

# CTL Newsletter

## The Center for Teaching and Learning



## Have You Heard About TLAC?



Did you know that there is a committee of faculty and other University stakeholders that oversees, advises, and approves the projects and new technologies of the teaching and learning environment? The Teaching and Learning Advisory Committee (TLAC) advises ITS in teaching and learning initiatives. TLAC also develops and reviews academic technology standards, guidelines and policies, directs and advises on priorities for academic technology initiatives, provides a forum for investigation, advises on new teaching and learning technologies, and facilitates communications regarding academic teaching and learning initiatives.

Here are just a few of the topics TLAC is discussing and approving this semester:

### **Courseware - Continuous Updates in D2L**

Recent eCourseware Updates include a new, optional feature to automatically release final grades, which would save instructors from having to manually release grades to students. Improvements have come to the discussion board to simplify creating, reading and participating in group discussions. The Pulse app

has also been updated to include the ability to view all courses and course content from your mobile device. Next, we expect updates will come to the discussion board on creating, reading and participating in group discussions.

### **G Suite**

G Suite is a brand of cloud computing, productivity and collaboration tools, software and products developed by Google. G-Suite (formerly Google Apps for Education) is a set of communication and collaboration tools that include Gmail, Drive, Classroom, and much more. G-Suite has some third-party add-ons that need to be further reviewed and tested. Security concerns were raised about student data being located on an outside server. If adopted, the recommendation would be to use this aid as a collaboration tool for master and doctoral level courses.



### **Proctoring**

With a focus on accessibility, Respondus Lockdown Browser was removed as a testing tool. As lockdown browsers are fading off the scene; a new service, online proctoring is on the horizon. TLAC is reviewing various options and features in test integrity.

### ***This year's TLAC committee includes:***

**Peter Bridson (Chair)**  
Associate Professor, Chemistry

**Roy Bowery**  
Director, Center for Innovative Teaching and Learning

**Niki Bray**  
Assistant Professor  
School of Health Studies

**Demetria Frank**  
Assistant Professor, Law

**Joanne Gikas**  
Assistant Dean, University College

**Mark Hendricks**  
Instructor, School of Public Health

**Sheri Howard**  
Clinical Assistant Professor, Nursing

**Stephanie Huette**  
Assistant Professor, Psychology

**Eddie Jacobs**  
Associate Professor  
Electrical Computer Engineering

**Melissa Janoske**  
Assistant Professor,  
Journalism & Strategic Media

**Brian Janz – Professor**  
Management Information Systems

**Tiffany Johnson**  
Instructor Coordinator,  
Paralegal Studies

**James Kierulff**  
Director Grad. School Services, Graduate School

**Peter McMickle**  
Professor, School of Accountancy

**Amanda Savage**  
Instructor Coordinator, History

**Jim Schlinsog**  
Director, Student Disability Services

**Amanda Rockinson-Szapkiw**  
Associate Professor  
Instruction and Curriculum Leadership

**Miriam van Mersbergen**  
Assistant Professor, School of Comm.  
Science and Disorders

# D2L Meets Banner: In Real-time

You asked. We listened. In order to make Banner and eCourseware integration more intuitive, The University of Memphis is mobilizing D2L Real-Time integration with Banner. D2L Real-Time will allow faculty the ability to sync grades from eCourseware to Banner. Additionally, forget waiting 24 – 48 hours to be added to courses in eCourseware. With D2L Real-Time, all faculty and students added to courses in Banner, are automatically added to the courses within eCourseware.

## Accessibility 101: There's a Course for That!

In 2016, the Center for Teaching and Learning worked to spread the news about accessibility and available tools to create accessible content (be it a presentation for students, an assignment, or an email to a colleague). CTL has held training sessions to show that achieving accessible content is neither complicated nor tedious. In 2017, we are continuing our commitment to share the knowledge necessary to easily create content for every member of our university community.

Would you like to access the course? Accessibility 101 is an ongoing course in eCourseware that contains information, the best practices in accessible content, instructions on how to create

## Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL) Faculty Support and Training

The Center for Teaching and Learning offers support and training for many different applications and services. Be sure to check Learning Curve under the Employee tab in myMemphis to register for any of our many training opportunities.

The training schedule is available to all faculty and staff and is located on the CTL Events Page on the UofM website. To learn more about us and how our training opportunities, please visit our website.

## Virtual Classroom Anyone?

"Virtual classroom makes it easy to have visual, two-way communication between learners and instructors that is engaging and collaborative."  
John Baker, CEO of D2L.

Faculty can schedule, deliver, and record live video conferencing sessions right from within the LMS with only a few clicks. They can increase engagement by conducting live, two-way discussions with classes, holding video-based training, conducting office hours, and more. Video sessions can be automatically recorded and embedded seamlessly into a course. Virtual Classroom allows up to 100 users to join virtual classroom session within eCourseware. The CTL is currently testing the feature and is planning to release the feature production in late Summer 2017.

accessible documents, web content, and more! Check it out in our eCourseware learning environment. To request access to the course, send an email to [ITSTrainers@memphis.edu](mailto:ITSTrainers@memphis.edu).

Microsoft Office has many features built-in that help people with different abilities to read and author documents. Microsoft Office also offers the Accessibility Checker that locates elements that might cause problems for people with disabilities.

### Have Questions? Ask us!



[Click here to chat](#)



call (901) 678 - 8888



email: [umtech@memphis.edu](mailto:umtech@memphis.edu)

Walk-Ins Welcome M-F 8am - 7pm  
(Excluding Some Holidays)

Administration Bldg. Room 100