

MERLOT ELIXR contributes to the WikiPODia knowledge base

MERLOT ELIXR has contributed two articles to the new WikiPODia knowledge base. The first article **Digital Case Stories for Faculty Development** provides a summary of some exemplary case story resources and examples of the value of using digital case stories to highlight different disciplinary approaches to pedagogical strategies, relevant teaching contexts, and student-centered teaching.

The second article **Helping Your Faculty to Optimize the First Day of Class** highlights how faculty developers can aid faculty in designing their first class meetings by looking at five goals (motivation, framing the course, establishing expectations, assessing students, creating a comfortable environment) along with activities to achieve those goals. It links to the ELIXR case stories of exemplary teaching on the First Day of Class. See both articles at <http://sites.google.com/site/podnetwork/Home/topics-for-discussion>.

Contact Us

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Spotlight on Case Stories



A Geosciences professor demonstrates how she uses the **Just-in-Time Teaching Method** in her “Introduction to Geology” class and explains how the students have responded to this innovative teaching method.



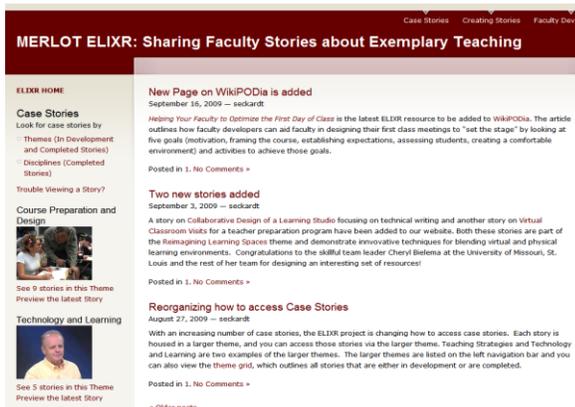
The **Universal Design for Learning Theme** module includes seven case stories that highlight faculty who are diversifying their teaching approaches to meet the learning needs of

students, including multiple *Representations* of course concepts, multiple *Engagement* methods to get students into the material, and multiple *Expressions* of student work and understanding.



Transforming Course Design is a process to improve student learning while simultaneously addressing instructional costs.

Two stories that focus on math are available to show how redesign improving student success.



Background on MERLOT ELIXR

MERLOT’s ELIXR program, elixr.merlot.org, is a digital case story repository that hosts over 30 discipline-specific multimedia stories, with more than 60 stories to be added by early winter 2010. All the stories are organized in modules, with each story demonstrating an exemplary teaching practice for a particular theme topic and related strategies for use in faculty and professional development.

Complete List of MERLOT ELIXR Case Stories

You can access these stories by visiting <http://elixr.merlot.org/about/case-stories/themes/>

What is a case story? Case stories present the experiences and reflections of faculty and students on an innovative teaching approach, including multimedia reflections and classroom visits.

How are case stories being used? *ELIXR* case stories are being used in faculty development workshops, online discussions, and faculty learning communities. Our faculty development leaders are contributing to ongoing weblogs to share ideas and results on their use of two *ELIXR* themes: [Universal Design for Learning](#) and [First Day of Class](#). Visit elixr.merlot.org and then click to the blogs on the right hand side.

Understanding and Meeting Students' Needs

- Flowcharting in Business Education
- Integrating Technology into Instruction –
- American Sign Language
- Multiple Delivery Methods of Course Content –
- Technical Writing
- Small Group Discussion – Information Systems
- Rhythm and Pitch: Introduction to Music Class
- Understanding Abstract Theories by connecting to Common Issues – English Education
- Fostering Creativity – Computer Arts and New Media, Interior Architecture Design, Sculpture, Video Editing and Writing

Teaching Strategies

- Active Learning Groups – Organic Chemistry
- Building a Community Service Learning
- Project – Interdisciplinary
- Student Video Projects in Critical Writing
- Using ConcepTests – Geology
- Just in Time Teaching – Geosciences

Technology and Learning

- College Algebra Redesign for Greater Student Success – Mathematics and Computer Science
- Community College Leadership Program Goes Online
- Foreign Language Redesign for Oral Proficiency
- Virtual Classroom Visits, Teacher Education
- Collaborative Design of UMSL's Learning Studio, English (Technical Writing)

Course Preparation and Design

- First Day of Class (6 stories)
- Global Climate Change and Debate
- Intercultural Learning – Communication
- Bridging the Gap for Student Success – Marketing
- Teaching Visual Media Analysis, Writing and Computer Skills – Interdisciplinary
- Increasing Student Success – Math
- Transforming Business Math
- Mimeographs to Podcasts – Education
- Increasing Student Success, Math

Developing Instructional Expertise

- Supporting Course Redesign via Faculty Communities – Multidisciplinary

**ELIXR is supported in part by a grant from the Department of Education's
*Fund for the Improvement of Post-Secondary Education***