



MAY FACULTY COLLEGE:  
ASSESSMENT FOR INNOVATION  
AND TRANSFORMATION

*May 23-25, 2006*

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# Quick View Calendar of Events

Tuesday May 23		Wednesday May 24		Thursday May 25	
9:00-9:30am	Coffee and Tea	9:00-9:30am	Coffee and Tea	9:30-10:00am	Coffee and Tea
9:30-12noon	<b>Opening Plenary and Dialogue:</b> Reasons for Being (Here): Student Purpose, Institutional Mission, and Graduation Outcomes	9:30-11:00am	<b>Plenary and Dialogue:</b> Our Mission in Practice: A Look at HERI Faculty Data	10:00-12noon	<b>Workshop:</b> Moving Beyond the Void: Getting Started with Assessment
		11:15-12noon	<b>Breakout Session:</b> Communicating Best Practices at St. Lawrence		
12noon-1:00pm	LUNCH	12noon-1:00pm	LUNCH	12noon-1:00pm	LUNCH
1:15-4:15pm	<b>Afternoon Session:</b> Assessing for Learning along the Chronology of Students' Studies  <b>Guest Facilitator:</b> Peggy Maki  (*please bring a draft of your department's mission statement and learning goals statement)	1:00-2:00pm	<b>Afternoon Sessions:</b>  What are they Thinking and Learning?: A Strategy for Immediate Classroom Feedback	1:15-2:45pm	<b>Afternoon Sessions:</b>  Assessment Innovations in ANGEL: Milestones, Grade Book and e-Portfolio  (*please bring a course syllabus)
		2:10-3:10pm	Critical Literacies at St. Lawrence		
		3:20-4:20pm	Civic Engagement <i>in the Classroom</i> : How Does it Impact Learning?		
5:00-7:00pm	University Picnic Leithead Fieldhouse			Following Closing Plenary	<b>Reception</b> (*please rsvp when you register online)

# An Invitation from the Dean

Colleagues,

I hope you will plan to attend this year's May Faculty College, May 23rd – May 25th. This gathering has evolved into a strategic planning conference for the academic program; it is a time when faculty from across the disciplines gather to talk about the theory and practice of our common purpose, the liberal education of our students.

This year's theme, "Assessment for Innovation and Transformation," signals our intention to build upon the work on learning goals we have already begun, but also to make clear that the real purpose of this work is not to prepare a report for Middle States, but to scrutinize, systematically and across the curriculum, the evidence we can gather about the extent to which our students are engaged with, and achieving the aims and objectives of, our core mission. To be meaningful, our efforts at research should provide the basis for a continuous process of critical reflection on our curriculum and pedagogy, reflection which, in turn, informs change.

Thank you,

Grant Cornwell

Vice President of the University and Dean of Academic Affairs

## Guest Facilitator



**Peggy Maki**

Higher education consultant, Peggy L. Maki, Ph.D., specializes in assisting undergraduate and graduate colleges and universities, higher education boards, and disciplinary organizations integrate assessment of student learning into educational practices, processes and structures, including those in the co-curriculum.

Dr. Maki has served as Senior Scholar and Director of Assessment at the American Association for Higher Education (AAHE) and as Vice President, Academic Dean, Dean of Faculty, and Professor of English, Bradford College, MA. She is a recipient of a national teaching award, the Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching.

Dr. Maki has conducted over 350 workshops and keynote addresses on assessment both in the U.S. and abroad. Her articles on assessing student learning have appeared in AAHE's *Bulletin*, AAHE's *Inquiry and Action* series, *About Campus*, *Assessment Update*, *Change Magazine*, *The Journal of Academic Librarianship*, *Leadership Exchange*, *NetResults*, and *Proceedings of the International Conference on Teaching and Learning*. Her writing also includes articles, chapters in books, and a book on the teaching of writing. Additionally she conducts writing-across-the-curriculum workshops that develop and document student learning. Her recently published handbook on assessment: *Assessing for Learning: Building a Sustainable Commitment across the Institution* was published in June, 2004 and she has just completed co-editing a book to be published in Summer, 2006 by Stylus Publishing, LLC: *The Assessment of Doctoral Education*.

# Tuesday, May 23

9:00-9:30am

Coffee and Tea

Location: All Sessions in Eben Holden

9:30-12:00noon

Opening Plenary and Dialogue:

## Reasons for Being (Here): Student Purpose, Institutional Mission, and Graduation Outcomes

Facilitators: Grant Cornwell, Vice President of the University & Dean of Academic Affairs  
Christine Zimmerman, Director, Institutional Research

Readings: AACU (2006): Academic Freedom and Educational Responsibility  
St. Lawrence University: Mission, Aims and Objectives

12:00noon-1:00pm

Lunch

1:15-4:15pm **Assessing for Learning Along the Chronology of Students' Studies**

Guest Facilitator: Peggy Maki

More than an aggregation of courses and credits, learning is a process of constructing meaning, framing issues, drawing upon strategies and abilities honed over time, reconceptualizing understanding, repositioning oneself in relation to a problem or issue, and connecting thinking and knowing to action. Assessment extends inquiry about student learning beyond students' achievement in individual courses to their achievement over time as a result of their undergraduate or graduate program of study. It provides us with a lens to explore how well students construct meaning over time within the context of collective educational practices and our expectations for student learning.

