



Fall 2009 Faculty Professional Development Series

September 17, 2009

2:00–4:00 PM

Location: 302 Rudder

Discussion on 2006 Campus Climate Survey

Karan Watson, Interim Provost and Executive Vice President for Academics

Simon Sheather, Professor and Department Head, Statistics

Antonio Cepeda-Benito, Dean of Faculties and Associate Provost

Part 1: Karan Watson, Interim Provost and Executive Vice President, will provide an overview of the campus climate survey project and results from the institutional climate portion of the survey.

Part 2: Antonio Cepeda-Benito, Dean of Faculties & Associate Provost, will highlight difference and potential areas of concern as a function of gender, race, and ethnicity.

Part 3: Simon Sheather, Head, Professor and Department Head, Department of Statistics, will describe what has been learned from a key driver analysis of following selected portions of the survey:

- Discrimination is a big problem in my department
- Hostile/friendly work climate
- Faculty member believes she/he has to work harder than colleagues do in order to be perceived as a legitimate scholar
- Satisfaction with current TAMU position
- Overall satisfaction
- Department head effectiveness

September 22, 2009

1:00–5:00 PM

Location: 510 Rudder

Help! I'm Over the Top! Tools, Tips, and Techniques to Gain Control of an Academic Life

Meggin McIntosh, Ph.D., Professor & Director Emerita, Excellence in Teaching Program,

University of Nevada, Reno

Are you overworked, overcommitted, and overdoing it? Do you feel overwhelmed, overextended, and overstimulated? Is your life overscheduled, overloaded, and overbooked? And maybe even your computer is overcrowded, in need of an overhaul, or over the hill? Is your inbox (both digital and paper) overflowing, overgrown, and oversupplied?

Some academics might even say they feel like they are “going over the edge” at times. If this is true for you...or if any of the questions above could be answered with a “Yes,” then make your plans now to attend. In this special workshop, Meggin McIntosh, also known as “The PhD of Productivity”™ will give you strategies that you can apply immediately to regain (or gain for the first time) a sense of control over your life as an academic. Topics will include: email, schedules, work space, interruptions, and many more. Invest in yourself, your life as an academic, and really, your personal life, by making the time to attend “Help! I'm Over the Top!”

To register online, visit our website at <http://dof.tamu.edu/develop> or call the Office of the Dean of Faculties and Associate Provost at 979.845.4274.



September 23, 2009

1:00–5:00 PM

Location: 401 Rudder

I Want to Be ‘Just Whelmed’: Maintaining a Vibrant and Productive Work Life

*Meggin McIntosh, Ph.D., Professor & Director Emerita, Excellence in Teaching Program,
University of Nevada, Reno*

Have you ever said, “I am completely overwhelmed right now” or “You know, that student’s assignment was somewhat ‘underwhelming’ or maybe some other similar statements? Being a faculty member means that there is always something to do. It can be overwhelming, to say the least! And, at the same time, you chose the academic life because you like the challenge and don’t want to be underwhelmed either.

So, is it possible just to be “whelmed?” Actually, yes it is.

In this engaging, practical, and energizing workshop, we will talk about how to determine what your “whelm” looks and feels like, as well as how to move ever closer to the state of “whelm” instead of the alternative extremes. You will learn tools, techniques, and strategies to apply—in conjunction with your new awareness. Here is what you can count on if you participate: Your vibrancy, energy, and productivity will expand within your professional (and yes, even your personal) life. Don’t miss this workshop!

September 24, 2009

8:30 AM–12:30 PM

Location: 510 Rudder

Networking for Introverts

*Meggin McIntosh, Ph.D., Professor & Director Emerita, Excellence in Teaching Program,
University of Nevada, Reno*

Rate the following as **True** or **False**:

1. I like working alone.
2. I enjoy my own company and my own thoughts.
3. The thought of walking into a room of people I don't know sounds horrid.
4. I probably know most of the people I need to.
5. It's easy to ride in a car with someone for hours and never say anything.
6. Networking is only for people in sales, certainly not in higher education.
7. People (students, other faculty, administrators, community members, grantors, etc.) will figure out for themselves how good I am. I don't need to worry about letting them know.

If you answered True to some (or all!) of these statements and/or if you think, "You must be kidding me! I need to network?! I'd much rather sit in my office (or work in my lab) and never talk to anyone else unless absolutely necessary," then the upcoming workshop, "**Networking for Introverts**" will be a great one for you.

In the workshop, you will learn the truths about networking including what it is and isn't; how to network effectively, with minimal 'risk;' ways to prepare to network, including what to talk about; why it is essential for today's academic to be 'out there' networking with individuals, small groups, and yes...even the dreaded large group. To be of service to others and to be able to access the knowledge, skills, and connections of others, excellent networking skills and strategies are required and need to be honed. This is true for extroverts as well as introverts.

The class will be taught by an introvert who has had to learn very deliberately how and why to network. Note: There will be no role-playing during any part of the workshop, don't worry! A few participants will be interviewed briefly prior to the various workshop, so be ready to share your thoughts with Meggin when she calls you! You will be notified ahead of time to check your interest and availability.

October 13, 2009

11 AM–1:30 PM

Location: 501 Rudder

Making Interdisciplinarity Work

*Stephanie Pfirman, Alena Wels Hirschorn '58, and Martin Hirschorn Professor in Environmental and Applied Sciences and Chair of the
Department of Environmental Science, Barnard College*

This interactive workshop explores individual and institutional characteristics that advance as well as hinder interdisciplinary research. Topics range from individual research strategies, to promotion and tenure criteria and institutional structures.

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