

Congratulations to the Award Winners! Professional Development Award for Teaching and Learning

Funded by the Sponsored by the Fredonia College Foundation, the Professional Development Award for Teaching and Learning provides support for professional development activities related to instructional design or the exploration of instructional methods to enhance student learning.

Bond Benton, Communication

“A recently completed paper on Antisemitism and Professional Wrestling was accepted to the prestigious Pop Culture Association national conference in San Antonio. Attendance at this conference will allow me to develop this paper and inform my teaching on matters related to media, diversity, and social justice. The paper is entitled "Have You Paid Your Taxes: Bodyslams, antisemitism, and the case of Irwin R. Shyster. Presentation and feedback at this conference will be crucial to improving the monograph to a standard that would be academically compelling to students.”

Paul Blanchett, Communication Disorders and Sciences

“To attend a two-day workshop on accent reduction in order to enhance my professional development in this area. Knowledge and skills gained from this workshop would improve lectures, demonstrations, and class activities related to accent reduction training.”

William Brown, Biology

“I will develop a 2012 summer sustainability course cluster. This sustainability cluster would be linked to the American Democracy Project’s (ADP) broader Stewardship of Public Lands Initiative, designed to educate and involve undergraduate students in political disputes about public lands. My goal is to utilize the Yellowstone ecosystem as a case study to explore issues of citizenship and democracy while learning about environmental issues with an interdisciplinary perspective. I will need to spend time in Yellowstone to work out logistical details with the Yellowstone Association, to visit potential stakeholders that 2012 students will meet, and to choose appropriate fieldwork and field trip destinations.

Anny Patricia Castilla, Communication Disorders and Sciences

“To provide students with four web-based training clinical case studies to support their learning of clinical skills. A web-based clinical case would consist of a series of videos of a client that can be used to simulate the clinical skills required for language assessment. I will be hiring a graduate student during the summer of 2011 to obtain the videos from the clients, to edit the videos and to assist me in the creation of the web-based case studies. These web-based case studies will integrate active learning with the use of technology for teaching graduate students.”

Chiara DeSanti, Modern Languages and Literatures

“To attend a training workshop on Recreational Linguistics: Playing with Italian as a Foreign Language. The workshop is intended for instructors of Italian and it is especially designed to learn activities and motivational techniques to reinforce the learning of vocabulary while developing the abilities of comprehension, reading, writing, and oral communication. Since the students sometimes struggle with a new foreign language, more playful and cultural elements will help them to experience an anxiety-free classroom and myself as an instructor to add specialized elements to my teaching.”

Nefin Dinc, Communication

“To attend a two-day workshop on Camera and Lighting held by Solar Video and Film. The instructors of this workshop will focus on main elements of video lighting, how to create a certain mood in video production, how to conduct interviews and how to light them. The workshop will also focus on outdoor and indoor lighting, lighting for movement and creating nice backgrounds for video production. With the help of this workshop I will enhance my knowledge in video production.”

Christina Jarvis, English

“I will develop a 2012 summer sustainability course cluster, which will be taught in Yellowstone National Park. The course will be linked to the American Democracy Project’s (ADP) Stewardship of Public Lands Initiative, designed to educate and involve undergraduate students in political disputes about public lands, environmental issues, and public resources. I will need to spend time in Yellowstone to work out logistical details with the Yellowstone Association, to visit potential stakeholders that 2012 students will meet, and to choose appropriate fieldwork and field trip destinations.”

Jill Johnston-Price, Visual Arts and New Media

“For online learning communities Lynda.com and Cineversity. Lynda.com is the premier online tutorial site for a variety of software programs, ever transforming and expanding. Cineversity is a learning community related to Cinema 4D, a 3D animation software program used in the Animation/Illustration Program. All courses in the Animation/Illustration program will be impacted by knowledge gained through access to the learning sites. The Animation/Illustration Program continues to evolve and encompasses analog methods (drawing, painting with multiple media and papers) as well as digital processes (digital painting and texturing, printing techniques, editing, sound design, and 2D/2.5D/3D animation software).”

Scott Richmond, Reference and Instruction, Daniel A. Reed Library

“To attend the State University of New York Librarians Association’s (SUNYLA) Annual Conference, which is themed Shared Borders: Collaborating for Success. I will have the opportunity to learn about the innovative and creative ways my colleagues across SUNY are incorporating technology, tools, and sources in their classrooms. I will use the tools and sources

demonstrated during the conference to include these competencies as well as find new ways to reach out to students. “

Gregory Seigel, School of Music

“To present at the International Clarinet Association’s annual ClarinetFest. In addition to performing, I will attend multiple recitals, masterclasses and concerts as a means to support, expand and improve my current teaching skills. I intend to be able to bring back a wealth of information to all of the clarinet students at SUNY Fredonia. The international component of this gathering has the potential to open doors for future collaborations and perhaps international experiences for our students. “

Guangyu Tan, Curriculum & Instruction

“To attend the 16th Annual Summer Institute: Developing a Multicultural Curriculum (DMC). This summer institute will help me synthesize multicultural education theories and build the skills to move theories into practice. It will further help me infuse what I learn from the workshop to my own teaching for the benefit of my students. Applying what I will learn in the institute, I will promote cultural awareness; disseminate the knowledge we need to be cultural responsive; help my students create multicultural lesson plans and activities; and develop an individual and organizational action plan to eliminate bias and prejudice. The ultimate goal is to achieve social justice and equity. “

Peter Tucker, Visual Arts and New Media

“To attend and participate in the conference Open Engagement: Art + Social Practice in May 2011. The conference deals with socially engaged art. My own artistic practice has components of these concepts. I want to learn how others have incorporated social practice into an arts curriculum and learn from leaders in the field.”

Awards are granted by The Professional Development Center Advisory Board using a blind review process. The Board, which consists of 13 voting members, uses a rubric based on the criteria set forth in the call for proposals to rank all proposals received.