February 12, 2009.

Amy Deegan and Brenda Hodges attended “NIU Remembers: A Legacy of Character,” on February 14, 2009.

Dan Cabrera and Stephanie Richter attended the 2009 Horizon Report Webinar on February 18, 2009.

Janet Giesen, Brenda Hodges, Murali Krishnamurthi and Stephanie Richter attended the NIU Assessment Expo on February 20, 2009.

Janet Giesen attended “The Academic Portfolio,” sponsored by the Presidential Committee on the Status of Women, on February 20, 2009.

Olga Urban participated in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Online Institute on March 6, 2009.

Stephanie Richter attended the “Delivering Instruction using 21st Century Technologies Webinar” on March 10, 2009.

Jason Rhode and Michael Vannoy attended the ITS Let’s Talk: Network Initiatives session on March 19, 2009.

Olga Urban participated in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Online Institute on April 3, 2009.

Olga Urban attended Red Hat Linux Training, April 6-10, 2009.

Jason Rhode attended the Division of Student Affairs Student Culture’s Technology Committee Meeting on April 29, 2009.

Jason Rhode and Michael Vannoy attended the ITS Let’s Talk: ITS Labs session on April 29, 2009.

Jason Rhode attended the Distance Learning Roundtable sponsored by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences with Joel Hartman (Vice Provost for Information Technologies and Resources at the University of Central Florida) on April 29, 2009.

Amy Deegan and Brenda Hodges attended the Green Conference at NIU on July 29, 2009.



A snapshot of the Diversity Initiatives website designed by Jason Rhode

Professional Service and Outreach

Center staff served on numerous formal and informal committees, commissions, task forces, and groups at NIU and contributed their services during 2008-2009. The following list shows a sample of committees that Center staff served:

Murali Krishnamurthi:

- Baccalaureate Review Task Force Steering Committee
- Blackboard Status Group
- Computing Facilities Advisory Committee
- Council of Deans
- Exit Interview Implementation Task Force
- Faculty Activity Insight System Group
- Faculty Development Advisory Committee
- Foundations of Excellence Task Force
- International Educator of the Year Awards and International Week Planning Committee
- Judson Baptist Fellowship (Faculty Advisor)
- Personnel Committee, Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering
- Provost's Department Chair Development Workshop Planning Group
- Provost's Committee on Multicultural Curriculum Transformation
- Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (NIU Chapter Faculty Advisor until 2008)

Jason Rhode:

- Faculty Summer Institute on Learning Technologies Steering Committee

Jason Rhode and Olga Urban:

- Blackboard Administrative Team
- Blackboard Status Team

Center staff also served on numerous organizations outside NIU. The following list shows a sample of service that Center staff provided during 2008-2009 outside NIU:

- Baptist Campus Ministry Board of Directors (Murali Krishnamurthi)

- Chinese Kung-Fu Club of DeKalb, Faculty Advisor (Daniel Cabrera)
- DeKalb County Youth Service Board of Directors, Vice-Chair (Murali Krishnamurthi)
- International Visual Literacy, member and associate editor, Book of Selected Readings (Janet Giesen)
- Wild Ones Natural Landscapers, Ltd., National website committee member and Rock River Valley Chapter member and treasurer (Janet Giesen)
- Wimba Product Advisory Board Member (Jason Rhode)

The following list shows a sample of outreach that Center staff performed during 2008-2009:

- Reviewed conference papers for the 2009 American Society for Engineering Education Conference, January 2009 (Murali Krishnamurthi)
- Reviewed conference papers for the 2009 Illinois-Indiana Regional Conference of the American Society for Engineering Education, February 2009 (Murali Krishnamurthi)
- Reviewed a grant proposal for the Indo-US Science Technology Forum of the Smithsonian Institution, April 2009 (Murali Krishnamurthi)
- Reviewed conference papers for the 2009 Faculty Summer Institute (Jason Rhode)

Assessment

The programs, resources, and services offered by the Center during 2008-2009 were assessed on a regular basis. Center staff collected data using various mechanisms such as program evaluations by participants, six-month follow-up program evaluations, resource usage, consultations, program attendance, mentoring feedback, development grant reports, and unsolicited feedback from Center's clientele.

Data collected as part of the assessment effort was analyzed by the Director, Program Coordinator and other staff at the Center to identify opportunities for improving Center's programs, resources, and services. The results of the assessment effort are documented in the 2008-2009 assessment report.

Advisory Committee

The Center would like to acknowledge the support of the members of the Faculty Development Advisory Committee during 2008-2009.

Committee members actively participated in the programs offered by the Center and reviewed faculty development grant proposals and Outstanding Teaching Award nominations. Faculty Development Advisory Committee's support has been invaluable to the Center. Committee members during 2008-2009 were:

- Therese Arado, Associate Professor, College of Law
- Paula Frasz, Professor, Theatre and Dance
- Judith Hertz, Associate Professor, Nursing and Health Studies
- Gyu Kim, Professor, Operations Management and Information Systems
- Lichuan Liu, Assistant Professor, Electrical Engineering
- Wei Luo, Associate Professor, Geography
- Joseph Scudder, Associate Professor, Communication
- David Stone, Director, Office of Sponsored Projects
- Leanne VandeCreek, Associate Professor and Social Sciences Librarian, University Libraries
- Wei Zheng, Assistant Professor, Counseling, Adult and Higher Education

Center Staff

The following staff members served in full-time capacities at the Center during 2008-2009:

- Daniel Cabrera, Multimedia Coordinator
- Amy Deegan, Office Support Specialist
- Janet Giesen, Instructional Design Coordinator
- Brenda Hodges, Program Coordinator
- Murali Krishnamurthi, Director
- Jason Rhode, Assistant Director
- Stephanie Richter, Instructional Technologies Coordinator (joined October 2008)

- Olga Urban, Online Technologies Coordinator
- Michael Vannoy, Information Technology Coordinator

The following students and graduate assistants served in part-time capacities during 2008-2009 at the Center:

- Matthew Cabrera, Student Employee
- Stephanie Malone, Graduate Assistant
- Ishak Majid Shaik, Graduate Assistant

Awards and Recognitions

During 2008-2009, Center staff achieved several personal and professional recognitions. Listed below is a summary of awards and recognitions received by Center staff during 2008-2009:

Jason Rhode received the 2008 SLATE Star Award in recognition of outstanding contributions and dedicated service to the Midwest Blackboard Users Group (SLATE) on October 10, 2008.

Olga Urban received the Certified Engineer certificate in Red Hat Enterprise Linux 5 in April 2009.

Acknowledgments

The information presented in this report was made possible by all the staff members at the Faculty Development and Instructional Design Center. Data on faculty and staff programs and registration were recorded by Amy Deegan and Brenda Hodges.

Program participation data were collected and recorded by all staff members who delivered or coordinated programs at the Center.

Program evaluations data were recorded by Matthew Cabrera, and Web materials were posted by the graduate assistants at the Center. An initial draft of this annual report was prepared by Brenda Hodges, Program Coordinator at the Center.

Center staff members would like to express their sincere appreciation to administrators, faculty, staff, and graduate assistants at various academic and support units at Northern Illinois University for their support of faculty development programs and activities during 2008-2009.