

To: All IUS Faculty

From: Gil Atnip, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

Date: 7/10/02

RE: Welcome (Back) Week 2002 Activities

Colleagues,

I hope your summer has been exciting and rejuvenating. I would like to bring your attention to several events taking place on campus the week prior to the start of classes. Of special importance are the workshops on Monday (critical thinking by Neil Browne) and Friday (the central role of faculty in student learning by Louis Schmier).

The workshop on Monday is the start of the General Education Committee's emphasis on teaching and assessing critical thinking during the coming year. In an effort to include all interested faculty in this process, we are setting up a critical thinking interest group. Details of this group can be found on the ILTE website <http://ilte.ius.edu> as well as in your campus mailbox and school office.

The Welcome (Back) Week begins on Monday, August 19th with the ILTE's annual Fall Half-Day workshop on: **Defining and Teaching Critical Thinking** presented by Dr. M. Neil Browne, Professor of Economics, Bowling Green State University from 9:00-12:00, and formally concludes with the Chancellor's day featuring a workshop by Dr. Louis Schmier, Professor of History, Valdosta State University (topic: **You've Got the Cookie**) on Friday, August 23rd. While the events scheduled for Tuesday (8/20) are strictly for new faculty, the events scheduled for the 19th, 21st and 23rd are open to all faculty. Each day of the week is sponsored by an individual campus department: Monday: ILTE; Tuesday: Alumni and Academic Affairs; Wednesday: IT and Library; and Friday: Chancellor.

Details regarding the workshops on Monday and Friday are on the reverse of this page. Attached you will find brief description of each day's events. Please refer to the ILTE website for more information and updates.

I encourage you to attend these events. Please see the enclosed flyer for more information on the activities.

Defining and Teaching Critical Thinking

19 August 2002

Indiana Room

9:00-12:00 (A light continental breakfast will be available at 8:45.)

Presented by: Dr. Neil Browne, Distinguished Teaching Professor of Economics and Director, IMPACT: An Honors Learning Community, Bowling Green State University.

Dr. Browne has a wealth of experience in critical thinking as well as critically thinking about values; and has agreed to serve as a consultant for us as we begin the process of critical thinking throughout the curriculum. He will be facilitating the ILTE's Spring Half-Day workshop on Assessing Critical Thinking.

Attendees of this workshop will receive a copy of Dr. Browne's book, *Asking the Right Questions: A Guide to Critical Thinking*.

You've Got the Cookie

23 August 2002

Multi-Purpose Room

9:00-2:00 (A continental breakfast will be served (at 8:45) and a catered lunch will be served.)

Presented by Dr. Louis Schmier, Professor of History at Valdosta State University. This interactive workshop will focus on the central role of faculty in student learning. Professor Louis Schmier says teaching "is like mining for gold, and we teachers are the prospectors whose task is to invite students to dig alongside us as their own prospectors mining for their own paydirt." The two morning and one afternoon sessions will engage participants in a guided exploration of teaching priorities and payoffs.

"I believe with all my heart and soul that caring, not technology or technique or subject mastery, is the most powerful teaching tool at our disposal."

Louis Schmier, Tues, 5 July 1994, [Teaching and Caring](#)

Attendees of this workshop will receive a copy of Dr. Schmier's book, *Random Thoughts II: Teaching from the Heart*.

Links to the web sites of the two presenters can be found on the ILTE web site (<http://ilte.ius.edu>) as well as any (provided) bibliographic information. Any updates will be posted to

Colleagues,

that site as well.