



2022 Fall Faculty Workshop
August 17, 2022
8:00 a.m. -12:00 noon
Carl Grant Events Center

8:00 – 8:30 a.m. Continental Breakfast

8:30 – 8:45 a.m. Welcome, Prayer and Hymn

8:45 - 9:45 a.m. Plenary Session: C. Ben Mitchell, “What It Means to Be Human: Christological Perspectives for Pedagogy and Practice”

9:45 – 10:00 a.m. Faculty Conversations

10:00 a.m. Break

10:15 a.m. Concurrent Breakout Sessions

CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS

(Each session will be offered twice – 10:15 and 11:15 a.m.)

Session I: *Re-Energizing Your Scholarship*

Location: Grant Events Center

Speakers: Hal Poe, Charles Colson University Professor of Faith and Culture
Blake Watkins, Chair and Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences

Description: Do you remember how excited you were once upon a time when you decided to follow an academic career? Perhaps it happened in college, and something about your subject thrilled you. Perhaps a professor seemed so enthusiastic about the subject that you caught the energy. If the enthusiasm has gone, perhaps it is not too late to get it back. Hal Poe and Blake Watkins will offer a few strategies for re-energizing your love of scholarship.

Session II: *Taking the Classroom beyond Jackson: Generating Creative Ideas for May Term*

Location: Bowld 247

Speakers: J.R. Kerfoot, Co-Chair and Professor of Biology
Phillip Ryan, Professor of Language and Director, Center for Intercultural Engagement
Ray Van Neste, Dean, School of Theology and Missions & Professor of Biblical Studies

Description: As we look to Union's first May term in 2023, you may be wondering what sort of creative course offerings you or your department might offer to engage students. This session will include faculty who have offered some out-of-the-box courses in the past in order to help generate creative ideas across campus.

Session III: *Writing Grants at Union University*

Location: Archives Room, 3rd floor Logos

Speakers: Bill Thierfelder, Associate Professor of Biology
Jennifer Gay, Special Projects Coordinator, Development

Description: The rules and processes for applying for external grant funding at Union are explained in the Faculty Handbook. With time, the existing guidelines have become outdated and are sometimes confusing.

This workshop will explain rules and restrictions in place at Union, and present updated instructions for applying for external grants, including signatures required for approval of a grant proposal. The *Foundation Search* database available in the Office of Institutional Advancement will be discussed. Faculty are encouraged to bring questions and suggestions with them and to come prepared to share experiences that would be helpful to others seeking external funding.

Session IV: *Whole Person Wellness: A New Model for Student Health and Flourishing on Campus*

Location: White Hall 201

Speaker: Tamarin Huelin, Director for Counseling Services

Description: When a student misses class or assignments due to illness or crisis, we find ourselves reacting to assist and offer support. While this pattern is sometimes unavoidable, are there ways we can model and promote student wellness that may help in preventing the crisis?

Student wellness has become a major, campus-wide focus at many colleges and universities. Wellness has several dimensions, including emotional well-being, physical well-being, and spiritual well-being. This workshop will explore campus-wide models of fostering students' stewardship of their own wellness, both as a good thing in itself and as an alternative to several common but unhealthy strategies for managing illness, challenge, mental health and crisis in difficult times.

Session V: *A Terrible Time to Talk for a Living: The Classroom, Difficult Issues, and Humor*

Location: White Hall 214

Speaker: Ted Kluck, Associate Professor of Communication Arts

Description: Discourse in America has really never been worse. To wit, Twitter exists, and a couple years ago it looked like society as a whole was circling the drain. This is an absolutely horrible time to be in the business of talking, so naturally I'm a college professor and the host of three podcasts. I'm a glutton for punishment. In times like these, in our classrooms, how do we triage a) which issues are in fact difficult, b) which issues actually need our input, and c) how to use humor to defuse issues that aren't Gospel issues or inner-ring theological issues.

Session VI: *Re-Energizing Your Teaching: Panel Discussion*

Location: White Hall 312

Speakers: Michele Atkins, Moderator
Kyle Butler, Professor of Education
Micah Fern, Assistant Professor of Biology
Bethany Murphy, Associate Professor of Pharmacy Practice
Gavin Richardson, Professor of English

Description: As we stare down the barrel of the next academic year, you might find yourself longing for previous years when your energy and enthusiasm for your classes were higher. Most of us have been there, and one way we can care for one another in our academic community is to help each other through such seasons. This panel will provide helpful and candid insight for getting some of that energy back.

Session VII: *How to Reduce Feedback Fatigue: Leveraging a Caring Perspective to Drive Learner Engagement*

Location: White Hall 318

Speaker: April Rowsey, Assistant Professor of Management

Description: Instructor-provided feedback on student work is simultaneously one of the most developmental (for students) and daunting (for instructors) practices in teaching in higher education. Instructors devote many hours to careful review and assessment and the crafting of instrumental feedback that they know will contribute in meaningful ways to the growth and development of their learners. It is not uncommon for instructors to wonder if that feedback is read, much less applied, by learners in their courses—a reality that leaves instructors disheartened and dispirited. This workshop provides specific, actionable strategies that require low-moderate effort for the instructor which, when applied, will drive both learning and learner-engagement.

Session VIII: *Introducing and Navigating Controversial Topics in the Classroom*

Location: Hartley Recital Hall, Jennings Hall 1st floor

Speakers: DiAnne Malone, Interim Co-Dean and Associate Professor, MCUTS
Phil Davignon, Chair and Associate Professor of Sociology

Description: Whether inherent to the course or through an unexpected question or comment, faculty can become equipped to handle controversial topics in the classroom. This workshop proposes ways for instructors to foster an environment of care and respect while allowing students to express their arguments charitably and productively.

11:15 a.m.

Repeat Concurrent Sessions