



getSET GAZETTE

UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO

Office of Support for
Effective Teaching

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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 13, 2009.

2009 – 2011 Presidential Teaching Fellowship

2008 – 2009 Outstanding Teacher of the Year Awards

2008 – 2009 Adjunct Teacher and Lecturer of the Year Awards

2008 – 2009 Susan Deese Roberts Outstanding Teaching Assistant Awards

Award nominations may be made online at:

<http://oset.unm.edu/TeachingAwards.html>

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

Teaching is Scholarly, Too! OSET Workshop Sets the Stage

Teaching and research go hand in hand at UNM, but how often do we think of teaching as being part of our scholarship? How do you ask and investigate scholarly problems about teaching and learning? How can you effectively document and even publish your scholarly efforts to enhance and improve student learning in your discipline? For answers to these and other questions, sign up now for the OSET workshop on February 19, 2009: “Scholarly Teaching: What does it look like?”

The workshop will be led by Dr. Janice Denton, Professor of Chemistry at the Raymond Walters College of the University of Cincinnati. Professor Denton is a nationally recognized leader in scholarly assessment of student learning. Her past keynote appearances at events sponsored by the New Mexico Higher Education Assessment Association have made Dr. Denton well aware of the New Mexico education landscape and she is looking forward to working with UNM faculty at this workshop. The workshop will be offered at two different times, from 9 am-noon and 1:30-4:30 pm, in order to maximize access for UNM educators. Graduate students contemplating an academic career are encouraged to attend. Branch campus instructors are especially welcome at this event.

“Invoking the idea of ‘scholarly teaching’ and taking the steps to document it and ensure that the process is authentic and useful
(continued on page 2)

Success in the Classroom Conference Attend! Present Your Experiences!

Success in the Classroom: Sharing Practices that Work is an annual conference by instructors for instructors that provides a forum to share insights into successful teaching and learning. The fourth annual event is scheduled for Wednesday, February 18, 2009 and will run all day in meeting rooms on the top floor of the Student Union Building. **Mark your calendars now to attend, and consider being a presenter.** The conference is free for everyone in the UNM community. Reservations will be required to attend the hosted conference luncheon but no pre-registration is required for the conference itself. The conference website (linked from the OSET website, oset.unm.edu) has information about the upcoming conference and programs from previous events. The website will be updated with titles as presentations are volunteered.

Instructors at all ranks from teaching assistants to emeritus are encouraged to volunteer a presentation for this always invigorating and enlightening event. Potential presenters should visit the website mentioned above to volunteer their presentation as soon as possible and no later than January 15, 2009. Once the program is full, it will not be possible to add presentations so please visit the website *today*.

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

Teaching Awards Recognize UNM's Outstanding Educators

Each year the Faculty Senate Teaching Enhancement Committee selects recipients for 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. There are also 4 to 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 13, 2009, and should be submitted to the OSET website (<http://oset.unm.edu/TeachingAwards.html>). Department chairs submit nominees for the Susan Deese-Roberts Outstanding Teaching Assistant Awards to OSET by February 13, 2009.

2009 – 2011 Presidential Teaching Fellow

All tenured faculty are eligible. The Presidential Teaching Fellowship promotes excellence in teaching by establishing a core group 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 is selected each year and serves a term of two years, during which time they receive special award compensation. Nominations can be made by colleagues, students or alumni.

2008 – 2009 Outstanding Teacher of the Year Award

All tenured and tenure-track faculty and clinician educators are eligible. The Outstanding Teacher of the Year Award recognizes and rewards teaching excellence and fosters 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.

2008 – 2009 Adjunct Teacher and Lecturer of the Year Award

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

2008 – 2009 Susan Deese-Roberts Outstanding Teaching Assistant Awards

All current teaching assistants are eligible. This award recognizes and rewards teaching achievements of graduate students. Nominations are to be made by department chairs on the basis of one nomination for every ten departmental 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.

Success in the Classroom (continued from page 1)

The conference luncheon address will be delivered by Dr. Janice Denton. Dr. Denton is Professor of Chemistry at the University of Cincinnati, Raymond Walters College. Her talk, "Let's Talk Publicly about Scholarly Teaching," brings her long experience in both teaching and assessment to offer an important perspective on what it means to be a scholarly teacher in higher education. Limited seating is available for the luncheon, so if you wish to attend please contact OSET at 277-2229 or oset.unm.edu to reserve your place. Professor Denton will remain at UNM to present a workshop on February 19, entitled "Scholarly Teaching: What does it look like?" Further information about her workshop is presented elsewhere in this issue of the *Gazette*.

