NOVA’s Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL) is dedicated to assisting faculty and staff in improving the quality of teaching and learning services. Based on the college vision and the strategic goal, the strong reputation the college already enjoys for the quality of its teaching and the performance of its learners, and a deeply ingrained culture of excellence shared by the teaching faculty, the college established CETL in 2008.

CETL directly supports the NVCC strategic goal to increase professional development opportunities that result in enhanced teaching, increased productivity, and improved services to students.

**New faculty orientation**

NOVA’s new faculty orientation program has grown and developed into a highly-respected program. Faculty attend four days of orientation over the course of one year. There are three intervals: the beginning of the fall semester (Orientation I); the beginning of the spring semester of the first year (Orientation II); and the beginning of the fall semester of the second year (Orientation III). As NOVA puts extensive efforts into annually recruiting large classes of faculty for the 21st century, it is critically important to invest in an intensive program to promote strong bonding with the college community and deep commitment to instructional excellence.

CETL coordinates and works with campuses to offer new adjunct faculty orientation each semester. A college-wide orientation is also available to all adjunct faculty in August and during the PUP Conference in January.

**Power Up Your Pedagogy Conference**

Started in 2005, CETL has initiated, coordinated, and developed the faculty-led Power Up Your Pedagogy conference. The PUP conference is now a collaborative effort among Academic Services, CETL, ELI, HR, TAC and WSDM.

It showcases some of our best and most innovative faculty and teaching strategies. CETL won a VCCS Excellence Award from the VCCS in 2008 for the PUP conference.

**Faculty mentoring program**

CETL is working with the academic deans’ council and interested faculty members to develop significant and vigorous faculty mentoring programs.

One such program is the Mutual Mentoring Communities. New faculty (full time and adjunct) are invited to join a faculty learning community that is mutually facilitated by the members in it. A CETL Faculty Advocate assists in providing experience and resources as needed.

To apply to become a part of a Mutual Mentoring Community, go to [http://tinyurl.com/newfacultymmc](http://tinyurl.com/newfacultymmc)

**Faculty Focus workshops**

CETL serves as a clearinghouse in posting and promoting faculty development workshops and events on the website, [www.nvcc.edu/CETL](http://www.nvcc.edu/CETL).
Teaching and Learning Matters

Faculty members contribute articles and information about best practices in teaching and learning, pedagogy, highlights of faculty honors and awards, and instructional resources to our newsletter, Teaching and Learning Matters. These are published on the CETL website.

Follow CETL happenings on http://twitter.com/#!/npeck

Faculty learning communities

CETL will continue to engage faculty in reflective practices of teaching and learning through faculty learning communities. During the 2008-2009 academic year, 12 faculty were engaged in a faculty learning community on best practices in teaching and learning. The group is made up of full-time and adjunct faculty from each campus as well as diverse disciplines. This group will continue in 2009-2010.

During the 2009-2010 academic year, CETL will be hosting two additional faculty learning communities: 1) FLC on integrating information literacy; and 2) FLC on best practices in learning and teaching for STEM faculty.

CETL Faculty Advocate program

CETL is now identifying and assisting strong faculty members to create knowledgeable advocates/alleys. We are developing a cadre of faculty developers in an intentional and structured way.

CETL works with provosts and deans to identify and to prepare talented individuals for formal positions on our campuses as exemplary faculty advocates. Our programming is designed to grow professionals in and advocates for faculty development. We have 1-2 faculty associates for each campus.

Alexandria – Afif Chamlou
Annandale – Erica Lamm, Alicia de la Torre Falzon, Jennifer Rainey, and Cynthia Rathjen
Extended Learning Institute – Bob Loser
Loudon – Barbara Crain
Manassas – Mocha Dyrud
Medical Education Campus – Patricia Ottavio
Woodbridge – Jennifer Taylor

CETL’s faculty developers work with our Faculty Advocates to learn more about their craft and ways to advocate for the scholarship of teaching and learning. CETL guides faculty in exploring and implementing instructional strategies including:

Confidential consultations;
Classroom design and centers for learning (including communication and STEM centers);
Team-Based Learning (TBL), Cooperative Learning, and cohort learning communities;
Ways to use CCSSEE data in developing instructional practices;
Conducting midterm student group feedback consultations; and
Professional development for those working with those students who come under-prepared for college-level work.

www.nvcc.edu/CETL
CETL’s main office is located in CG 218, on the Annandale Campus
Main phone 703.764.7386 (x 27386)