

ISSUE 2.7



OCT 2023

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# CAT NEWS

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## OCTOBER NEWS

### NEW! CAT GRANT PROGRAM



#### Grant Funding



The CAT is pleased to provide grant support for the costs associated with projects that are directly related to improvements in teaching. Grant funding will be focused on the following teaching-related activities:

- Teaching improvement or innovation
- Increasing student success and accessibility
- Scholarship of teaching and learning

**Available Funds:** We will generally fund projects up to \$1,000

**Submission Deadline** Monday, October 16th, 2023

**Decision Notification** Monday, November 6th, 2023

LEARN MORE AND APPLY

**NEW!**  
**EQUITY &  
INCLUSION**  
**FACULTY**  
**LEARNING**  
**COMMUNITY**



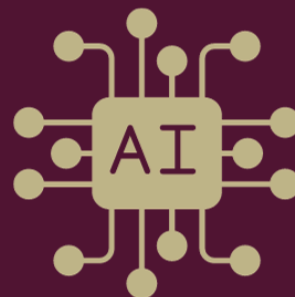
The CAT is accepting applications from faculty interested in exploring ways to increase equity and inclusion in a class they are teaching in Spring 2024. We welcome anyone with an interest to join the community (you can know a lot or know very little!) to **submit an application by Wednesday, November 1st.**



The Learning Community will be led by the CAT Director of Research, Dr. Karen Singer-Freeman and is capped at ten. Details can be found by following the link below!

LEARN MORE AND APPLY

**USING CHATGPT**  
**TO IMPROVE**  
**ASSIGNMENTS &**  
**ASSESSMENTS**



CAT Director of Research Dr. Karen Singer-Freeman's column, *Making a Grand Contribution: Using ChatGPT to Improve Assessment in Higher*

*Education*, was published in *Assessment Update* earlier this week.



This column is all about using ChatGPT to improve assignments and assessments and can be read for free by clicking the link below!

**READ THE COLUMN**



## **Supporting Students with Psychiatric Disabilities in the Classroom**



*Facilitator: Ashley Heffner, Center for Learning, Access, and Student Success (CLASS)*

During this session you will learn about the most common psychiatric disabilities at WFU (e.g., anxiety, depression) and how this may impact a student's ability to learn in your classroom. Accommodations for psychiatric disabilities will be reviewed and you will learn how to share resources with students, such as requesting accommodations with the CLASS office, UCC, and CARE Team resources. You will also have time to share your experiences working with students with psychiatric disabilities and how it may influence course design and pedagogy. Finally, elements of Universal Design will be discussed so that you can accommodate all students with and without approved accommodations.

**Wednesday, October 18**

**3:30 pm - 4:45 pm**

**Faculty Commons Classroom  
665 Wilson Wing, ZSR Library**

**REGISTER**

**What Do Wake Forest Students Do With Self-Assessment Power?**



*Facilitator: Lauren Miller, Spanish*

In this session, Dr. Miller will discuss how she has used self and peer assessment in her classes at Wake Forest. While most of the activities were designed for her First Year Seminar, she has also done some similar work in her Spanish classes and she'll speak to why self and peer assessment promote buy-in from students, and result in greater performance due to enhanced knowledge of the rubrics. She will also demonstrate concrete ways to incorporate peer and self-assessment techniques with written papers, participation, and oral presentations (including activities requiring students to engage with the revision process, professor and peer feedback, and the rubrics designed by them). Finally, Dr. Miller will present qualitative and quantitative data on the results of these assessment techniques in her classes.

**Wednesday, November 1**

**3:30 pm - 5:00 pm**

**Faculty Commons Classroom  
665 Wilson Wing, ZSR Library**

**REGISTER**

**WakerSpace: The Happiest Place on Earth**



*Facilitator: Paul Whitener, WakerSpace*

If you've wanted to learn more about how you might incorporate WakerSpace into your classes but have not had the chance to visit, this is your chance. You will receive the basic safety training required by all makers (which will allow you to use WakerSpace), then take a brief tour of

the facility to highlight all of the equipment and supplies available. A short presentation about faculty engagements and projects will follow along with Q&A/ideation time toward the end of the session.

In addition to the above, hands-on making time will be provided. Participants will make a ceramic tile coaster to take home.

**Wednesday, November 8**

**3:30 pm - 4:45 pm**

**WakerSpace (Building 61A, modular units in the back of Parking Lot Q between Scales & Dogwood/Magnolia)**

**REGISTER**

## CONSULTATIONS OBSERVATIONS & OTHER SERVICES



### Consultations

The CAT welcomes conversations about teaching and learning with everyone in our Wake Forest community. We offer consultations at the instructor, department, research, and university levels, depending on your area of interest. You are welcome to [schedule a consultation](#) with any of us, but we ask that you begin with your area so we are better able to distribute our work and build expertise by specializing.

### Student Feedback Sessions

CAT team members are available to collect Small Group Instructional Feedback (SGIF) from your students. SGIFs use small-group discussion among students to give you feedback on things such as how to improve

your course or how you're connecting with your students. It also lets students know that you're interested in their thoughts and ideas and can be very motivational.

Conducting a SGIF usually takes about 30 minutes and we recommend doing so about mid-way through the semester. All results are completely confidential. [Schedule a feedback session.](#)

### **Teaching Observations**

If you're interested in getting some feedback on your teaching, we are happy to arrange a classroom visit at a time that is most convenient for you. We'll observe unobtrusively and then meet with you to provide feedback, answer any questions you might have, and discuss and explore new teaching strategies. All results are completely confidential.

[Schedule an observation.](#)

*[Email Kristi Verbeke](#) with questions or for additional information.*

## **STAY CONNECTED**

Sign up to receive our newsletter directly to your inbox once a month, or if blogs are more your style we've got one of those, too. Featuring posts from the CAT team as well as guest contributors, you'll find a variety of evidence-informed practices and industry-trending topics.



Looking for a casual space to connect with colleagues? Join over 240 faculty to ask questions and share tips in our WFU Teaching Support Facebook group.

Interested in submitting teaching-related news or events to be included in next month's newsletter? [Email Megan Hobbs](#) with your request!

## **CONNECT**



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