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Midwest Scholars Conference

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Don't forget to register for the opportunity to attend the Midwest Scholars Conference, March 14-15 in Indianapolis, hosted by Indiana Wesleyan University. This year's theme is "**Shifting Sands: Re-Imagining Scholarship, Theory, and Practice.**" We hope you can join us. For more information, please visit <http://www.indwes.edu/MidwestScholars/>. The online registration form will be ready and posted in the very near future.

Blackboard Update

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The latest update to Blackboard brought in a new feature that you may find useful. The feature is called Video Everywhere and enables an instructor or a student to add webcam video wherever Blackboard's content editor exist. Video Everywhere will seamlessly allow you to record your webcam for a lecture and load the video to YouTube with private settings so only your class can see it. Once the video is loaded you can embed the video as an announcement, discussion post, a response to a graded item, in fact almost anywhere in the course. To read more about Video Everywhere follow this link http://ondemand.blackboard.com/r91/documents/getting_started_with_video_everywhere.pdf

Keynote Speaker

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Brad Garner was the keynote speaker at a gathering of First-Year Seminar faculty at IUPUI in Indianapolis on February 15, 2013. His presentation focused on strategies for the creation of engaging, interactive classroom learning experiences.

Learning Academy

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The Learning Academy is currently offering a fourth-month course for 14 faculty in the College of Arts and Sciences who are in the process of developing online and blended courses. This course, which also meets the requirements for two courses in The Learning Academy sequence focuses on the application of course design and student assessment principles in face-to-face and online venues.

Instructional Design Support Group

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An instructional design support group has been started in the CLI Organization in Blackboard. This virtual support group will post videos and other resources describing items related to instructional design, course design, course development, and deep Blackboard functionality. You will be able to view the video and post comments and questions to be answered by the ID team. Come check it out!

Poll Everywhere

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Do you want to implement an audience response system? Try Poll Everywhere (<http://www.polleverywhere.com/>)! "Poll Everywhere creates stylish real-time experiences for events using mobile devices. We make popular text-to-screen applications for SMS voting and text walls that can be displayed on the web or in Keynote/PowerPoint."