# Twenty-Second College-wide Graduate Assistant Colloquium on Teaching and Learning

Wednesday, August 20 and Thursday, August 21, 2014  
Moon Library

## Wednesday, August 20, 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td><strong>Registration and Continental Breakfast</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>8:30</td>
<td><strong>Welcome, Introductions, and Overview</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><em>Dr. Chuck Spuches, Associate Provost for Outreach</em></td>
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<td></td>
<td><em>Teaching Fellows</em></td>
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<td></td>
<td>The goals, background, and schedule of the program will be presented along with staff, participants, and materials.</td>
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<td><strong>Reflections and Aspirations by Dr. Quentin Wheeler, President, SUNY-ESF</strong></td>
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<td>9:00</td>
<td><strong>Exploring Learning Styles</strong></td>
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<td><em>Dr. Chuck Spuches, Associate Provost for Outreach</em></td>
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<td>In this session, you will consider characteristics of some of your most memorable teachers along with strategies for understanding and accommodating your and your students’ diverse learning needs and styles.</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:45</td>
<td><strong>Can You Hear Me Now?</strong></td>
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<td><em>Emily Stephan, Scott Bergey, Teaching Fellows</em></td>
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<td>This session will enable you to employ strategies to promote open communication between your faculty supervisor, other graduate students, and undergraduate students.</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30</td>
<td><strong>Break</strong></td>
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<td>10:45</td>
<td><strong>Teaching Strategies: Your Instructional Toolbox</strong></td>
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<td><em>Introduction: Sara Velardi, Teaching Fellow</em></td>
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<td>This session will provide you with strategies that challenge and facilitate your students’ learning in large classes, small-group recitations, and other settings.</td>
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*Please choose two of the following:*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>A. Presentations and Discussions</th>
<th>B. Labs and Field Experiences</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:50 –</td>
<td><strong>Moon Main Room</strong></td>
<td><strong>Moon 19</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>11:30</td>
<td>Scott Bergey, Teaching Fellow</td>
<td>Aaron Hendricks, Teaching Fellow</td>
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<tr>
<td>and</td>
<td>Dr. Neal Abrams, Associate Professor, Chemistry</td>
<td>Dr. Arthur Stipanovic, Professor, Chemistry</td>
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<td>11:35 –</td>
<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>Dr. Tom Horton, Associate Professor, Environmental and Forest Biology</td>
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<td>12:15</td>
<td><strong>C. Research Projects and Studios</strong></td>
<td><strong>D. Instructional Technology &amp; Blackboard</strong></td>
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<td>Moon Academic Success Center</td>
<td>Moon 110</td>
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<td>Emily Stephan, Teaching Fellow</td>
<td>Shruti Mokashi, Teaching Fellow</td>
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<td>Prof. Timothy Toland, Associate Professor, Landscape Architecture</td>
<td>Dr. Melissa Fierke, Associate Professor,</td>
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<td>Environmental and Forest Biology</td>
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**12:20 Lunch: Points of View from Faculty, GAs, and Students**

*Department Chairs and Graduate Coordinators*

Introduction: Katherina Searing, Associate Director, Professional Education & Non-Credit Programs, Outreach

"A Vision of Excellence in Teaching and Scholarship"

Dr. Donald J. Leopold, Chair and Distinguished Professor, Environmental and Forest Biology

**1:30 Graduate Assistant and Undergraduate Student Panel: Reality Check**

*Emily Stephan and Sara Velardi, Teaching Fellows*

This session will provide you with strategies for challenging yourself and your students; maintaining a professional demeanor in your role as a graduate assistant and as a role model for your students; prioritizing your responsibilities; and appreciating your role with respect to academic integrity, students who have academic support needs, and the concerns of international Graduate Assistants and others with unique needs.

**2:30 Classroom Assessment and Student Feedback**

*Whitney Lash Marshall and Sara Velardi, Teaching Fellows*

This session will use the Colloquium assessment and evaluation strategies to portray how you can efficiently collect and use student feedback throughout the semester in order to monitor and make adjustments to support student learning.

**3:00 Stress and Time Management**

*Sara Velardi, Teaching Fellow*

This session will offer strategies to manage stress and maintain wellness as a Graduate Assistant.

**3:30 Human Resources Information**

*Shruti Mokashi, Teaching Fellow*

Beverly Gracz, Senior Personnel Associate

This session will assist you with your health and other benefits available to you as a GA and RPA.

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**Thursday, August 21, 2014**

**8:00 am Registration and Continental Breakfast**

**8:10 Assessment & Evaluation: How to Know What Students Are Learning**

Introduction: Classroom Assessment Techniques, Whitney Lash Marshall and Sara Velardi, Teaching Fellows

This session will enable you to articulate the importance of providing timely feedback to your students, have strategies for evaluating your students through the use of quizzes, exams, papers, projects, and other assignments; and have strategies for assessing and improving your teaching effectiveness.

