Talking the Profession



A New CTL Series focused on Faculty Work Life

Co-sponsored by the Faculty Steering & Conference Committee (FSCC), the Connecticut College Chapter of the AAUP, the Office of the Dean of the Faculty (DoF), and the Office of the Dean of Institutional Equity & Inclusion (DIEI).

Have you ever wished that the topics of the CTL's "Talking Teaching" series could be broadened to incorporate other aspects of our faculty professional lives? Are there issues in our work lives that you believe deserve our attention but you don't know who to discuss these with?

Please join us for the CTL's new discussion series, "Talking the Profession."

No topic is off limits, and no issue is insignificant! Send us your ideas and in the meantime, we hope you'll join us for our first two events in this series!

Talking the Profession

How to Intervene Constructively with Colleagues

New date & time: MONDAY 28 OCTOBER, 3:30 PM to 5 PM HOOD in BLAUSTEIN FOOD & BEVERAGES WILL BE SERVED

As a faculty member, have you ever found yourself a bystander to behavior that is bullying, unethical, or simply unacceptable and felt the desire to intervene but were not sure how to do so? Or have you found yourself in a situation—whether at a conference, a committee meeting, a faculty meeting, or in the hallway— where you wished a colleague would intervene to stop inappropriate behavior directed at you?

Bullying and bad behavior in the academy are endemic, and we on our campus (and beyond) are not immune from it. How do we build our capacity to recognize and intervene in situations that we find inappropriate and unacceptable?

Using techniques from bystander intervention programs, we will build a broad repertoire of interventions which can be used in a variety of situations we might witness in academia.

With CC Curtiss, Afshan Jafar, Rachel Stewart, and Derek Turner.

Talking the Profession

Do I have a Boss?

FRIDAY 22 NOVEMBER, 11:50 AM to 1:30 PM
ERNST in BLAUSTEIN LUNCH SERVED at 11:40 AM

One professional issue that we faculty members might wonder about is who (if anyone?!?) is or should be "in charge" of us in the workplace. Is it our department chair? The dean of the faculty? A committee chair? Some other administrator(s)?

In many workplaces, one's relationship with a boss or supervisor can sometimes be challenging to navigate. In academia, though, the challenges are complicated by the fact that it can be unclear who might/or should count as a boss. For example, is a department chair in a supervisory role with respect to adjunct and visiting faculty, but not tenured or tenure-track faculty? And how are these issues complicated by routine transitions where one department or program chair (say) is succeeded by someone else with a very different administrative style and approach? What aspects of faculty work life—from course scheduling to deciding which events to support—should a department chair have authority over? And what might be some constructive ways of working with chairs who exert either more or less authority than one might like?

If you would like to attend either of these events please RSVP to Afshan Jafar (ajafar@conncoll.edu) or Derek Turner (dtur@conncoll.edu).

Please remember to save the dates for Camp Teach & Learn 2020

Wednesday, Thursday & Friday May 20, 21, & 22

As always, if you have any suggestions for discussions or workshops our upcoming Camp Teach & Learn please contact

Michael at reder@conncoll.edu.