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Faculty Illustrated

By: Rachel Burkholder

Before becoming a new faculty member in Liberty's VCAR program, Christopher Phillips won the "21 Under 31" art competition with the Southwest Art Magazine. The competition is designed solely to give young artists exposure in the art community. Phillips explains that the art world is rather political and if an artist is going to succeed he or she needs to have credentials like this award. Even though Phillips' passion is his art, he wants to do something more. He valued his Christian education and knew that Liberty would be the place to go; "Liberty has always been my first choice. Here is where you can make a difference."

As a young professional artist and a young professor, Phillips has been learning the act of balancing teaching with producing art. For Phillips it is not a question of one or the other because he sees that his art establishes credibility with his students. Phillips approaches teaching with the understanding that "The students are a reflection of you as a professor." Not only a reflection of his scholarship but his artistic talent as well.

Like any specialized field there are particular challenges that a teacher faces, and one of the challenges that Phillips perceives in art is communi-



cation. The students need more than just raw talent; they need to be able to articulate the process and understand the foundational elements of a composition. "Sometimes you find that you have completed a process and actually haven't learned anything," Phillips clarifies. He wants his students to not only clearly and eloquently express themselves artistically but to be able to explain and share it. The students make their art meaningful and purposeful when they understand the technical terms of the principles they are using in their compositions. Good teaching reinforces the foundational techniques of art. One of the most important aspects of teaching art is learning to communicate. Phillips knows that once his students know the fundamental principles and how to articulate them, they will be able to work with ease and professionalism in any medium or style of art they choose.

Come see one of Phillips' paintings hanging in the CTE.

Upcoming Workshops

*All workshops are at
10:00 - 11:00am*

*In the CTE Training
Classroom DH 3031*

- **Effective Lecturing**
Friday Oct 21
- **Bb Test Converter**
Monday Oct 24
- **Get Prezi-fied!**
Friday Oct 28
- **Classroom Management in Large Classes**
Monday Oct 31
- **Writing Letters of Recommendation: A Panel Discussion**
Friday Nov 4
- **Rubric Construction & the Bb Rubric Maker**
Monday Nov 7

Coming in, I felt I had a good grasp on technology but found out there was so much more out there that I can use in the classroom. From what I learned this week I feel I will be able to meet the educational needs of my students.

Nine teachers representing eight departments spent an intensive week of teaching with technology training before fall opening of school. Faculty submitted applications to attend along with a proposal and syllabus of the course in which they were interested in integrating a new technology.

Teaching With Technology Boot Camp a BIG Hit!

The CTE, along with partners from IT, Media Services, the ILRC, and CAFÉ custom designed the workshop to fit the needs of the group incorporating training in 14 different technologies. The week also included a discussion of issues, decision making and mentored hands-on experience from Liberty faculty currently utilizing selected technologies. Presentations of works in progress ended the week with an ensuing first semester classroom implementation phase. Many faculty members elected to implement more than one



technology as a result of their experience in the TWT Boot Camp. With an overall self-reported average increase in awareness level of 3.6 and skill level of 3.7 (10 point scale) in 14 technologies, participants felt that it was a week well-spent!

CTE Director Visits Centers at UNCCH and Duke

At the invitation of this year's very popular Orientation keynote speaker, Todd Zakrajsek, CTE Director Sharon Wheeler visited the Center for Faculty Excellence at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill in early September. After meeting the staff and touring the facilities, Director Wheeler came away with some ideas and the assurance that the new Liberty CTE programs and resources for faculty development compare favorably with offerings at major universities. Wheeler has also visited similar centers at George Washington University, James Madison University, Old Dominion University, and the University of Maryland.



Wheeler also visited the LINK Teaching and Learning Center at Duke University where faculty can reserve flexible classroom space where they can rearrange lightweight furniture to alternate between lectures and small group work. The new Liberty CTE faculty training classroom is set up with such furniture to give faculty opportunity to experiment with different classroom environments.

From the LINK she met with staff from the Duke Center for Instructional Technology, who were facilitating faculty training in moving from one major learning platform to another.

It is interesting to note that no two faculty development and resource centers are alike. They are designed to meet the needs of the university or college they serve and evolve over time. Liberty has made a major stride forward this academic year, under the leadership of Dr. Godwin, in the creation of a full-time Center for Teaching Excellence with a dedicated staff to assist faculty with instructional pedagogy and technology.

**Educational Conferences
in 2011-2012**

**Lilly International Conference
on College Teaching**

Location: Oxford, OH
Date: Fri-Sun, Nov 18-20, 2011
www.units.muohio.edu/lilycon/

**Conference on College and
University Teaching**

Location: Kennesaw State U, GA
Date: Fri –Sat Feb 3-4, 2012
Proposal: information to come
www.kennesaw.edu/cetl/conferences/gaconf/2012.html

Conference on Higher Pedagogy

Location: The Inn at Virginia Tech
and the Skelton Conference
Center, Blacksburg VA
Date: Wed –Fri, Feb 8-10, 2012
www.cider.vt.edu/conference

**Lilly Conference on College
Teaching & Pedagogy**

Location: Koury Convention
Center, UNCG, NC
Date: Fri-Sun Feb 10-12, 2012
Proposal Deadline: Nov 1, 2011
www.uncg.edu/tlc/lillyconference/

**Conference of the Scholarship
of Teaching and Learning**

Location: Georgia Southern
University, GA
Date: Wed-Fri March 7-9, 2012
Proposal Deadline: Oct 31, 2011



Services

The CTE is pleased to offer LU
faculty

- Workshops
- Roundtables
- Teaching Observations
- Teaching Consultations
 - Teaching Tips
 - Adding Relevance
 - Active Learning
 - Teaching Large Classrooms
 - Student Motivation
- Teaching Technology
- Boot Camps
- Blackboard® Training
- Communities of Practice
- Book Discussion Groups
- Writing Groups

To set up an appointment for
any of CTE's services, please go
to the
<http://tinyurl.com/3g4xg4s>

**Center for Teaching
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*Empowering Effective
Educators*

DeMoss 3032

Phone: 582-3032

Fax: 582-3873

Email: cte@liberty.edu
www.liberty.edu/cte

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University /CTE](https://www.facebook.com/LibertyUniversity/CTE)

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Sharon Wheeler, Director

Shawn Bielicki,
Teaching Advisor

Susan Crabtree,
Educational Technologist

Rachel Burkholder,
Administrative Assistant

Thank you, Center for Teaching Excellence, for the time you took in helping me develop my presentation for the World Conference of the American Association of Christian Counselors. Your organizational tips and teaching strategy suggestions made a huge impact. Indeed, I had many participants come up to me afterwards and state that the AACC needed more presentations like this! I know such statements relate to God's grace and your help. I highly recommend faculty to work with CTE not only for classroom teaching improvement, but also in the development of important conference presentations.
-Fernando Garzon, Psy.D., Associate Professor of Counseling