

Reflective Practice Large Group Meeting: Matchmaker Session—Forming Teaching Circles

Wednesday, September 3, 2014: 3:35-4:50 p.m., Susquehanna Room (HUB)

I. What is Reflective Practice?

RP = Campus-wide effort to promote more effective teaching

“The IUP Center for Teaching Excellence has sponsored an effort to promote effective teaching through the use of workshops, monthly meetings, and small “teaching circles.” This program, called the Reflective Practice (RP) Project, was initially designed as a follow-up to the SSHE Summer Academy of 1993.”

II. The Reflective Practice Project at IUP

a) Co-Directors:

Stephanie Taylor-Davis <i>Director, Saturday Workshops</i> stdavis@iup.edu	Kelli Jo Kerry-Moran <i>Special Projects</i> Kelli.Kerry-Moran@iup.edu	Christoph Maier <i>RP Portfolio and Assessment</i> Christoph.Maier@iup.edu
Michele Papakie <i>Monthly Large Group Meetings</i> Michele.Papakie@iup.edu	Theresa McDevitt <i>Scholarship of Teaching and Learning for Large Group Meetings</i> McDevitt@iup.edu	Heide Witthöft <i>Cross-Disciplinary and Department Teaching Circles</i> heide@iup.edu

b) Reflective Practice Teaching Circles (TC)

Excerpts from information put together by Laurel Black and John Woolcock:

- Definition: What is a Teaching Circle?
- Rationale: Why Should I join a Teaching Circle?
- Shaping the Circle: What Kinds of Teaching Circles are there?
- How it Works: Advice for a Successful Group

III: Examples of Teaching Circles

- a) List of Last Year’s Teaching Circles
- b) Ask members of TCs to share goals and experiences, practical application, intent to continue, etc.

- c) Ask attendees for ideas they have for Teaching Circles
- d) Index Cards:
 - name of potential TC
 - distribute on tables
 - attendees walk around and choose one potential TC to discuss today
 - attendees put name and contact info on index cards for additional TCs they are interested in
 - I will collect forms and get people in touch with each other
 - I will publish information on website and e-mail to all RP members

IV. Form to Establish a Teaching Circle

Form to establish a Teaching Circle will be distributed but is also available on CTE webpage:

- Click on: Reflective Practice Project
- Click on: Form to Establish a Teaching Circle (interactive PDF)

V: Information on Mini-Grants

a) Guidelines for Mini-Grants:

- Purpose
- Rationale
- Monies Available
- Criteria
- Submission Date: October 10, 2014
- Review Process
- Important Dates
- Proposal Details

b) Application Form will be distributed but is also available on CTE webpage

c) Mini-Grant Proposal Evaluation Sheet

VI. Next RP Large Group meeting

Thursday, October 2, 2014, 3:35-4:50 p.m.: Working with International Students

Creating Teaching Circles: Starting the Conversation

(JCW: 8/17/05)

Identify 2-3 issues in teaching and learning that you would like to explore in a teaching circle and in a few sentences explain why they are important to you. Then summarize the issue in one word or phrase. Be prepared to share your word or phrase and its explanation with other participants. Listen to each person's summary to find individuals with common interests.

To do this, answer one or more of the following questions below:

1. What can I do to enhance student learning in my course?
2. What is the most important thing I want my students to learn in my course?
3. What do I most need or want to learn about to enhance my teaching?
4. How can I better evaluate the effectiveness of my teaching?
5. How can I better evaluate the learning of my students?
6. What do I worry the most about in my teaching?
7. What was the best experience I have had as a teacher? As a learner?
8. What is the worst experience I have had as a teacher? As a learner?

Question # _____

Answer:

Summary word or phrase:

Question # _____

Answer:

Summary word or phrase:

Question # _____

Answer:

Summary word or phrase: