Social Strate Center for Jeaching Excellence

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Helping the Troubled Student

Addie Morrow of Counseling Services, offers some suggestions to faculty who encounter troubled students during office hours or in their classrooms.

Q: What should faculty do when students want to share problems of a personal nature?

Addie: Sometimes students share personal problems with a faculty member because they trust the instructor-student relationship. This situation occurs when students need to reveal the reason for missed assignments, tests or poor class attendance. If the sharing extends beyond a general explanation, it is strongly recommended that the student be asked if he/she would like to schedule an appointment to discuss the problem further with a LCC counselor. Let the student know that counselors are trained to assist them with counseling issues that impact their success in classes. Lansing Community College counselors are Licensed Professional Counselors and are governed by state and national standards. This LPC certification protects the college and the student.

The counseling professional staff are trained and certified to address the following counseling related issues:

- Personal Counseling
- Academic Planning
- Career Counseling
- Disability Support
- Critical Incident Stress Management

Q: What resources can faculty direct these students to?

Addie: Students can be encouraged to schedule an appointment with a counselor in the Counseling Advising Center, located in 2300 GVT. It is important to emphasize to students when scheduling an appointment that they request to see a counselor. An appointment scheduled with a faculty advisor may result in them needing to reschedule an appointment.

The counseling center provides immediate contact with a counselor under an emergency situation. The best way to refer a student is to contact the center so the student can schedule an appointment while in the instructor's office. Also, it reinforces the need to meet with a counselor and facilitates the student's desire to see a counselor. If it is not possible for the instructor to arrange for an immediate contact, it is helpful to personally contact a counselor letting them know of the referral. Legally, counselors are unable to initiate the call to the student. The student must make the call.

If a problem arises after counseling services closing hours (currently M-Th, 8-7pm & F 8-4pm), it is advised that the instructor give the student the contact number 483-1904. Messages can be left on the answering machine and will be serviced the following morning.

If the student is in crisis during closed hours, e.g. threatening suicide or bodily harm to another, public safety should be contacted. Public safety transports students in crisis to mental health agencies and homeless shelters.

Once a counselor sees a student, the counselor will make an appropriate referral if the student needs clinical counseling or hospitalization.

Q: Is there anything faculty should avoid doing under these circumstances?

Addie: So many times as caring professionals, we feel a need to help students by giving advice or assuming a care-taking role. As a teaching faculty, it is recommended that you avoid taking this role. It could create a potentially harmful relationship. It can foster dependency or other legally inappropriate relationships.

Some faculty are also licensed counselors, psychologists or social workers. However, unless the faculty is hired in the role of college counselor, we would caution them about taking on a counseling role with a student. It doesn't mean that these professionals are not qualified to assume this role, but acting in a dual role as an instructor and counselor may cause some unnecessary legal entanglements. More importantly, we want to assist students in receiving adequate counseling services.

CELEBRATING FACULTY! YOU'RE INVITED

Although faculty are our focus every day, we wish to place special emphasis on faculty and their many contributions throughout the month of April. The CTE kicks-off *Celebrating Faculty!* with Monday drawings for gift certifi-



cates. During April, a faculty member may be a winner in the drawing, or a recipient of an apple or an Applegram from an appreciative student. Look for the Applegram banners flying high over entryways to OC, GVT and A&S. They serve to remind the college community of the many reasons to be grateful for its faculty.

In addition to the month-long activities,

the Center for Teaching Excellence is offering a repeat-performance of last

year's highly successful Faculty Appreciation Day. This year the CTE has set aside **Thursday, April 19th, as Faculty Appreciation Day**. The celebration takes place in TLC 326, from 10 AM to 6 PM. Upon arriving, be sure to complete an entry blank to enter the prize drawings scheduled hourly.



The CTE has kept "some old" and added "some new" to make the day most

memorable. Based on faculty feedback from last year's event, we once again offer "no agenda." We invite all to enjoy a light buffet offered throughout the day, as well as to visit with colleagues. As you connect with colleagues, you will also want to check out the CTE's ongoing **showcase of LCC faculty expertise and talents**.

In addition, one-on-one assistance using a scanner, a digital camera and downloading images will be available to visitors. Simply come to TLC 324

Congratulations to our Grant Recipient!

This year the Center for Teaching Excellence offered an Incentive Grant for Teaching. The objective of this grant is to contribute to faculty development by offering faculty the opportunity to implement creative, innovative ideas for which they would not ordinarily have the funds. An **Incentive Grant for Teaching** was awarded to:

Margaret E. Clark

Science Department



for "Field Preparation for Tropical Aquatic Systems Class"

Educational Technology Support

John Thommen will be available in the CTE to assist visitors in the area of Educational Technology. John comes to us with many years of teaching experience along with experience and expertise in the area of technology.

John will be available for one-on-one assistance in the CTE on the following days and times:

Monday 9 am to 3 pm
Tuesday 11 am to 3 pm
Wednesday 1 pm to 4 pm
Thursday 9 am to 12:30 pm
Friday 9 am to 12:30 pm

Favorite Teaching and Learning Websites!

Sheron Snyder

Astronomy

- Here is my most favorite for students. http://www.ucc.vt.edu/stdysk/stdyhlp.html
- The most up-to-date astronomy site. http://antwrp.gsfc.nasa.gov/apod/archivepix.html
- Science Search site http://www.search4science.com/
- Times for overhead Satellite passes. http://www.heavens-above.com/
- Greatest directions for helping students create EXCEL graphs I have seen anywhere. http://newton.clayton.edu/ fisher/creategraphs.html

Morris Thomas

Social Science

 This site shows a night time distribution of world population based upon the lights. http://antwrp.gsfc.nasa.gov/apod/ image/0011/earthlights_dmsp_big.jpg

Denise Warner

Language Skills

- http://www.linguistic-funland.com/tesl.html
- http://www.tesol.org/pubs/magz/wanweb.html
- http://www.cal.org/ericcll/
- http://www.atlapedia.com/

If you have favorite teaching and learning websites you'd like to share, send a lotus note to the CTE, or send them to mail code 8111. We'd love to hear from you!



Center for Teaching Excellence

Technology and Learning Center, Room 324, Phone: 517-483-1680, MC 8111

Monday – Thursday 8am to 8pm, Friday 8am to 5pm

Visit us on the web at: www.lcc.edu/cte