



## ***Teaching Awards — Call for Nominations***

**The Office of Support for Effective Teaching and the Faculty Senate Teaching Enhancement Committee invite all UNM instructors, students, and staff to nominate outstanding educators for special award recognition. Nominations for the awards listed below will be accepted until February 15, 2008.**

*2008 – 2010 Presidential Teaching Fellowship*

*2007 – 2008 Outstanding Teacher of the Year Awards*

*2007 – 2008 Adjunct Teacher and Lecturer of the Year Awards*

*2007 – 2008 Susan Deese Roberts Outstanding Teaching Assistant Awards*

**Award nominations may be made online at:**

**<http://www.unm.edu/~oset/TeachingAwards.html>**

**Additional information about award eligibility is found inside the *Gazette* on page 2.**

### **“How Do I Get New Teaching Ideas ?”**

The title of this news item is also the most common question we hear at OSET. Participants at workshops, brown bags, and institutes leave with inspiration to teach in new ways. Long-time lecturers, having discovered that active-learning pedagogy leads to better student learning and more energetic classes want to know where to get ideas for bringing their disciplinary content to life in the classroom. OSET wants to help you find these resources and we are redesigning our web site ([www.unm.edu/~oset](http://www.unm.edu/~oset)) with this commitment in mind.

#### **Online Resources**

We know that our students surf the web for resources to complete their assignments and it is also a valuable place for instructors to find resources to enhance teaching and learning in their courses. Online Links (Click “Resources” on the OSET website) contains direct connections to websites that we have reviewed and know are worth your time to check out. Some brief descriptions are provided below and if you know of sites that you feel we should add to our list of links, please forward the information to us at [oset@unm.edu](mailto:oset@unm.edu).

The Multimedia Educational Resource for Learning and Online Teaching (MERLOT) is a user-centered, searchable collection of peer reviewed, higher-education, online learning materials. The web site (<http://www.merlot.org/>) aspires “to be a premiere online community where faculty, staff, and students from around (see “*Links to Teaching Ideas*” on page 3)

### **UNM Instructors to Share Effective Teaching and Learning Practices Plan Now to Present at or Attend the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Success in the Classroom Conference**

On February 21, 2008, more than 200 UNM faculty, instructors, and teaching assistants will be in the SUB for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual UNM Community Conference, *Success in the Classroom: Sharing Practices that Work*. Organized each year by OSET, this conference provides a unique opportunity for UNM educators to share insights about teaching and learning experience and to gather ideas from peers. There were 30 presentations at each of the 2006 and 2007 events and most of the presenters provided abstracts that are posted on the OSET website (<http://www.unm.edu/~oset/Success.html>).

The 2008 conference conveners are OSET Director and Earth & Planetary Sciences Professor Gary Smith, English Lecturer James Burbank, and Deana Richter, Director of Teacher & Educational Development in the School of Medicine. “The conference provides a vital forum for exchanging ideas and building community based on our enthusiasm for, and engagement with, the crucial teaching mission at the university,” Burbank said. Smith points out that “the concept of classroom is applied during the conference in the widest possible sense to not only include what goes on between walls, but also during online, field, and community-based instruction.” The conveners are now soliciting presentations for the 2008 conference and interested instructors, at all ranks and levels, are encouraged (see “*Success...*” on page 2)

## Teaching Awards Recognize UNM's Outstanding Educators

Each year the Faculty Senate Teaching Enhancement Committee selects recipients for three campus-wide teaching awards. Categories include the Presidential Teaching Fellowship, UNM's highest teaching honor, two Teacher of the Year Award recipients, and two or three Adjunct Teacher and Lecturer of the Year Awards. The Teaching Assistant Resource Center in the Office of Graduate Studies also selects 4-6 recipients of the Susan Deese-Roberts Outstanding Teaching Assistant award. Awardees are selected following a nomination and dossier-review process. Nominations for the Presidential Teaching Fellow, Outstanding Teacher of the Year, and Adjunct Teacher and Lecturer of the Year will close on February 15, 2008, and should be submitted to the OSET website (<http://www.unm.edu/~oset/TeachingAwards.html>). Department chairs submit nominees for the Susan Deese-Roberts Outstanding Teaching Assistant Awards to OSET by February 15.

### 2008 – 2010 Presidential Teaching Fellow

All tenured faculty are eligible. The Presidential Teaching Fellowship was established to promote excellence in teaching by establishing a core of faculty who are given the highest recognition for their effective teaching. Additionally, Fellows carry a special responsibility for ensuring teaching excellence by sharing their expertise with the University Community. One Fellow will be selected each year and will serve a term of two years, during which time they receive special award compensation. Nominations can be made by colleagues, students or alumni.

### 2007 – 2008 Outstanding Teacher of the Year Awards

All tenured and tenure-track faculty and clinician educators are eligible. The Outstanding Teacher of the Year Award was established to recognize and reward teaching excellence and to foster a campus climate that supports teaching improvement and accomplishment. Two faculty members will be selected for this monetary award. Nominations can be made by colleagues, students or alumni.

### 2007 – 2008 Adjunct Teacher & Lecturer of the Year Awards

All adjunct faculty and lecturers who have taught consistently at UNM for at least four years are eligible for this award. This monetary award was established to recognize and reward the tremendous contributions of non-tenure track faculty in the classroom. Nominations can be made by colleagues, students or alumni.

### 2007 – 2008 Susan Deese-Roberts Outstanding Teaching Assistant Awards

All current teaching assistants/associates are eligible. This award is designed to recognize and reward teaching achievements of graduate students. Nominations are to be made by the department chairperson on the basis of one nomination for every ten department teaching assistants. Please suggest names of deserving teaching assistants to your department chairperson.

For any questions regarding these awards, please call 277-2229 or email [oset@unm.edu](mailto:oset@unm.edu). **Make your nominations online at [www.unm.edu/~oset/TeachingAwards.html](http://www.unm.edu/~oset/TeachingAwards.html)**

## Success in the Classroom (continued from page 1)

to fill out the web form at the OSET website.

Those instructors who attended the first two conferences responded enthusiastically in post-conference evaluations. Ninety percent of those who responded to the 2007 evaluation survey said that they would incorporate ideas they learned at the conference into their teaching. Nearly everyone commented on the inspiration gained from exchanging ideas about teaching across all disciplines of study and the wealth of knowledge gained on topics ranging from active-learning strategies, to the use of writing in classes, to use of web and other technologies, to assessment, and many others.

So, mark your calendars now and plan to attend this free event by coming and going to presentations as your schedule permits. And – don't forget to consider presenting the insights that you have gained from teaching and gauging your students' learning.



- ❖ Workshops
- ❖ Conferences
- ❖ Institutes

Office of Support for Effective Teaching

## Do You Want to Take a Fresh Look at Teaching Your Courses?

### Participate in the OSET Course Design Institute

"All night long I dreamed about teaching and woke up excited to revise my course."

"The Institute should be *required* for all UNM faculty."

These comments were shared with OSET on the day after an offering of the Faculty and Instructors Institute, *Designing Courses for Effective Student Learning*. Each institute runs for two consecutive days and your upcoming opportunities are on January 15-16 and May 22-23, 2008.

Institute participants design or redesign one of their courses by working through a series of worksheets, guided by discussion and short background presentations. Course design focuses on three questions: *What should students learn? How should they learn it? How will we know that they're learning?* Drawing on the research that guides best practices in pedagogy and assessment, instructors build their courses backwards from defined outcomes, examine how to actively engage students in learning, and learn how to implement frequent formative assessments that guide teaching and learning in the classroom. An enveloping theme is the importance of designing diverse learning opportunities for diverse learners. The objective is to improve student success in your classes without lowering, and possibly raising, expectations for student achievement while making teaching more exciting for instructors. Besides meals and refreshments during the two days, participants take away two reference books and a workbook.

The institutes are free to UNM instructors at all ranks, including teaching assistants and part-time instructors, thanks to sponsorship by the UNM Title V program (Building Community through Engagement) and the College of Arts and Sciences. Instructors of large-enrollment, lower-division courses are particularly encouraged to attend. **For more information, including online registration, visit the OSET website.**

## Links to Teaching Ideas (continued from page 1)

the world share their learning materials and pedagogy.” Most of the open-access resources are oriented toward interactive tutorials and exercises that students would typically pursue in the online environment, but many exercises include active-learning assignments that can be pursued in the classroom environment. As of November 2007 there are nearly 18,000 learning materials available at the MERLOT site, ranging from algebra to zoology and everything imaginable in between. If you have teaching innovations that you would like to share, then consider becoming a MERLOT contributor and not just a user.

