

**Making Teaching Visible: Creating a Commons
for Learning and Learners
June 10, 2009
2:00-5:00 pm, North Star Dining Room**

The “Making Teaching Visible” event, sponsored by the TLC, is designed to follow the “Making Learning Visible” event (scheduled for 9:00 am-2:00 pm). This new event provides an opportunity for faculty (especially new full-time faculty and part-time faculty) to engage in conversation about teaching/learning/community issues as the academic year winds to a close. The goals of the event are to deepen dialogue around issues that affect all faculty, create new relationships across disciplines and to foster more active engagement in the making/shaping of the academic “teaching/learning” community.

Introduction about Conversation Protocol and Process to Join a Community Learning Group for 09-10 (Food Provided)

Conversation #1 – 2:00-3:00 pm

Creating Our Commons: Telling Our Teaching/Learning Stories

Table Conversations Facilitated by faculty from Pedagogy 101/102 and FLC

Outcomes:

- a. Build shared knowledge about the good things faculty have been involved in this year (scholarship, new learning, etc)
- b. Create deeper connections through the sharing and hearing of each other’s stories.
- c. Create awareness and stimulate interest in participating in a CLG (Community Learning Group) starting Fall ‘09

Possible Questions to Open Up Dialogue, Share Stories and Invite Participation in an Inquiry-Based Community of Learning Group:

- What brought you to NSCC, and what keeps you here?
- What have you been involved in this past year that has deepened your love of your discipline and/or brought you new learning opportunities as a teacher?
- What one memory stands out in your mind about a particular moment in your classroom where learning was really “alive”?

- Based on your teaching experience this academic year, what issues/challenges still intrigue or puzzle you that you'd like to investigate?
- Are you interested in participating next year with others in a "community learning group" (CLG) sponsored by the TLC to investigate a common issue?

Conversation #2 (3:00 - 4:30 pm)

Creating Our Commons –Exploring Our Values and Creating New Possibilities for all Learners

Using the World Café model of Opening Up Dialogue:

Focus Question (Round 1)

- What new possibilities might open for our community if we saw our values in our strategic plan as "living values"?
- What is the crossroad you are faced with at this point in time as a faculty member and in the classroom and how might they relate to any of the values?
- What new ideas or possibilities emerged for you as a result of this conversation that has the possibility of transforming our community and inspiring you in your practice as a teacher?
- What risk are you willing to take to bring life to your idea?

Focus Question (Round 2) -- Move to a New Table (each with a different value)

- Based on your first conversation, what ideas emerged that might help us to not only "survive" this difficult time, but to *thrive*, and *even transform* as we focus on this value?
- How might this value help us create new language and deepen our relational capacity to create a safe, dialogic commons for ourselves and our students?

Focus Question - (Round 3) – 25 minutes – Return to Original Table

- What themes/new patterns are emerging here?
- What deeper questions are emerging as a result of these conversations? How do they inform our practice as teachers and as members of this community?
- What is the personal commitment I'm willing to make that might constitute a risk or a major shift for me?
- What do we now see and know as new possibilities as a result of these conversations?

3. Making Visible Our Conversations about the Relationship between Teaching and Community

Insights are shared out loud with the entire group

Food and Refreshments continue until 5:00 pm.