A collaborative commitment to assessment, then, begins with dialogue about the assumptions, philosophies, or design principles that underlie curricular design and pedagogy. This workshop will ask participants to:

- Collaborate on the articulation of learning outcome statements, describing what students should demonstrate, represent, or produce at the end of their undergraduate careers.
- Collaborate on the development of curricular maps and inventories of educational practice that identify the multiple ways students realize those learning outcomes and receive feedback on them along the continuum of their studies.
- Collaborate on the design or identification of valid assessment methods.
- Collaborate on the development of valid standards and criteria of judgment that align with assessment methods and become the basis of reliable and agreed upon interpretations of students' achievement
- Collaborate on the interpretation of patterns of student performance against these criteria and standards of judgment.

Because we will discuss and apply steps of the assessment process to your own work, please bring a draft of your department's mission statement and learning goals statement.

Readings: Maki (2004): *Assessing for Learning: Building a Sustainable Commitment Across the Institution* (Chapter 1 & 2)

5:00-7:00pm

University Picnic: Leithead Fieldhouse

Separate invitation issued by the President's office.

# Wednesday, May 24

9:00-9:30am

## Coffee and Tea

Location: All Sessions in Eben Holden

9:30-11:00am

## Plenary and Dialogue:

### Our Mission in Practice: A Look at HERI Faculty Data

Facilitator: Christine Zimmerman, Director, Institutional Research

Readings: bell hooks: *Teaching to Transgress: Education as the Practice of Freedom*

AACU: Our Students' Best Work: A Framework for Accountability Worthy of Our Mission

AACU: Liberal Education Outcomes: A Preliminary Report on Student Achievement in College

11:15-12:00noon

## Breakout Session:

### Communicating Best Practices at St. Lawrence

12:00noon-1:00pm

## Lunch

1:00-2:00pm

## What are they Thinking and Learning?: A Strategy for Immediate Classroom Feedback

Facilitator: Patti Lock, Professor of Mathematics, Computer Science & Statistics and Department Chair

2:10-3:10pm

## Critical Literacies at St. Lawrence

Facilitator: Members of the Critical Literacies Working Group

3:20-4:20pm

## Civic Engagement *in the Classroom*: How does it Impact Learning?

Facilitator: Ron Flores, Director, Community Based Learning Programs

# Thursday, May 25

9:30-10:00am

Coffee and Tea

Location: All Sessions in Eben Holden

10:00-12:00noon

**Workshop:  
Moving Beyond the Void: Getting Started with Assessment**

This interactive session will offer examples of current assessment practices at St. Lawrence and additional resources for assessment in the disciplines. Participants will have opportunities to begin thinking about the methodology portion of their departments' assessment plans.

Facilitators: Members of the Assessment Committee

12:00noon-1:00pm

Lunch

1:15-2:45pm

**Assessment Innovations in ANGEL: Milestones,  
Gradebook, and e-Portfolio**

Facilitators: Sondra Smith, Director of Educational Technologies and Co-CIO Information Technology  
Jim Forney, Educational Technologies Resource Manager

3:00-4:00pm

**Closing Plenary**

Facilitator: Grant Cornwell, Vice President of the University & Dean of Academic Affairs

**Reception**

The closing plenary will be immediately followed by a reception hosted by the Dean. Join colleagues for refreshments, music, and celebration.

**\*please rsvp when you register online\***

# General Participant Information

## Registration Process

To register for the May Faculty College, visit the web site listed below and complete the online registration form.

<http://www.stlawu.edu/ctl/mfconlinereg>

**Online Registration Opens: Monday, May 1, 2006**

**Registration Deadline: Wednesday, May 17, 2006**

## Workshop Location Information

All workshops and meals will be held in Eben Holden.

## ANGEL

May Faculty College has its own ANGEL site. All readings mentioned on this program are posted to ANGEL. You will receive a copy of *Teaching to Transgress: Education as the Practice of Freedom*, by bell hooks, in campus mail.

To access the May Faculty College ANGEL site, please log on to ANGEL with your network ID and password. Once logged on, under the **Community Groups** heading, select **Find a Group**. Under **Community Search** click the **Search** button to do a blind search. Select the **May Faculty College** group by **clicking on the title**. On the **May Faculty College Welcome Page**, click on the **Content** tab on the top. A **Reading Folder** has been set up to review suggested readings for each session. If you have any problems getting access to ANGEL, or for additional help with ANGEL, please contact Jim Forney at x5922.

Additional information will be posted to this site for review.

<http://angel.stlawu.edu>

## Compensation

Because this work is so important to your teaching, and this week's events demand your time, you will be compensated in the following way:

**Staff:** A \$250 reimbursement account will be established for May Faculty College staff participants. This account, administered through the CTL, will be available starting July 1, 2006, and guidelines for its use can be found on the CTL home page. Book purchases and enhanced conference support are just two ways reimbursements are processed through these individual accounts.

**Faculty:** Faculty participants will have the option of either the \$250 reimbursement account listed above or a \$250 stipend.

**\*Please select your option of either a stipend or a reimbursement account when you register online for the college.\***

## Questions?

For more information contact:

**Julie Johnson**

**Phone: 229-5981**

**Email: [ctl@stlawu.edu](mailto:ctl@stlawu.edu)**

May Faculty College Planning Committee

Carol Budd

Grant Cornwell

Ron Flores

Steve Horwitz

Erin McCarthy

Kim Mooney (Chair)

Liz Regosin

Sondra Smith

Christine Zimmerman

The Center for Teaching and Learning

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