

# **Keeping Connected**

# How Engaged Are Your Students?...No, Really?

The Fall 2020 semester is underway and it's time for you to do a self check. How are your classes going? How are your students - and you - adjusting to the new classroom "normal"? As educators, we know it's imperative to actively keep our students engaged, no matter the situation. As we continue to navigate uncharted territories, we would like to share with you how Park and external instructors are keeping students engaged. We hope you enjoy this material, and look forward to sharing innovative teaching and learning ideas with you throughout the year.



# 2 Ways To Increase Student Engagement in Distance Learning by Dr. Yen

No matter what your institution is planning for the current and upcoming

semester, we all know that distance learning isn't going to go away any time soon. As you plan your courses, here are two things to consider to increase student engagement (and learning).



# Early Dispatches from the COVID-19 Classroom

#### by Doug Lederman

As the fall term begins, professors describe their experiences in the in-person (and virtual) classroom. Their verdict? Better than feared. Lots of faculty experimentation. Students are anxious, and physical conditions are ... mixed. <u>CLICK HERE</u> to view this article.



## FCI September SIG Programming

Based on your excellent feedback, the Faculty Center for Innovation (FCI) has taken a flipped approach to its Special Interest Group (SIG) programming this year. Now, there are several ways to engage with the material and one another! First, we have a brief **on-demand video** (approximately 10 minutes) that is available for your viewing at your convenience (see link below). Next, if you wish to engage in **asynchronous exchange** after watching the video, feel free to join the Canvas course to pose questions, exchange ideas, and share best practices - additionally, questions posted in the Canvas course will also be used to facilitate the **live synchronous Zoom session** (aka Reflect & Respond). You are welcome to select any combination (or all) of the options and formats that work best for you. We are excited to share with you the following video and links for September 2020.

#### **Retain without the Mundane SIG**

Ann Culton Wed., Sept. 9th (11:30am-12:00pm, CST)

- "Retain without the Mundane" SIG
  - Watch the recorded video presentation (10 minutes) CLICK HERE
  - Enroll in the Canvas course <u>HERE</u> (Reminder: ask questions to Fellows in the discussion thread)
  - Join the live discussion "Reflect & Respond" session: Wed., Sept.
    9th via Zoom <u>JOIN HERE</u>

## **Upcoming FCI SIG Programming**

Be on the lookout for upcoming FCI programming via invites and on <u>FCI's</u> <u>website</u>!

- Winning Students and Influencing Faculty, *Lacey Finley* Wed., Sept. 23rd (11:30am-12:00pm, CST) via Zoom <u>JOIN HERE</u>
- The Dark (and Bright) Side of Human Communication, Samantha Quinn - Wed., Oct. 7th (11:30am-12:00pm, CST) via Zoom JOIN HERE



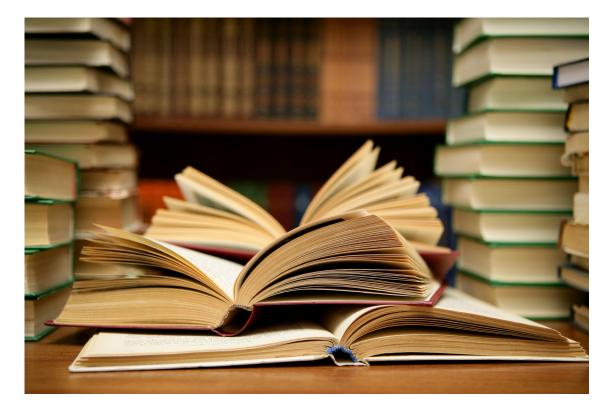
## Scholarly InSights

The Faculty Center for Innovation (FCI) is excited to highlight scholarly work published by FCI's academic journal, *InSight: A Journal of Scholarly Teaching*. This month, we are showcasing Ives, Mitchell, and Hübl's (2020) article, <u>Promoting</u> <u>Critical Thinking with Double-Entry Notes: A Pilot Study</u>, which focuses on the using the double-entry tool as an active reading strategy to engage students.

#### InSight AND...InStruct Call for Papers

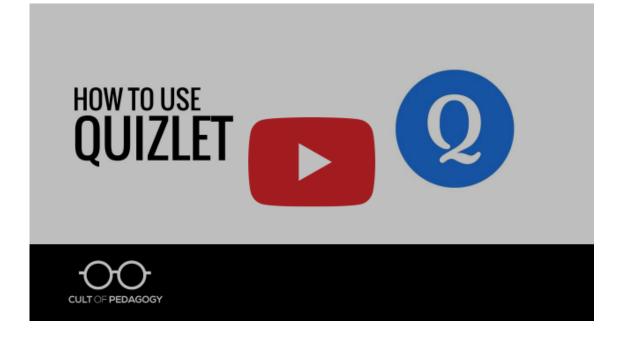
Are you interested in potentially publishing your scholarship of teaching and learning (SoTL) work? Check out *InSight's* call for papers! The journal is also delighted to share with you *InSight's* new section, *InStruct*, which provides a space to celebrate and display pedagogical content that demonstrates the practical application of SoTL principles. To learn more about *InStruct* manuscript submissions, please view *InStruct's* call for papers. For information about the journal, including viewing

current and past volumes, please visit <u>InSight's website</u>; all inquiries should be emailed to FCI at <u>innovate@park.edu</u>.



#### iHub (Instructor Hub) Resource Share - Quizlet

Want to engage your students and help them retain important content? Start using <u>Quizlet</u>! Quizlet allows you to to create sets of flashcards, or share sets already created by other instructors, so students can use multiple study strategies (flashcards, writing, spelling, tests) or participate in games (matching, gravity, live). For faculty interested in tracking classroom and individual student's progress, Quizlet Teacher (\$34.99/year) will share this data with you. To learn more about Quizlet, watch the video below, or contact <u>Melanie Kinney</u>, Coordinator of Educational Technology Initiatives. For information on additional educational technology, self-enroll in <u>FCI's Canvas Instructor Hub (iHub</u>).



#### Virtual Coffee House: September 25th

FCI will be hosting our Virtual Coffee House once a month. All faculty are welcome to join us on **Friday**, **September 25th**, **from 11:30am-12:00pm**, **CST** for an informal social gathering and to discuss a variety of topics - wherever the conversation might lead! To join, click <u>HERE</u>. Hope to see you there!



## Just for Fun: Laugh Out Loud Today!

Whether you're teaching blended or fully online this semester, know that "We'll be There for You". We hope you enjoy this distance learning parody.



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