ECC Service Learning Course Spotlight

From the Desk of Sheryl Duquette

As the ECC Perkins Assistant Project Director for Service Learning I am thrilled to have the opportunity to support faculty who are enhancing their courses through service learning as well as those who are trying to get their service learning courses, programs and projects off the ground. When asked to contribute to the CTLA newsletter, my thought was what a terrific venue to highlight the wonderful projects faculty, students and community partners are working on. I hope you are inspired by the service work happening here at ECC!

The initial spotlight is on **Occupational Therapy and the Belle Center.**

David Merlo, Professor of Occupational Therapy teaches courses related to assistive technology, psychosocial rehabilitation, and therapeutic communication and is the fieldwork coordinator for the program.

David has found a way to merge areas of interest and expertise through teaching website development. Knowing there are numerous practical elements involved in developing websites that makes it possible to adapt the process to address virtually any academic or therapeutic objectives - from teaching computer literacy, to addressing academic objectives (reading, writing, arithmetic, etc.), to infusing creativity and self-expression, to facilitating self-directed exploration, self-help, wellness self-management, and recovery.

Students in David's OT -105-01 Occupational Computer Application course are working with children who attend an afterschool program at the Belle Center, 104 Maryland Street: *(left click/open hyperlink)* http://www.thebellecenter.org. The students work one-on-one with the children in building personal websites. The primary objective of the WEBKIDS project is to facilitate inter-generational and cross-cultural learning through collaborative partnerships. For more on WEBKIDS and to see student projects: *(left click/open hyperlink)* www.web-kids.org

Summing up this multifaceted project, David points out: "The possibilities are endless! And, by involving my own students in teaching others, I've added yet another dimension in which my students - engaged in service learning - are able to learn about culture, teaching strategies, therapeutic modalities, therapeutic rapport, and technology."

CTLA invites all departments and offices to share information on programs and best practices. This article came to light because of a recent article in Community College Week: "Learning by Serving" (April 4, 2011). Santo Rizzo immediately thought of our ECC Service Learning Project Department. Thank you to Sheryl Duquette for highlighting David Merlo who incorporates Service Learning in his classroom. Rather than read about successes at other colleges, we hope to highlight our own professional development and student learning success.

CTLA E-Xpress

Be green. Read online. Please, *fw.* to a colleague.

CTLA funds CIT *20/20 Vision* Professional Development Event

CiT

These fulltime faculty and adjuncts: Sue Theeman, Martie Dixon, Pat Kaiser, Hannah Jhun, Derrick Bateman, Pat Ryan, and Marge Kaczor will attend the CIT Conference at SUNY Oneonta, May 24-27, 2011. Look for their conference blogs at on the CTLA website and workshops in the fall.

Please join Santo Rizzo at the

NCSPOD NE Conference: June 2, 2011 to June 3, 2011

TC3 Nancy Lieberman Extension Center
118 Tioga Place, 6th Floor, Ithaca, NY
Sponsors: ICCD & SUNY CPD

The conference opens Thursday evening with registration, a Welcome Reception, Dinner & Networking. Full day of activities on Friday includes Keynote speakers: Bob Wiele & Khaki Wunderlich leading a panel discussion on StrengthsQuest. David Katz will present on "Emotional Intelligence" in the afternoon.

For more information: left click/open hyperlink:
NCSPOD NE Conference details, registration

From Santo's Desk

Digi[cation] and e-Portfolio software Comes to ECC.

On May 13, 1:30 PM, Martie Dixon and Pat Ryan will be holding a hands on workshop for HPER faculty and selected students on how to navigate the Digi[cation] software.

As part of the assessment plan for HPER the department has agreed to use the e-Portfolio assessment tool as a capstone project for students' assessment.

Martie Dixon and I recommended using this software to HPER after we were introduced to Digication at a League of Innovations conference last year. There were other products on the market, but we felt this was the most interesting and beneficial for our needs.

Since a number of our students transfer to 4-year institutions, for a small nominal fee they will be able to transport and add to their portfolios in the future, showcasing their work and achievements.