Welcome From the Adjunct Faculty Development Committee

In a few short days, Ivy Tech Community College will commence another academic year and students will fill our classrooms and hallways. As dedicated faculty members, you know all too well the tremendous amount of time and energy spent preparing for the upcoming semester. Although this is a busy time of year, it is vital that each of us take a few moments to reflect on how we as individuals contribute to the success of our students and in what ways we can work collectively to support learning.

Over the past several months, the Adjunct Faculty Development Committee has been working to provide resources and teaching tools that will assist us in making positive contributions to supporting the academic mission of the College, as well as student learning and success. This newsletter provides some highlights of resources that are available to you via the On-Line Adjunct Faculty Resource Center located within the Faculty Services tab of Campus Connect.

We hope you find these resources helpful and would be happy to hear any suggestions you may have in helping to support adjunct faculty. Please feel free to contact the campus’ adjunct faculty coordinator at your campus with suggestions.

On behalf of the college-wide Adjunct Faculty Development Committee, welcome back to another productive academic year. We are glad to have you with us!

Limited Medical Insurance Program for Adjunct Faculty

Ivy Tech continues to provide access to a Limited Medical Insurance Program for adjunct faculty and part-time employees who are not eligible for the full-time Ivy Tech benefits plan.

Open enrollment for participation in the program will begin August 15, 2008 and will continue until August 29, 2008. Information regarding program specifics, including cost, may be accessed through the Employee Services tab or On-Line Adjunct Faculty Resource Center on Campus Connect. A video has been developed and is available through either site within Campus Connect to provide additional information.

Individuals who are interested in enrolling in the program should contact their campus or regional Human Resources office for an Enrollment Packet.
On-Line Adjunct Faculty Resource Center Continues to Flourish

Over the past year, Ivy Tech has developed the On-Line Adjunct Faculty Resource Center to serve as a central point for accessing on-line tools and resources geared towards adjunct faculty. The on-line center is accessible through the Faculty Services Tab within Campus Connect and contains items such as the Adjunct Faculty Handbook, Adjunct Faculty Resource Guide, newsletters, and links to external websites dedicated to teaching and learning.

These sites are accessible by clicking on the Helpful Links icon in the resource center and include sites such as the Honolulu Community College’s Teaching Tips, Ivy Tech’s Virtual Library, and Ivy Tech’s Professional Resources for Teaching and Learning. Over the summer, an additional source was added to the site through collaboration with the Applied Math and Science Education Repository (AMSER). Please see the section below regarding AMSER.

The Applied Math and Science Education Repository for Two-Year Colleges
Chanda Halderman, AMSER Publications & Outreach Coordinator

The Applied Math and Science Education Repository (AMSER) is a free on-line portal offering a collection of educational resources and services built specifically for use by those in community and technical colleges. AMSER is funded by the National Science Foundation as part of the National Science Digital Library. The AMSER website connects educators and students to authoritative online math and science resources and offers tools to help incorporate these resources into teaching and learning environments.

There are a wide variety of free resources and supplementary classroom materials in the AMSER portal covering hundreds of topics, including algebra, chemistry, health sciences, and physics - - to name a few. The resources in AMSER have been hand-selected by librarians and content experts and include entire web sites, lesson plans, activities, videos, podcasts, assessments, worksheets, and much more.

Although AMSER’s resources are available to anyone who visits the site, a host of helpful services are available to those who complete a free, quick, and easy registration. These tools and services make it easier for users to find and organize resources they have discovered in the AMSER portal. The folder system assists with collecting, saving, and sharing resources with students or colleagues and the bulletin service alerts users to new AMSER resources in their field of interest, daily, weekly, or monthly. Other AMSER services and tools include saved searches and features which allow users to rate and comment on resources. Visit the AMSER website at http://amser.org and create a username and password to take full advantage of all AMSER’s services and tools.

Introduction to Community College Instruction: Getting Results

Ivy Tech will again offer Introduction to Community College Instruction: Getting Results, on all campuses this year. This on-line professional development tool was developed as a comprehensive approach to teaching adults in the community college setting. The experience is provided through the College’s distance learning platform, Blackboard, and consists of six modules that are facilitated by a group facilitator. The on-line experience incorporates six modules that were developed by the League for Innovation in the Community College and are used with their permission.

The six-modules provide professional development in the following areas: creating a community of learners, planning for outcomes, active teaching and learning, moving beyond the classroom, teaching with technology, and assessing teaching and learning.

The on-line professional development experience spans six-weeks with one face-to-face meeting with fellow participants occurring mid-way through the experience. Each week participants invest approximately 3 hours into on-line discussions, readings, sharing of ideas, and reviewing related materials.