



October 10, 2011

## Assessment, Teaching and Learning Digest

### Cool Tools to Promote our Colleges

- Check out our [Washington State CTC video](#) on YouTube (less than 3 minutes), and forward the link, please.
- Then, check out... <http://www.checkoutacollege.com/>

### Technology and eLearning

- **2011 Teaching and Technology Summit:** eLearning Directors, Faculty Development Leaders and Information Technology/Services Directors – three groups which often meet separately, but seldom together - gathered at the end of September to develop smoother processes for meeting the instructional technology needs on our campuses. Talk to these folks on your campus to learn more about opportunities to use technology and open resources to support instruction.
- **Learning Management System RFP process:** Learning Management System RFP process: As many of you know, ANGEL is the learning management system (LMS) used by the majority of our colleges. Support for the current version of ANGEL will cease in June 2014. A system group that also includes representatives from the Washington four-year institutions has started a formal request for proposals (RFP) process for an LMS to replace the current version of ANGEL. In mid-October, faculty will be invited to fill out a survey on the LMS features they most use. The RFP will be released late November 2011, and faculty will be invited to test drive the top vendors in February 2012. The new contract will be in place July 2012, and colleges will have two years to implement the new product.
- **Open Course Library Project:** The Washington State Open Course Library Project is gliding along. **Phase I** is complete, with the first 42 CC-BY courses to be released on October 31<sup>st</sup>. (CC-BY is a [Creative Commons](#) licensing that allows open sharing with attribution to the resource creator.) **Phase II** begins with the first bidders' conference tomorrow (October 11<sup>th</sup>). Faculty, instructional designers, and librarians are being sought to create the next 39 courses. Our OCL Project was mentioned today in [The Chronicle](#), along with a quote from **Melonie Rasmussen**, Pierce College math faculty and OCL course developer. Check out the [new OCL website](#), or take a look through this [slide deck](#) on OCL progress.

### Professional Development: Innovation and Improvement

- **eLearning Offerings:** The SBCTC eLearning staff and the eLearning Council offer a wide range of training and professional development opportunities for faculty and staff. The eLearning webpages hold all the details. Free, online, open to all in the CTC system.
- **Weekly online sessions:** Upcoming presentations and open office hour sessions published to the [eLearning Community blog](#). Topics relate to eLearning and educational technology, including core technologies such as ANGEL, Tegrity, and Collaborate, as well as many other new topics and new presenters. Check back for more additions soon. Anyone is welcome to attend and/or participate at no charge.
- **Best Practices Exchange:** A novel approach to sharing! Sign up to lead a table discussion and share strategies with other faculty, student services staff, and others who are integral members of the college teams helping students transition from precollege to college-level courses. If you don't want to lead a discussion, that's okay! Just [register your college team](#) to attend.
- **Faculty Learning Communities:** All across Washington State, community and technical college faculty are gathering to nurture and build new ways of thinking about assessment, teaching and learning. And, those who are involved in Faculty Learning Communities are available as subject matter resources on whatever topic they're exploring. If you're interested, you can also join an FLC, yourself. For a list of all FLCs, and contact information, please see the [SBCTC Faculty Learning Communities webpage](#).

- [2012 Assessment, Teaching and Learning Conference](#): Add these dates to your professional development plan – May 2-4, 2012 – ATL Conference in Vancouver, WA. More to come...

### **Campus Safety and Security**

- Are you familiar with your campus safety plan? If not, talk to your supervisor or campus safety director to learn more about how to be better prepared for classroom or campus emergencies. This is also a good time of year to review your campus inclement weather policies.

### **Legislative Review**

- [The Legislative Bill Summary](#) includes the major bills (including the operating and capital budget bills) passed by the 2011 Legislature. For each bill, there is a background and effect section explaining how the policy was developed and its impact upon passage.

### **Great Resources**

- Submitted by the Office of Instructional Improvement at Renton Technical College, the October issue of [Faculty Focus](#) offers tips, links, and strategies from faculty at RTC.
- [Video Series on Study Skills](#): Professor Chew, Stamford University, leads these five short videos. View these with your students and use them as a springboard for discussions on how to study.
- [Accessibility & Universal Design for Learning \(UDL\)](#): Julie Shen, librarian at CA State Polytechnic University, shares the principles of UDL as well as practical tips on how you can make your presentations more accessible to learners of all abilities.

### **In the News**

- [Tacoma Community College named education 'leader'](#)  
Tacoma Community College (TCC) was recognized as a leader in the national student completion movement by "Achieving the Dream," leader in the national student completion movement by "Achieving the Dream," ... TCC, one of 23 institutions designated as a 2011 Leader College, was recognized for demonstrating sustained improvement and accomplishments on key student achievement indicators. **Highline Community College** and **Renton Technical College** were the only other Washington schools on the list. ... "We are pleased to see our completion efforts paying off for our students," said TCC President Pamela Transue. "We have built systems from first point of contact through graduation to help students succeed. Data show that it's working." Tacoma Daily Index, October 3, 2011

### **Recruiting and Retaining Great People**

- The Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC) is currently seeking applications for the following positions:
  1. **Data Architect**
  2. **Director of Communications**For further details, please visit the [SBCTC website](#).
- Here is a listing of [current openings at all of the community and technical colleges](#) in the Washington State system.

Looking for the latest information about statewide initiatives, task force or other groups?

Visit the Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges website:  
<http://www.sbctc.edu/>

### **Assessment, Teaching and Learning**

[http://www.sbctc.edu/college/e\\_assessment.aspx](http://www.sbctc.edu/college/e_assessment.aspx)

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