An Editor’s Perspective on SoTL
What’s the Problem?
Ernest Boyer
Boyer’s Vision

- Discovery
- Application Engagement
- Integration
- Teaching Learning

Scholarship
What is KCC?
SOTL and Community Colleges

- “Teaching in the trenches”
- Inclusive teaching and learning
- Integrative teaching and learning
- At risk populations
- Efficiencies
- External Funding
SOTL: What’s the Problem?
What is SoTL?
CASE 1: Is it SoTL?

• A bunch of SoTL experts got together and talked about whether or not there was an established definition of SoTL
Controversy and Consensus

- Exploratory
- Reflective
- Discipline-Based
- Rigorous
- Integrative
- Distinctive
- Collaborative
- Learning Centered

- Paradigmatic
- Assessible
- Educational Research
- Inclusive
- Outcomes-Based
- Iterative
- A Discipline
- Teaching Centered

*SoTL is the systematic study of teaching and learning*
CASE 2: Is it SOTL?

Bob the Biologist wants students to understand anaerobic cell growth processes. He devises a lab-based experiment in which students brew their own beer that is very popular.
SoTL is...SoTL isn’t....

- Good teaching?
- Scholarly Teaching?
Should YOU do SOTL?
Extrinsic

Show me Tenure
How Do You SOTL?
The SoTL Journey
SIX STEPS to SOTL

- Identification of the Problem
- Exploration
- Solution
- Evaluation/Assessment
- Reflection
- Make it Public
Step 1: Identify the Problem
CASE 3: Identify the Problem

Instructors are complaining that incoming students, particularly those in underrepresented populations, lack advanced literacy skills.
CASE 4: Identify the Problem
Thread: Social Learning

- Behavior:
  - Unconditioned Stimulus/Responses
  - Conditioned Stimulus/Responses

- Cognitive:
  - Logic - Encoding
  - Long Term/Short Term Memory

- Social:
  - Modeled Behaviors
  - Learning Environment

Sept 8, 2003
IDE 621 - Erin C. Barrett
Ingredient: Time
SIX STEPS to SOTL

- Identification of the Problem
- EXPLORATION
- Solution
- Evaluation/Assessment
- Reflection
- Make it Public
STEP 2: Explore
Literature Review
CASE 5: Exploration

Sue is teaching an English 101 course. She allows students to bring one sheet study guides with them to her tests. Her department says that this gives her students an unfair advantage over others. She wants to test the hypothesis.
CASE 6: Exploration

Summer
- More Sunlight on Northern Hemisphere
- Sun

Winter
- More Sunlight on Southern Hemisphere
- Sun
Thread: Operational Development

Wanna see something weird?

Watch. You put bread in this slot and push down this lever...

Then in a few minutes, toast pops up!

Wow. Where does the bread go?

Beats me. Isn't that weird?
Thread: Higher-Order Thinking

- Creating
- Evaluating
- Analysing
- Applying
- Understanding
- Remembering
Ingredient: Collaboration
SIX STEPS to SOTL

• Identification of the Problem
• Exploration
• SOLUTION
• Evaluation/Assessment
• Reflection
• Make it Public
STEP 3 and 4: Solutions/Evaluation
CASE 7: Solutions

Eve notices that her tutors seem to be uncomfortable practicing methods that they haven’t seen performed in a real classroom, so they are resistant to new innovations in the field. She has a class discussion about it and find the answers surprising—her student seem very resistant to innovation.
Methods and Evidence

Survey Says..
Method/Evidence

Learning
- Pre Objective tests
- Pre/Post tests
- Rubrics
- Classroom assignments
- Skills competency
- Student Portfolios
- Audio taping
- Video taping

Development
- Surveys (attitudes, satisfaction, confidence, expectations, motivation, learning)
- Focus Groups/Interviews
- Observations
- Think Out-Louds
- Screen Captures
CASE 8: Solutions

Eli, a Spanish instructor, has just discovered an exciting new method for teaching vocabulary using real-life situations. He is teaching two classes of Spanish 101 this Spring.
Ethics/IRB
CASE 9: Solutions

Chris redesigns his courses to focus on problem-based learning. The students really hate it, drop his class in droves, and give him poor evaluations at the end of the semester.
Innovation
SIX STEPS to SOTL

- Identification of the Problem
- Exploration
- Solution
- Evaluation/Assessment
- REFLECTION
- Make it Public
STEP 5: Reflect
CASE 10: Reflection

Randy, an English teacher, overhears his students complaining about an assigned text and how they can’t believe he likes it.
Gibbs, 1988
Thread: Metacognition

- **What is my goal? How motivated am I?**
  - Goal: To get an A on next week's essay exam.
  - Motivation level: High

- **What do I already know about the topic?**
  - Assess prior knowledge

- **How much time will it take me to study?**
  - Estimate time needed: Set priorities Schedule time

- **What strategies work best for me on essay exams?**
SIX STEPS to SOTL

- Identification of the Problem
- Exploration
- Solution
- Evaluation/Assessment
- Reflection
- MAKE IT PUBLIC
STAGE 6: Going Public
CASE 11 : Going Public?