*Please choose two of the following:*
8:15 – A. Papers/Written Work
Moon 110
Scott Bergey, Teaching Fellow
and
Dawnelle Jager, Instructor, Environmental
Studies Writing Center
Dr. Gregory McGee, Associate Professor, Environmental and Forest Biology

8:50 – B. Quizzes/Exams
Moon Main Room
Shruti Mokashi, Teaching Fellow
Dr. Stephen Stehman, Professor, Forest and Natural Resource Management

8:55 – C. Research Projects
Moon 19
Aaron Hendricks and Whitney Lash Marshall, Teaching Fellows
Dr. Andrea Feldpausch-Parker, Assistant Professor, Environmental Studies

9:30 – D. Studios (Note: offered 8:15-8:50am only; required for LA)
Moon Academic Success Center
Emily Stephan, Teaching Fellow
Prof. Timothy Toland, Associate Professor, Landscape Architecture

9:35 ESF’s Libraries: An Overview and Introduction
Sara Velardi, Teaching Fellow
Stephen Weiter, Director, College Libraries
This session will introduce you to the range of library resources and services available to you and your supervising faculty, as well as to inform you who to contact for further information.

9:50 Environmental Health and Safety Resources
Emily Stephan, Teaching Fellow
John Wasiel, Environmental Health and Safety Officer
This session will introduce you to environmental health, safety resources, and people.

10:10 Facing the Challenge: Where the Rubber Meets the Road
Teaching Fellows
Dr. Neal Abrams, Associate Professor, Chemistry
Dr. Biljana Bujanovic, Associate Professor, Paper & Bioprocess Engineering
Paul Crovella, Instructor, Sustainable Construction Management and Engineering
Dr. Anne Lombard, Dean, Student Affairs
Dr. David Newman, Chair, Forest & Natural Resources Management and Professor
Dr. Lindi Quackenbush, Associate Professor, Environmental Resources Engineering
Kevin Reynolds, ESF Academic Integrity Coordinator, Student Affairs
Dr. Kimberly Schulz, Associate Professor, Environmental and Forest Biology
Scott Shannon, Dean, Instruction and Graduate Studies
Dr. Chuck Spuches, Associate Provost for Outreach
Mary T. Triano, Assistant Dean for Student Affairs (Student Support)
John E. Turbeville, Assistant Dean for Student Affairs & Director of Career Services
Dr. Benette Whitmore, Director of the Writing Program
This session will include selected cases and roundtable discussions on potentially challenging situations for you as a Graduate Assistant. Topics will include, for example, academic integrity; classroom-, lab-, studio- and field-related instructional challenges; and encouraging and supporting students’ academic support needs. Several faculty, staff, and administrators are on hand to help describe the considerable range of campus leadership and support Graduate Assistants can and should engage to appropriately support students.

11:25 Program Evaluation / Group Photo / Lunch
Aaron Hendricks, Teaching Fellow
Rachel Hoppins, Outreach Graduate Assistant
Note: Faculty supervising a 2014 Colloquium participant (GA or RPA) are invited to this lunch. RSVP is required. Thank you.

11:45 Concluding Remarks
Dr. Bruce Bongarten, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

12:15 – Opportunity for Consultations with Human Resources Staff (benefits)
Students with last name A-M (12:15-12:45pm in 217 Bray)
Students with last name N-Z (12:45-1:15pm in 217 Bray)
HR Staff available after 1:15pm in 216 Bray, or by appointment
**Department-specific Meetings with Supervising Faculty**

Graduate Assistants and supervising faculty are encouraged to schedule meetings during this time.

**Optional 30-Minute Campus Graduate Assistant Resource Tour**

*Sara Velardi* and *Emily Stephan*, Teaching Fellows

This tour will provide you with the locations of resources and offices important for a Graduate Assistant.

1:15

**Optional Hands-On Demonstration of the Blackboard Course Management System**

*Dr. Kelley Donaghy*, Associate Professor, Chemistry

*Dr. Melissa Fierke*, Associate Professor, Environmental and Forest Biology

Location: Baker Laboratory, Room 309

Blackboard, like other course management systems, is a web-based password-protected software system that allows instructors to distribute information and engage students in asynchronous (as well as synchronous) discussions and other small and large group learning activities. In this Hands-On Demonstration you will receive training on the grade book, discussion boards, document uploads and other "behind-the-scenes" administrative tasks. This session is open to all GAs and in particular it will be required of GAs for the General Biology and General Chemistry courses.

**Colloquium Follow-up**

As an extension of the Colloquium you are encouraged to take advantage of the following resources:

**Seminar on College Teaching:** Open to all ESF graduate students. EFB797 or FOR797; 1 credit; Fall 2015; 237 Gateway Center (Outreach Conference Room); C. Spuches, Instructor (Please note: not offered Fall 2014).

**Teaching and Mentoring STEM:** ESF 696 Section 99; Fall 2014. This online course is open to all graduate students participating in the after school STEM Mentor project. For more information go to [www.esf.edu/outreach/stemmentor](http://www.esf.edu/outreach/stemmentor) and contact Brandon Murphy at 470.6979/6817 or bmurphy@esf.edu.

**Special Topics: Seminar on University Outreach and Public Service:** ESF 503; Spring 2015, R. Beal & C. Spuches, Instructors.

- **ESF Outreach:** [www.esf.edu/outreach](http://www.esf.edu/outreach)
- **GA Colloquium:** [www.esf.edu/iq/colloquium](http://www.esf.edu/iq/colloquium)
- **ESF Academic Integrity Handbook:** [http://www.esf.edu/students/handbook/integrity.pdf](http://www.esf.edu/students/handbook/integrity.pdf)
- **ESF Graduate Student Association:** [http://www.esfgsa.com/](http://www.esfgsa.com/)

**2014 Graduate Assistant Colloquium Steering Group**

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