Teaching is Scholarly, Too! (continued from page 1)

are quite different," says Dr. Denton. As a result, the workshop defining scholarly teaching by investigating course conception and planning, teaching and learning strategies, and the assessment of student learning outcomes. Participants will leave the workshop with a framework they can use to investigate and discuss teaching and learning success. Of particular value, participants will examine their teaching in a reflective manner, present this examination as scholarly work to document effective teaching, and identify professional colleagues in the arena of teaching.

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

"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 13-14 and May 21-22, 2009.

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 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). Instructors of large-enrollment, lower-division courses are particularly encouraged to attend. *For more information, including online registration, visit the OSET website.*

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 "Student Learning and Success: Searching for Win-Win Solutions," the 2009 conference will be convened in the Hotel Albuquerque at Old Town on February 26-27, 2009. 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/) in late December. However, a number of pre- and post-conference, and half-day workshops focusing on outcomes assessment are already on the schedule.

How do I Respond to a Threatening Situation?

The memories of mass-shooting tragedies on college campuses will likely remain with us for a very long time and we all want to avoid that experience at UNM. In the university setting, faculty members are often in the best position to observe behaviors in students or other persons on campus that cause concern for the safety of the person or others. Student Health Center Counseling and Therapy Services have joined with UNM faculty to develop the Faculty Intervention Team (FIT). OSET is pleased to host the FIT website, which offers guidance in how to recognize and respond to students who are in distress, including immediately accessible resources that are just a phone call away.

Please take a moment to point your browser to oset.unm.edu and click on the Faculty Intervention Team link. This way, you will know what resources are there when you might need them. This site also contains downloadable brochures on Managing Difficult Student Behavior and Crisis Intervention/Suicide Behavior, along with a link to sign up for the campus emergency notification system, TextMe UNM ALERT Network.

Reading Resources for Teaching and Learning at Your Fingertips

Looking for insights on diversity in the classroom, approaches to grading, collaborative learning, plagiarism, improving teaching and assessment, renewing your investment in teaching as a form of scholarship, or many other topics related to teaching and learning? The Resources for Teaching page at the OSET website has a new important feature for the UNM community. We have obtained several reading packets and the annual Essays in Teaching Excellence series from The Professional & Organizational Development Network in Higher Education (otherwise known as POD). The POD essays are short readings with important insights of high impact on higher education instruction. By site license agreement, users are prompted to enter their UNM Net ID and password in order to access to nearly 100 of these oft-cited papers. Just select Resources for Teaching on the OSET homepage (oset.unm.edu) and then select Downloadable Publications.

Learn and Share About Service Learning in New Mexico Communities

During the spring 2008 term, OSET will sponsor a series of three "grand rounds" on community engagement and service learning activities from across the University. At each session, community members and faculty they have worked with will present an overview of their joint work. Each presentation will be followed by time for discussion of the case aimed at gathering lessons and improving our community engagement. Please watch the OSET website for announcements of the dates, cases, and locations. OSET Faculty Associate Mark C. Childs, Associate Professor in the School of Architecture and Planning is organizing these events. Please contact Mark at mchilds@unm.edu if you desire further information.

How to use IDEA to Improve Your Teaching

Instructors who are using the IDEA system in Fall '08, will receive their "summary report" early in 2009. Like the old ICES report, this document summarizes student ratings of "teaching excellence" and "course excellence." It also summarizes students' perceived progress on learning objectives selected by the instructor.

As an added bonus, those instructors who elected to have students fill out the Long Form will receive a report on how to improve their teaching relative to the learning objectives selected on the IDEA Faculty Information Form. The report suggests up to twenty teaching methods that instructors can use to improve their students learning.

Moreover, each suggested teaching method is linked to a short report on the IDEA Center website (<http://www.theideacenter.org/node/64>), written by an educational researcher, that describes best practices for that method.

For more detailed information on how to use IDEA to improve teaching, visit the all-new UNM IDEA (idea.unm.edu).

\$\$\$\$\$\$ 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 12, 2008.** 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. 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.

