

## Spring 2003 Calendar

Thurs, 2/6, Noon

Develin Room,

Olin Library

### **Why Use a Course Management System?**

Andy Szegedy-Mazsak (Classics), Lutz Huwel (Physics), Rick Elphick and Nat Greene (History), Jonathan Cutler (Sociology), Tony Infante (MB&B)

A Course Management System (e.g., WebCT or Blackboard) is a tool for facilitating communication, assessment, and access to various kinds of information central to your course. In this session, we will have brief presentations from some faculty members who use these systems and then an open discussion. We especially encourage attendance by faculty who might want to use a Course Management System but have not yet done so. Moderated by Andy Szegedy-Maszak.

Thurs, 2/13, Noon

Develin Room,

Olin Library

### **Webtech Showcase**

<http://www.wesleyan.edu/its/webtechs/>

Leslie Weinberg (Theater), Ana Zarayzuny (Webtech), Jolee West (ITS)

Webtechs are trained student assistants who are assigned to help faculty prepare web-based projects and materials for their courses. Faculty and Webtechs will show off their projects from the 2002 program, and talk about the program and process for others who might be interested in applying this Spring for a Webtech to assist with Fall '03 courses.

Thurs 2/20, Noon

Develin Room,

Olin Library

### **Teaching with Interactive Maps**

Raja Swamy (ITS), Jeffrey Makala, (Olin Library), Anne Loyer (ITS)

Faculty are beginning to take advantage of the interactive capabilities of the web to teach with maps. English Professor Indira Karamcheti is using the South Asian Diaspora Explorer, an

interactive map tool she developed with Raja Swamy, in her "Orienting the World" project. This tool helps her to dynamically focus on the migrations of people from South Asia in the colonial era, and explore connections between the migration of people and the movement of commodities along trade networks.

<http://www.wesleyan.edu/its/acs/projects/socsci/IK/>

Jeffrey Makala will talk about the print map holdings in Olin Library. Anne Loyer will make a brief presentation of the comparative map tool she developed for Mark Slobin's Afghanistan project.

Thurs, 2/27, Noon

Develin Room,

Olin Library      **Using Technology to Teach Writing**

Co-sponsored by the Writing Program

Marc Eisner (Government), Harris Friedberg (English)

Common tools, like email and editorial tracking in MS Word, enable new instructional methods and workflows, and may help to improve student writing. Professors Eisner and Friedberg will share their experiences with electronic submissions, annotations and revision cycles of student papers. A short demonstration of Word editorial features will follow.

Thurs, 3/6, Noon

Develin Room,

Olin Library      **Digital Video Finds a Place in the Classroom**

Lisa Dierker (Psychology), Mike McAlear (Molecular Biology and Biochemistry), Ana Perez-Girone (Romance Languages)

Video remains the most challenging of the digital media. Even so, by handing off the technical work to the Media Center, some faculty have begun to routinely use streaming video in the classroom. Lisa Dierker, Mike McAlear, and Ana Perez-Girone will talk about the pedagogical value of video, as well as the pros and cons of using it in the classroom and making it available to students over the web.

Thurs, 3/27, Noon

Develin Room,

Olin Library      **Making the Most (But Not Too Much) of PowerPoint**

Jan Naeglele (Biology), Suzanne O'Connell (E&ES), Gayle Pemberton (English),

PowerPoint can be a very effective presentation tool for the classroom, but poor implementation can drive your audience to the brink of boredom, if not insanity. What are the strengths and weaknesses of PowerPoint? How does one use it wisely so that students appreciate rather than loathe it? Hear from faculty who've smoothed out the rough spots and found the best use in their classrooms.

Thurs 4/3, Noon

Develin Room,

Olin Library      **What Are Learning Objects?**

Mike Roy, Anne Loyer, Will Gladstone (ITS)

The Learning Objects Program is a pilot project in which faculty work with a development team to create interactive learning tools that will help students better understand difficult concepts. Intended for use both inside and outside of the classroom, these modules may be shared across disciplines and with faculty at other institutions.

Thurs 4/10, Noon

Develin Room,

Olin Library      **Teaching with Media Collections**

Phil Wagoner (Art History), Susan Passman (Slide Library), Mary Glynn, Dan Schnaidt (ITS)

The Media Database hosts over thirty faculty collections combining images, audio and video from personal and University libraries. This discussion will focus on the different ways the Media Database may be used to support teaching, and the ways that facilities such as the Slide Library and Media Center support faculty who wish to make collections. The session will conclude with a step-through of the Media Database.

Thurs 4/17, Noon  
Develin Room,  
Olin Library

**Teaching Digital Media Arts**

Steve Harper (Studio Art)

Sullivan Fellow, Steve Harper, will present some of the works his students have created, and reflect on his experience introducing digital media arts instruction at Wesleyan over the last two years.

Thurs 4/24, Noon

Develin Room,

Olin Library

**Information Literacy**

Mary Bosworth (Sociology), Kendall Hobbs, Suzy Taraba (Library),  
Mike Roy (ITS)

Wesleyan, in conjunction with Trinity and Connecticut Colleges, is using a Mellon Foundation grant to help integrate "information literacy" into the curriculum. The explosion of information available in both print and electronic form offers a rapidly expanding array of resources. But this boon can be a burden, especially for those unfamiliar with navigating scholarly literature. Mary Bosworth worked with librarians Kendall Hobbs and Suzy Taraba to teach her students how sociologists keep up to date with and contribute to the knowledge base of sociology. In the context of her course's content, her students worked on a series of projects designed to give them practice finding, evaluating, and applying a variety of information resources in sociology. We hope our experiences can be a model for other departments and major programs.