- Prof. Green oversees all the instructors who teach an introductory course. In an effort to improve consistency, he develops a manual of best practices which he shares with all of the instructors. The manual is approved by the Dean.
What does it mean to go public?
CASE 12 : Going Public?

Professor Yin, who teaches criminal justice, submits his teaching portfolio to an online site where he receives feedback from other instructors in the field.
Course: NRES 311 Wildlife Ecology and Management

Author: Powell, Larkin
School: University of Nebraska - Lincoln
Department/Program: School of Natural Resources
Sub Area/Specialty: Conservation biology and animal ecology
Year: 2004

Portfolio Objective/Abstract:

The main objectives of this portfolio are to: (1) continue to refine the course through the required documentation of connections between course goals and course activities, (2) document the efficacy of teaching techniques, and (3) serve as a preliminary step to publishing some of the case studies being used in the course.

Type of Portfolio: Benchmark
Evidence of Student Learning in the Portfolio: Examples of Student Work
Welcome to MERLOT
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MERLOT
International Conference
Minneapolis
August 7-10, 2008
THREAD: Multimodality

The 21st Century Digital Palette

- Sensors/Robotics
- Interaction
- Compose
- Understand
- Frames
- Text
- Images
- Video
- Sound
- 2D graphics & animation
- 3D

Dr. Robert S. Houghton, 2010
CASE 13: Going Public

Bob develops a cool new way to teach political science, based on zombies, that seems to inspire his students in new ways.
Standard Format

- What is the problem?
  - Conceptual Framework
- What have others said about it?
  - Literature Review/Exploration
- How did you try to answer the question?
  - Method and Evidence/Solution
- What conclusions or implications can we draw?
  - Reflection
The Right FIT
February, 2009

The Teaching Professor - February, 2009 - Full Audio MP3

The Teaching Professor - February, 2009 - Full Issue PDF

The Things I Did Badly: Looking Back on My First Five Years of Teaching
By Graham Broad, King's University College, University of Western Ontario

Like birthdays, anniversaries are occasions for reflection, and as I approach the fifth anniversary of my teaching career, I find that my thoughts are drawn to the things that I did badly. Here's a list of five teaching mistakes I have made. I share them in the hope that they will cause others to reflect, and perhaps help new professors will avoid making these same mistakes.

What's Not Being Measured on Student Rating Forms?
Learning methods are not being measured on student rating forms. That's the conclusion drawn from a study done within the field of accounting. The researcher asked a random sample of 267 accounting departments for copies of the instruments they use to assess instruction. The request garnered 53 course evaluation instruments that contained 978 different statements and questions.

Those Long Years in the Middle
Mid-career faculty can easily reach a plateau where professional goals are less clear, even while an array of attractive personal and professional options may be available. The absence
Thread: Signature Pedagogies
Scholarship Assessed

THE TEXT
• Clear Goals
• Adequate Preparation
• Appropriate Methods
• Reflective Critique
• Significant Results

TODAY
• Identification of the Problem
• Exploration
• Solution/Assessment
• Reflection
• Going Public
Educational Curriculum & Methods

Description

Professors and graduate students in Curriculum and Methods frequently use Cabell’s Directory to assist them in publishing their manuscripts. Also, administrators and accrediting committees use them to evaluate publication records. Reviewers often praise

Directory Content:

- Preface & How to Use the Directory
- How the Directory Helps You to Publish Ideas
- Journal Entries
- Index

Each Journal Entry Includes:

- Editor’s Name
- Address
- Phone
- Email
- Web Address
- Manuscript Guidelines
- Acceptance Rate
- Review Type Process & Time
- Number of Reviewers
- Type of Readership
Quality

### Latest journal ranking in the biological sciences

**Welcome Cameron Neylon**

**Research Statistics**

Most read publication outlets in Biological Sciences (updated daily):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Journal</th>
<th>Readers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Nature</td>
<td>265</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Science</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Cell</td>
<td>163</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Journal of Biological Chemistry</td>
<td>140</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>PLoS ONE</td>
<td>122</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*more statistics*
Quality

Impact Factor Journal Ranking

http://admin-apps.isiknowledge.com/JCR/JCR?RQ=HOME
Academic Exchange QUARTERLY
Since 1997

FORTHCOMING
Winter 2008: Volume 12, Issue 4
Articles on various topics plus two special features:
to be selected from: CULTURE-2, LANGUAGE-1, MATH, ONLINE

- Drowning in Information – Starved for Knowledge no.4142-8j Abstract
  Susan F. Belgrad, California State University Northridge
- Integrating Mathematics and Physical Activity no.4083-8j Abstract
  Romanello ML, College of Mount St. Joseph, OH, et al...
- Online Book Clubs as an Instructional Tool no.4174-8z Abstract
  Tamara M. Walser, University of North Carolina Wilmington
- A Web Enhanced Course with Attendance Options no.4217-8z Abstract
  Nancy Miller, Metropolitan State University, MN
- A class in research, culture and entrepreneurship no.4181-8z Abstract
  Sara B. Marketti, Iowa State University, IA
  Sara J. Kadolph, Iowa State University, IA
- English Learning and Chinese Cultural Orientation no.4014-8z Abstract
  Fuhui Tong, Texas A&M University, TX
- Academic Worldview Differences and Motivation no.4158-8z Abstract
  Roberta King Mitchell, James Madison University, VA
  C. Leigh Nelson, James Madison University, VA

