PEER COACHING FOR CLASSROOM EDUCATORS

Tara Gray and Sharon Lalla, Teaching Academy

Opening Workshops
Tuesday, February 11 OR Wednesday, February 12
9:30-11:30 a.m.
Milton Hall Room 50

Peer coaching is a process in which teachers work in pairs to learn how to observe each other's teaching and give specific, concrete suggestions for change. Partners will exchange syllabi, observe each other's classes, and interview each other's students using a protocol. Later, partners meet to share the students' comments as well as their own observations and expertise.

Faculty participants also write letters for their partners to be included in the “evidence for effective teaching” section under “evidence from other professionals” in Digital Measures. Graduate students write letters for their partners to be used in job searches. The protocol used to evaluate each other’s courses involves assessing your peer’s syllabus and teaching using the syllabus rubric and the class observation rubric developed by the University Teaching Council and located at http://teaching.nmsu.edu/teaching-effectiveness/

Participant response to peer coaching has been positive. At NMSU, three times as many participants judged peer coaching as the most effective teaching improvement strategy compared to all of the following: teaching workshops, reading about teaching, and formal evaluations from students, peers and administrators. Respondents wrote:

My peer coach provided a sanity check for me… It was nice to hear someone say I was doing something right.
I got the opportunity to observe other teachers interact with students and learned invaluable lessons from a student perspective.
I felt companionship and support in the difficulties I face… the most important part of the program was breaking the silence…

All faculty and graduate instructors are invited to participate. The successful participant will:
• Attend the orientation on Tuesday, February 11 or Wednesday, February 12, 9:30-11:30 a.m., Milton Hall Room 50
• Attend a syllabus exchange with your partner, Tuesday, February 25 or Wednesday, February 26, 9:30-11:30 a.m., Milton Hall Room 50
• Conduct a class observation, share feedback afterward, and write a peer evaluation for your partner (to use in Digital Measures if you are faculty)
• Attend the closing workshop and graduation, Tuesday, April 8 or Wednesday, April 9, 9:30-11:30 a.m., Milton Hall Room 50

Successful participants will earn a Teaching Academy membership and an invitation to the annual Gala.

Registration is required by Thursday, January 30, at teaching.nmsu.edu.
If you have problems registering online, call 646-2204 for help.