OSET Events

Stay informed on the OSET Listserve. Subscribe to OSET-L at list.unm.edu
Go to oset.unm.edu for more information, or email oset@unm.edu or call 277-2229

Designing Courses for Effective Student Learning: Faculty and Instructors Institute, Tuesday and Wednesday, January 13-14, 2009, 8:30 am to 3:30 pm both days; Thursday and Friday, May 21-22, 2009, 8:30 am to 3:30 pm both days.

Assessing Student Work with Rubrics, Wednesday, February 4, 2009, 2:00 to 4:00 pm.

Success in the Classroom: Sharing Practices that Work, Wednesday, February 18, 2009, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm.

Teaching is Scholarly Too!, by Janice Denton, from the University of Cincinnati, Thursday, February 19, from 9:00 to noon, and 1:30 to 4:30 pm.

New Mexico Higher Education Assessment & Retention Conference, Thursday & Friday, February 26-27, 2009, at the Hotel Albuquerque at Old Town. Details at <http://www.nmsu.edu/~NMHEAC/>

Designing Assessment Measures, Monday, March 9, 2009, 2:00 to 4:00 pm.

Strategies for Effectively Enhancing Your Course Using WebCT Vista, Wednesday March 4, 2009, 2:00 to 4:00 pm.

Using Assessment to Improve Courses and Curricula: Closing the Assessment Loop, Tuesday, March 24, 2009, 2:00 to 4:00 pm.

Teaching with Clickers, Wednesday April 15, 2009, 2:00 to 4:00 pm.

UNM Teaching Awards Ceremony, Wednesday, May 6, 2009, 2:00 to 5:00 pm, SUB Ballroom C.

**getSET Brown Bags: Informal facilitated discussions over lunch.
No reservation required (bring your own lunch please!).**

IDEA: Making the Most of Your Results, Thursday, January 29, 2009, 12:30-1:30 pm, SUB Spirit; Friday, February 20, 2009, 12:00 to 1:00 pm, SUB Spirit.

Peer Review of Teaching: Part of Guiding & Evaluating Effective Teaching, Thursday, March 12, 2009, 12:30 to 1:30 pm, SUB Fiesta A&B.

ePortfolios: Engaging and Assessing UNM Students, Thursday, April 2, 2009, 12:30 to 1:30 pm, SUB Spirit Room.

Faculty Associates

Applications Due on January 16, 2009

OSET Faculty Associates spend a year facilitating OSET events, including those that the Associates develop, and consult with faculty members who request advice and classroom visits to acquire feedback on their teaching and the effectiveness of student learning. Applications are open until January 16, 2009, for filling two Faculty Associate positions for the 2009-2010 academic year. A link to the application form and additional information about the Associates Program is located on the OSET website home page. Each Faculty Associate receives \$3000 special compensation. Associates and their department chairs must assure OSET that time is available for this commitment and some funds for release-time instruction are available to expedite Associates' work with OSET. All tenured faculty members employed primarily at UNM's Albuquerque campuses are automatically eligible to apply. Nontenured faculty should discuss this opportunity with OSET Director Gary Smith before applying.

Writing Assignments Matter!

Students are more likely to undertake the high level learning that results from analysis, synthesis and integration of ideas from various sources when instructors provide extensive, intellectually challenging writing assignments. Furthermore, students who complete more writing assignments report greater personal, social, practical, and academic development, and spend more time outside of class thinking about and sharing ideas from their courses. Faculty who encourage writing multiple drafts are also more likely to emphasize approaches to learning that enhance students' critical thinking and reflection on their learning. These conclusions come from the 2008 report of the National Survey of Student Engagement, NSSE, including questions about teaching writing that were administered to 23,000 students attending 82 U.S. colleges and universities. The new questions about the impact of writing were developed by the Council of Writing Program Administrators (WPA). *USA Today* quoted Chuck Paine, a University of New Mexico English professor and member of the WPA, as interpreting these findings as "solid evidence that writing in college is associated with the kinds of learning that professors and higher-education institutions say they believe is most significant." Professor Paine will co-present the WPA's assessment of the impact of writing at the annual meeting of the Association of Colleges and Universities in Seattle in January.

UNM will administer the NSSE survey to freshmen and seniors in spring 2009. In addition, UNM will administer, for the first time, the companion Faculty Survey of Student Engagement (FSSE) to UNM instructors. To read the 2008 NSSE report, go to <http://nsse.iub.edu>. If you are interested in knowing more about the upcoming FSSE administration at UNM, please contact OSET at oset@unm.edu.

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