The online resources web page maintained by Faculty Development Associates (<http://www.developfaculty.com/online/index.html>) contains more than 100 links to key websites. Many of these sites provide insights on pedagogy (e.g., collaborative learning, peer-led team learning), while others look at aspects of classroom management, specific teaching methods and issues (e.g., classroom civility, grade inflation, using PowerPoint, facilitating discussion), or aspects of professional development (e.g., faculty stress, junior faculty concerns, becoming a department chair).

The IDEA Papers posted at the Kansas State University IDEA Center (<http://www.idea.ksu.edu>) are a collection of 22 downloadable short papers on topics ranging from writing effective tests to tips for getting your students to read. Written by leading workers in higher education, these papers are quickly digested resources that you can use in your classroom immediately. The same web site has links to dozens of IDEA Center Notes and Learning Notes that are explicitly tied to items on the IDEA teaching evaluation, which UNM will be implementing in Summer 2008.

### Teaching and Learning Journals in Your Discipline

Were you aware that nearly every discipline in higher education has journals that emphasize research on how college students effectively learn the essential content and skills of the field? The OSET website now contains a Journals for Teaching and Learning page (under Resources) page that lists more than 80 such journals with links to the journal web page, the library location for journals that are in the UNM General Libraries, and information about online access for members of the UNM community using eJournal Finder (Gold Rush). Although the balance between pedagogy research and description of teaching methods varies between journals, the articles provide very useful insights into new ideas that you can use in class. These journals also emphasize the value of research scholarship on teaching and learning and may provide inspiration for research that you may want to undertake and publish.

### OSET Resource Pages

OSET is building a series of OSET Resources that include printable reference sheets as well as links to other valuable online resources. Two resource pages are available now and more are planned. The “Teaching with Clickers” page explains the reasons for using classroom response systems, information on effective pedagogy, and links to information for using iClicker, UNM’s preferred vendor. “Using Active Learning” is a link-rich introduction to the rationale for using active learning along with an introduction to different active-learning techniques for your

classroom. The active learning web page includes a link to OSET’s guide on “How will my students respond to active learning?” that includes suggestions for how to effectively engage your students with active-learning strategies. If you would like to author a resource page for OSET, please contact us at [oset@unm.edu](mailto:oset@unm.edu).

Most importantly, please tell us what you need and what resources you want to see added to the web page. OSET exists to assist UNM instructors to improve student learning achievements. If you have ideas for resources please email us at [oset@unm.edu](mailto:oset@unm.edu).

## ICES Evaluations to be Replaced by IDEA

The familiar green ICES teaching evaluations will become part of UNM’s history after Spring 2008. The replacement of the ITS mainframe computer by modern servers also removes UNM’s capability to process the ICES evaluations. For more than two years, the Provost Office and the Faculty Senate Teaching Enhancement Committee examined evaluation alternatives.

During the 2006-07 academic year many faculty helped to pilot test one replacement prospect, Faculty and Course Evaluation (FACE). Difficulties encountered during the pilot tests and initial scaling up for full campus use led to concerns about the successful use of FACE at UNM.

As a result, the Provost Office has selected Individual Development & Educational Assessment (IDEA) as the University supported evaluation for instructors to use, starting in Summer 2008. The Provost Office has asked OSET to assist faculty and departments in the transition from ICES to IDEA. OSET is coordinating pilot tests during Fall 2008 and will be contacting department chairs soon with details for workshops and brown bag discussions. In particular, OSET will emphasize the use of the IDEA evaluation reports to guide instructors to improve teaching and learning, which is a strong element of IDEA. For more information about IDEA, OSET encourages all instructors to take a look at the IDEA Center website at Kansas State University - <http://www.idea.ksu.edu/StudentRatings/index.html>.

## \$\$\$\$\$\$ Looking for Funds to Support a Teaching Innovation? \$\$\$\$\$\$ *Apply for a Teaching Allocations Subcommittee Grant!*

The Teaching Allocations Subcommittee of the Faculty Senate Teaching Enhancement Committee is soliciting proposals for small grants to faculty in support of efforts to enhance teaching effectiveness. **Applications for the fall proposal call are due December 7, 2007.** All full time faculty members at the UNM main campus or branch campuses, excluding the north campus, are eligible to apply.

For more information about the grant program, proposal restrictions, and submittal details, please go to the OSET web site and click on “Teaching Grants.” OSET does not administer this grant program so please do not address questions to us. Instead, please contact the subcommittee chair, Dr. Lorraine Deck at 277-5438 or by email at [ldeck@unm.edu](mailto:ldeck@unm.edu).

