

FOCUS ON FACULTY



CENTER FOR TEACHING & LEARNING @ UCM

June 19, 2017 Vol. 1 Issue 8



Atomic Learning has its annual Summer Session underway! Sign up [here](#) for their free Higher Ed professional development tips and insights on topics such as Assessment and Evaluation, Online Learning, First Year Experience, Instructional Strategies and more! There are even weekly prize drawings for sharing your takeaways!

UCM pays for membership to this valuable service, so all you have to do is sign in with your university login and you're set for weekly PD tips to arrive in your inbox. No sunscreen required!



Did you know?

Tips for faculty

Did you know that giving feedback throughout the learning process matters? The late Grant Wiggins, of [Authentic Education](#), shared his thoughts on how to ensure this in his article [7 key Characteristics of Better Learning Feedback](#). Wiggins looks what he sees as the seven required characteristics of effective feedback and explains how to use them. These seven: Goal-referenced, Transparent, Actionable, User-friendly, Timely, Ongoing, and Consistent, if used right, will lead to "the most robust improvements" and help sort out why some "feedback" works and other "feedback" doesn't."

Use this [Planning Calendar](#) as you plan your next semester.

Faculty Watercooler

Faculty discussions on subjects that matter to you

[4 Reasons Why a Generational Skills Gap Exists Today—and Isn't Closing](#)

Geof Irvine, *eCampus News*, 2/7/2017

Have you ever felt like your students are from a different world? The generational gap, compounded by the digital divide, can be very challenging, and try as we might, sometimes it just feels like we will never overcome it. Irvine explains that we are not so wrong—in fact, the "AAC&U released a survey that corroborated what everyone already knew: a huge gap exists between the perceptions of students and employers about work readiness, particularly as it relates to generational study and work skills." His article points out 4 of the reasons why this is the case, with the hope that we will recognize and strive to overcome these unique challenges.

Keeping Up

The latest in Teaching and Learning

Consider [inviting virtual guest experts into your classroom](#) via teleconference technology to expand your students' learning experiences. In this article Gillian Parrish, MFA describes how one instructor invites out-of-state Spanish-speaking colleagues into her classroom experience via Skype to expose her students to variations in accent. Another application of this technology describes how creative writing students have immersive conversations with book authors through the media. Read more about incorporating this type of learning experience [here!](#)



Suggestions? Please click on our [Ideas box!](#)