

To: CPP Faculty
From: Victoria Bhavsar
Subject: Lots of ideas from fellow faculty!
Date: Wednesday, Nov 1, 2023

Dear faculty,

Remember last week's message from a professor who had implemented a couple of helpful practices? Well, here's another great idea from that colleague:

On my second midterm I ask, "What surprises you most about this class?", with a tiny bit of extra credit. One student who already works in [the industry] gives off a knows-a-lot vibe and refuses to participate in group work. It's exasperating but I have been mentally giving them the benefit of the doubt instead of getting upset, and I'm glad because here's their response to the extra credit question:

"I knew this class was not going to be easy but this is more challenging than expected. I'm surprised how improperly trained I was by other [industry workers]. I knew I was not thoroughly learned on all things in [this industry], but I did not realize how much information I've been missing."

To me, this anecdote is a complex example of growth mindset toward students: Checking in and getting to know students individually, but systematically. Realizing that the surface is not the whole. Having compassion while maintaining high standards. Providing a trustworthy classroom where an admission of struggle can be made – and therefore, maybe the challenge met.

There are a bunch of offerings in this email that feature faculty and student work; see below. Also, here's a call for sharing your own work with faculty from around the CSU: **Proposals for the [2024 CSU Symposium on Teaching & Learning](#) are due November 13**. Please consider submitting! CAFE will pay your registration fee.

Take care,

Victoria

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In this email:

- [Winter Institute](#): *Doing the Work: Anti-Racist Teaching & Learning*

- [Featuring Faculty & Students](#): Faculty talks, student posters, bilingual story time
- [Teaching Nuts & Bolts](#): Technology Tuesday, Final Grades
- [Consultation & Coaching](#)
- [Research, Scholarship, & Creative Activities](#): CAFE Creates
- [Friends of CAFE](#): First-Gen Week

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[Winter Institute *Doing the Work: Anti-Racist Teaching & Learning*](#): Jan. 9-12, 2024, in person.

Consider together what it means and how to offer a course that goes beyond using generally effective strategies to being anti-racist. CAFE previously offered "Doing the Work" in Summer 2022 and Winter 2023. Whether you participated previously or not, the 2024 Winter Institute will support you, as we will build on our past sessions as well as introduce new topics. Faculty of any discipline and status are welcomed and encouraged to participate. This is a paid offering; we have capacity for a maximum of 30 faculty participants. [Register and save the dates.](#)

Featuring Faculty & Students:

- ***"Dia de los Muertos Altars as Pedagogical Tools for Culturally Responsive Teaching"***: Claudia Garcia-Des Lauriers, Anthropology & Kellogg Honors College. Friday Nov. 3, 12:00 – 1:00pm via Zoom. Register at <https://diversity.caltech.edu/events/rsvp>.
- ***6th Annual PolyX Showcase***: CPP students present research & projects performed in PolyX classes. PolyX projects represent innovative solutions to real-field challenges. Thursday Nov. 6, 11:30am – 1:30pm, in person at Ursa Major in the BSC. [Please register.](#)
- ***Bilingual Story Times, weeks 10-14***: The students of [ECS 3600](#) in collaboration with the Library offer bilingual story times for children, in a remote format! [See the schedule and choose your story!](#)
- ***Mentoring through Funds of Knowledge***: This asset created by Education faculty Sara Juarez and Giselle Navarro-Cruz, and Civil Engineering faculty Ghada Gad, provides faculty mentors with resources to help all graduate students feel welcomed and supported throughout the graduate school experience.

Teaching Nuts and Bolts:

- ***Technology Tuesdays***: Tuesday Nov. 7, 12:00 – 12:50pm via Zoom ([see the schedule and register with the link](#)). Learn about online course evaluations with Jeanette Baez.
- ***Fearless Classroom Original workshop***: Friday Nov. 17, 10am – 12pm via Zoom. This data-proven project positively impacts student success from psychologically safe learning environments. Join the [Fearless Classroom](#) movement. Join the workshop at <https://cpp.zoom.us/j/87333804751>.
- ***"Assigning Final Grades" Informative Session & Discussion (via Zoom)***: **Monday Nov. 27, 12 – 1pm OR Tuesday Nov. 28 12 – 1pm**. The Registrar team describes how to determine students' final grades, with special attention to Incompletes, WU's vs F's, RP's, and RD's. If you don't know what those letters stand for, or you uncomfortably assign a final grade without knowing all its implications, this session will be useful. [Please register.](#)

Individual consultations

Workshops and conferences are great, but individual feedback can be the most effective in enhancing your practice in multi-faceted faculty work. CAFE provides individual, confidential* consultations. We have two certified Gallup strengths coaches ([April Dawn](#) & [Victoria Bhavsar](#)) and “Everybody’s Mentor” [Lisa Kessler](#). Please reach out directly! (*We are mandated reporters under Title IX.)

Research, Scholarship, & Creative Activities:

- **Publication Opportunity:** “[CSU Global](#),” particularly the [CSU Global Journal](#), is an emerging California-focused publication based at Cal Poly Humboldt. Submissions are peer-reviewed.
- **CAFE Creates Fall 2023:** Join other faculty via Zoom to get writing done in a low-pressure, high-productivity environment -- state your goals. Sit and write. Cheer each other on!
 - Email [Erica Morales](#) for calendar invites on Wednesdays 10:00am – 12:00pm.
 - Email [Amy Dao](#) for calendar invites on Thursdays 9:00 – 11:00am.

Friends of CAFE:

- **[First Generation College Student Week 2023](#):** Nov. 6 – 9. Lots of events, workshops, resources, and activities many CPP students. Highlights include a kickoff celebration and First-Gen on Tap at Innovation Brewworks.
- **[Center for Community Engagement Faculty Impact Grant](#):** CCE Impact Grants of up to \$1000 for projects that connect academic learning with community needs. Application deadline **Nov. 17, 5:00pm**.
- **CSU Racial Equity Leadership Alliance classroom-related eConvenings:** Register at each link using your CPP email address. For questions, contact Presidential Associate & CDO [Cindy Pickett](#) or [Minh Tran](#), Director of Racial Equity Research Partnerships at USC.
 - [Teaching the Truth About America’s Racial History](#): Thurs. Nov. 2, 10am – 12pm
 - [Inclusive Classrooms and Teaching Practices](#): Thurs. Dec. 7, 10am – 12pm

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Get Canvas help from CAFE: Submit a [Canvas ticket using this link](#) OR call 909-869-3099, M-F 8am – 5pm.