# OSET Events

Go to [www.unm.edu/~oset](http://www.unm.edu/~oset) for more information, or email [oset@unm.edu](mailto:oset@unm.edu) or call 277-2229

**Designing Courses for Effective Student Learning: Faculty and Instructors Institute**, January 15-16, 2008, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm both days; May 22-23, 2008, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm both days.]

**Writing Measurable Learning Outcomes Workshop**, Monday, February 4, 2008, 1:00-3:00 pm

**Success in the Classroom: Sharing Practices that Work**, Thursday, February 21, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm.

**Assessing Student Work with Rubrics**, Monday March 3, 2008, 1:00-3:00 pm

**Strategies for Effectively Enhancing Your Course Using WebCT Vista** Wednesday March 19, 2008, 2:00 – 4:00 pm.

**Teaching with Clickers Workshop**, Wednesday April 2, 2:00-4:00 pm.

**UNM Teaching Awards Ceremony**, Wednesday, May 7, 2008, 2:00 - 5:00 p.m.

**getSET Brown Bags**: Informal facilitated discussions over lunch. See OSET website for more information and for Brown Bags happening after Spring Break. No reservation required (bring your own lunch please!).

**Solving Assessment Problems: Keep assessment manageable AND return useful data.** Thursday, January 31, 12:30-1:30, SUB Alumni

**Simple Collaborative/Cooperative Learning Strategies: Bringing Active Learning into Your Classroom**, Friday February 1, 12:00 – 1:00 pm. SUB Alumni

**Announcing IDEA: UNM's New Instrument for the Student Evaluation of Teaching**, Tuesday, February 5, 12:30-1:30 pm, SUB Alumni, and Monday, March 31, 12:00-1:00 pm, SUB Alumni.

**Using Scoring Guides/Rubrics for Writing Assignments: Improve Student Writing, Reduce Grading Time, and Increase Consistency across Graders**, Thursday, February 14, 12:30-1:30 pm, SUB Alumni

**Handling the Paper Load #1: Minimal- and Zero-Grading Time Writing Activities**, Monday, February 25, 12:00-1:00 pm, SUB Alumni

## OSET Website is New!

If you have not visited the OSET website recently, then you are missing out! Go to [www.unm.edu/~oset](http://www.unm.edu/~oset) and enter a world of resources to support your teaching. In addition to information about OSET workshops, brown bags, and institutes, you will also find links to websites and reading materials that will inspire and assist your teaching. Web links include peer-reviewed sources of learning materials that you can bring to your classroom. There is a new, linked list of general and discipline-specific journals about teaching and learning in higher education that offer a wealth of ideas and research results that can immediately impact your teaching. Visitors also have access to dozens of short articles on everything from student civility to collaborative learning strategies to teaching evaluation. OSET has purchased a license that permits the UNM community to access the "Teaching Excellence" surveys from the Professional and Organizational Development Network in Higher Education. Look for the Downloadable Publications link on the OSET website Resources page.

OSET is also developing a series of OSET Resource Pages to assist instructors in the development of teaching and learning strategies. Topics developed so far include "Teaching with Clickers" and "Using Active Learning." More resource pages will appear in the future.

## Major Conference on Student Retention and Learning Assessment Comes to Albuquerque in February

The upcoming New Mexico Higher Education Assessment and Retention (NMHEAR) Conference will bring national and regional experts on assessment of student learning and student persistence to New Mexico. With the theme Changing For Learning's Sake: A Focus on Assessment and Retention, the 2008 conference will be convened in the Hotel Albuquerque at Old Town on February 28-29, 2008. Among the many sessions are featured presentations by the North Central Association Higher Learning Commission's Lynn Priddy, and Clifford Adelman, author of the national reports *Answers in the Toolbox* and *The Toolbox Revisited*. In addition to sessions ranging from assessment basics to discipline-based strategies for improving student learning, NMHEAR conference participation is a good occasion to network with colleagues from New Mexico and across the region. The program will appear at the conference website ([www.nmsu.edu/NMHEAR/](http://www.nmsu.edu/NMHEAR/)) in late December. Already, however, a number of pre- and post-conference, half-day workshops are on the schedule with topics that include Teaching and Retaining High-Risk Students in College Classrooms, Assessing Teaching and Learning in Your Courses, and Retaining Women in Technology Fields.

**Please Don't Throw me Away!!! Give to a TA, Adjunct, or other instructor**