



HCC FACULTY MENTOR FIRST YEAR TRANSITION

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Who's Your Rep?

Jana Bielecki, Ybor City Campus
Faculty Mentor

Want to find out who represents your cluster or campus on various college-wide committees? Committee lists and handbooks can be found in Outlook's Public Folders (also available in Outlook Web Access).

Prioritize your tasks...

Janet Willman, SouthShore Campus Faculty Mentor

Time-consuming but relatively unimportant tasks can consume a lot of your day. Prioritizing tasks will ensure that you spend your time and energy on those that are truly important to you.



Sorry, wrong number/title/campus, etc.

When someone clicks on your name to address an Outlook e-mail message to you, does it give incorrect information? Perhaps it still shows you as an adjunct or at a different campus--or maybe just has a typographical error. If so, ask your dean to get it corrected or submit a ticket with HCC Live.



Prioritize and Organize...

Check out the [Evernote and OneNote: Right-brained vs. Left-brained](#) presentation during All College Day presented by David Liller, Academic Assistant to the Ybor City Campus President and Maggie Ponce, Office Administration Faculty at the Ybor City Campus.



Making the Grade: Un-scheming the Grade Scheme!

Dr. Barbara Goldstein, Dale Mabry Faculty Mentor

Grades can be an emotional—and controversial—topic for a classroom. Your grading system probably seems very clear and fair to you, but that clarity and fairness may not be apparent to your students. Does your syllabus say something like this? “There will be 5 tests, all weighted equally. Your final grade will be the average of the 5 tests. “ That sounds clear and reasonable. But is it? What is your grading scale? Is 90-100% an “A”? Do you go by pluses and minuses or is an 80% worth the same as 89%? Do you average by number or by letter grade? What happens if a student skips a test? Is it an “F”? A zero? Four 90’s + a skipped test averages out to a “C,” but if you are counting letter grades, it becomes a “B.” Have you unintentionally set up your system so that students who have not truly mastered the material end up passing your class because they aced one of the assignments or tests? Your grading system will get stronger as the years go by and your students learn to take advantage of the weak spots. But know this: your syllabus is your contract, and you can’t change your policy at the end of term when you are assigning grades. We’ve all had to eat crow somewhere along the way—and then plugged the hole for the next semester!

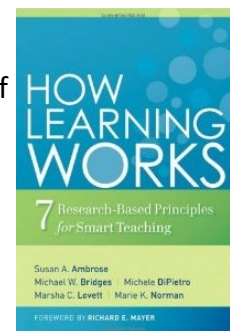
HCC Mentor Mission:

Encourage, Coach, Guide & Advise

One College – One Book: How Students Learn

Celeste Fenton, Ph.D. – Director CITT Faculty Professional Development

During the New Faculty Orientation, hosted by CITT, new faculty were provided a copy of *How Learning Works: 7 Research-based Principles for Smart Teaching* by Ambrose, Bridges, Lovett, DiPietro, and Norman. The book introduces seven principles of how students learn. Dr. Celeste Fenton, Director CITT Faculty Professional Development, not only uses the principles in her teaching at HCC but also with her graduate students at the University of South Florida.



Dr. Celeste Fenton says, “My reaction to the book was a dual appreciation of its research base, combined with practical tips and information drawn from the authors’ experience. The principles apply across all subject areas, educational levels, and pedagogical situations. The first section of the book explains the principles and their impact on teaching. The second section of the book discusses how the principles can be applied to teaching and includes a variety of teaching strategies and resources such as concept maps, rubrics, check-lists, assessments, and other learning activities.”

To continue the conversation, visit the CITT blog at <http://citt-tech-niques.blogspot.com>.

Tenure Portfolio... In Need of a Committee?

Dr. Michael Odu, Brandon Faculty Mentor

- Campus Advisory Council—Contact your campus president
- Institutional Advisory Council—Contact your campus president
- HCC Sustainability Council—Contact Ms. Resham Shirsat at rshirsat@hccfl.edu



[New Faculty Libguide](#)



[Teaching & Learning Strategies](#)



[Dealing with a Diverse Student Body?](#)

Johana Melendez, Plant City Campus Faculty Mentor

Would you like to hear more about 4 core principles that all students long for? Regardless of their background, ethnicity, language, gender, religion, age, and all differences you can name, I believe these are core principles that if you embrace them, it can advance your connections with students that could eventually lead to improvement in their academic progress. If you want to hear more about it and some practical strategies to use in your classroom when dealing with a diverse student body click the [link](#) to read more.