

To: CPP Faculty

From: Victoria Bhavsar

Subject: "Colleging" support; correction from last week; Wall of COOL

Date: Thursday, Oct 13, 2022

Dear faculty,

I've heard from several faculty recently that many students are still having a very hard time "colleging" as we transition from two years of disruption and isolation. They need help with skills such as studying, note-taking, participating, handling test anxiety, basic time management, and so forth. Here's a very good resource for both us and them: [StudentLingo Academic Skills Workshops](#). You might assign a couple of especially relevant workshops, or go through them yourself and see if you can incorporate strategies into class sessions. My favorite is "Exam Preparation & Test Taking Strategies" because it's not about how to cram, it's (sneakily) about how to *learn*.

Here's a revision to an announcement that was in our official CAFE newsletter last week. Our ["Doing the Work" 2.0: Winter Institute on Anti-Racist Teaching & Learning](#) is **January 10-12 and 17-18, 2023**. We had originally scheduled over Jan. 16, which is of course Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. I apologize for that mistake and appreciate the person who brought it to CAFE's attention.

Also, here's the last call for the [2023 Wall of COOL](#)! This light-hearted but not light-weight award from CAFE recognizes excellent courses that effectively use technology to enhance student learning and success. Nominate your course or encourage a colleague to nominate theirs! [Nominations](#) are due **October 16**.

Take care,

Victoria

--

#### **Technology:**

[The End of Blackboard](#): Cal Poly Pomona's contract with Blackboard ends June 2023. After that time, **no one will be able to get data from Blackboard**. Faculty will need to "harvest" any materials and information you want to have access to. Neither CAFE nor IT&IP will be able to provide individual support (i.e. we can't do it for you). See our [Transitioning from Blackboard](#) site for more information, tutorials, and hands-on support sessions.

#### **Effective, Efficient, and Enjoyable Teaching:**

- **[The Fearless Classroom](#)**: Friday Oct. 14, 10:00am – 12:00pm, via Zoom: The award-winning Fearless Classroom program is based on the concepts of psychological safety and non-violent communication. More than 40 CPP faculty from disciplines around the campus have used the strategies to engage their students. [Please register](#) for the link.
- **[The Fearless Classroom 2.0](#)**: Friday Oct. 28, 10:00am-12:00pm\*, via Zoom: Follow up to the award-winning "[Fearless Classroom](#)" workshop! Learn more about the research underlying equitable classroom practices that lead to psychological safety, and take your strategies to a deeper level. [Please register](#) for the link. \*Time corrected from last week's email, which mistakenly gave 12-2pm as the time.
- **["Small Teaching Strategies, Important Learning Gains" Series](#)**: Learn practical, research-based strategies that are quickly and easily adoptable. All sessions held via Zoom. [Register for one or attend all!](#)
  - Tuesday Oct. 25, 12:00-1:15pm: Exam wrappers & revision memos
  - Tuesday Nov. 15, 12:00-1:15pm: Connections, practice, and explanations
  - Thursday Dec. 1, 12:00-1:15pm: Summing up and preparing for finals
- **[Fall 2022 Improving online and hybrid teaching courses from the Chancellor's Office](#)**: A variety of multi-week courses based on the Quality Teaching & Learning and Quality Matters frameworks; certificates of completion offered. These robust experiences address significant course design and delivery practices. One course per faculty member is allowed; limited spots available. See [OCS Professional Development Courses](#) for details and to register.

#### Research, Scholarship, & Career Support:

- **[Solo Success: Thriving When You're the Only \\_\\_\\_\\_\\_ in Your Department](#)**: Friday Oct. 21, 9am-12pm, in person only. [Register for more info and location](#). Facilitated by Dr. Carlita Favero, Ursinus University.
- **["Everybody's Mentor"](#)**: Lisa Kessler, CAFE faculty associate and retired interim Dean of Agriculture, provides individual, confidential consultation and coaching. Email [Lisa](#) directly to set up an appointment.
- **[The "CAFE Creates" Writing Group: Fall Semester Wednesdays, 9am-11am](#)**. Contact [Amy Dao](#) or [Erica Morales](#) for more information and to join.

--

**Victoria Bhavsar, Ph.D.**

Director, Center for the Advancement of Faculty Excellence

[vbhavsar@cpp.edu](mailto:vbhavsar@cpp.edu) | [www.cpp.edu/cafe](http://www.cpp.edu/cafe) | Chat or call me on [MS Teams](#)

California State Polytechnic University, Pomona

Get help from CAFE M-F 8am-5pm: [canvas@cpp.edu](mailto:canvas@cpp.edu) | [CAFE's Studio 6](#) at 909-869-3099