Editors' Choice - click on title to read full text.
- Youth culture, the mass media, and democracy 4205-9w
  Bradley J Portillo, Saint Louis University
  Paul Carr, Youngstown State University

UPCOMING
Spring 2009  Vol 13, Issue 1
- Law
- Problem-Based Learning
- Reading Instruction
- plus various topics

Summer 2009  Vol 13, Issue 2
- Arts-based learning
- Design in ed
- Gender and Sexuality
- Leadership
- Military ed
- Novel and Short Fiction
- Respect in the Classroom
- Scholarship
- Science Education
- Secondary Ed - Student-2
- Technology

Fall 2009  Vol 13, Issue 3
- Business
- Consult-2
- Health-3
- Management
- Religion
- Service

Winter 2009  Vol 13, Issue 4
- Educational Assessment
- Mathematics
- Media Literacy
SoTL is...SoTL isn’t....
CASE 14: Going Public?

Eric, an English instructor works intensely with a student one on one with his writing. The sessions are intense, not always successful, but the instructor learns a great deal along the way and becomes a better instructor through the experience.

What do you think?
Research Value

• Knowledge: Do we learn more?
• Experiment: Do we gain new tools of inquiry?
• Heuristic: Do we think differently?
Case 15: Going Public?

In her Organizational Theory and Behavior course, Maxine realizes that she could apply organizational theory to her own classroom.
Theory?
Humanities?
SoTL is... SoTL isn’t....

- Genre?
- Discipline?
Format?

RE-INVENTING THE POSSIBILITIES: Academic Literacy & New Media

Abstract

This webtext demonstrates the possibilities of using new media to teach students critical literacy skills applicable to the 21st century. It is a manifesto for what we think writing scholars should be teaching in general-education “writing” classes like first-year composition. In order to answer the question of what we should teach, we have to ask what kinds of academic literacy, if any, we value. We argue here that rhetorical theory is a productive way to theorize how meaning is made among new media texts, their designers, and their readers. We use the Ancient Greek concepts of topoi and commonplace to explain how designers and readers enter into a space of negotiated meaning-making when converging upon new media texts. That negotiated space offers a new-media space for learning critical literacies by means other than research papers. As examples, we discuss two student texts and the literacies they demonstrate.

Reading this Text

Our approach to new media literacies takes the form of two converging narratives. Ryan's approach from rhetorical theory is voiced in the blue serif font. Cheryl's approach from English studies—what it is and what it
I donated a kidney to an editor once.

Really? What happened?

It was rejected.
MountainRise

MountainRise, an open, peer-reviewed, international electronic journal, is published twice a year by the Coulter Faculty Center for Excellence in Teaching & Learning at Western Carolina University.

Originating in the ancient mountains of western North Carolina, MountainRise serves as an international vehicle for the Scholarship of Teaching & Learning (SoTL). MountainRise applies scholarly methodologies to the processes of teaching and learning, making that reflection and research public and open to critique, and thereby enabling a body of knowledge to develop, be reviewed and revised, the intellectual foundation, vision and practice of teaching are emphasized and enhanced.

Such scholarship can be an important way to stimulate a new renaissance of teaching & learning for the betterment and enjoyment of all involved in the educational process, thereby expressing why the scholarship of teaching & learning is a legitimate form of scholarship and why teaching & learning scholarship could be a significant factor in making exploration and excellence of teaching and learning a keystone of academic cultures.

With the 2005 Fall/Winter issue, MountainRise became an international SoTL journal with Review Board members from around the world who are strongly committed to SoTL.

All submissions undergo a blind peer-review process.
What Are We Looking For?
What Are We Looking For?
What Are We Looking For?
What Are We Looking For?
Themes
Research Threads

- Social Learning
- Cognitive Theories
- Higher-Order Thinking
- Learning Styles
- Metacognition
- Multimodality
- Signature Pedagogies
Recipe for SOTL Success

Carrot Cookies with Orange Juice Icing

Recipe For Orange Juice Icing
From Mom

Serves 1978
Cream: 1 c soft shortening, also margarine or butter
1/2 c Sugar
Add: 1 c packed mashed carrots
2 heet eggs
1 t lemon juice
Sift & Add: 2 c flour, 2 t baking powder, 1/2 t salt, 1/4 c coconut
Innovation
Collaboration
The Right FIT
I donated a kidney to an editor once. Really? What happened? It was rejected.
Persistence
SIX STEPS to SOTL

• Identification of the Problem
• Exploration
• Solution
• Evaluation/Assessment
• Reflection
• Make it Public
How *Do You Do... SoTL?*
SOTL Past, Present, and Future
How Will You Do SoTL?