

West Coast Great Teachers Seminar – June 20-23, 2011

Honeymoon Bay Retreat Centre, Honeymoon Bay (near Lake Cowichan, Vancouver Island)

About the Great Teachers Seminar

For over 25 years, college educators representing a wide variety of subject matter areas and teaching experience have gathered in locations throughout North America for this four day long, intensive seminar. It is a unique opportunity to learn about and reflect on the teaching challenges faced by educators in post-secondary institutions. The format, which is minimally structured, evolves from an ongoing assessment of the participants' needs as the seminar progresses.

Seminar participants engage in a learning process of shared information and experiences, self-reflection, and action planning as they explore a variety of teaching strategies, innovations, instructional challenges and solutions brought to the seminar by the participants. The seminar is built on the philosophy that one of the most powerful forms of professional development for faculty is faculty learning from one another.

The theme underlying all seminar activities is the quest to identify the nature of the 'Great Teacher.' As in any quest, the questers learn much about themselves. The seminar is not meant to be a 'reward' for accomplished teachers; it is not limited to the already 'great'; rather, it is designed to appeal to those who are striving to be great.

Goals of the Seminar:

- To celebrate good teaching;
- To inspire faculty to venture beyond the limits of their own specializations and environments in search of transferable ideas and the universals of teaching;
- To discover realistic, creative approaches to teaching and learning;
- To promote introspection and self-appraisal by providing a supportive environment in which participants may seriously reflect on their attitudes, methods and behavior as teachers;
- To stimulate the exchange of information and ideas by building an expanding network of communication among teachers in higher education; and
- To renew the commitment to student learning.

Seminar Leaders

The seminar will be led by Glynis Wilson Boulton and assisted by experienced Camosun faculty facilitators **Jacque Conway** (Learning Skills), **Troy Dunning** (Business), **Catherine Mack** (Business), **Thuy Nevado** (Biology), and **Nancy Sly** (Educational Support & Development).

Glynis Wilson Boulton spent seventeen years at Red Deer College in Alberta in a variety of roles, including classroom English instructor, Learning Assistance Center instructor, and Faculty Professional Development Animator. For over ten years, Glynis has worked across Canada and in the United States for educational institutions, as well as government, business and industry, and the not-for-profit sector. She offers workshops and courses on a variety of topics including instructional development, facilitator training, creativity and wellness, and storytelling in the classroom. Glynis received her Master of Arts in English in 1981 and has been an Instructional Skills Workshop facilitator and trainer since the late '80's.

Seminar Logistics

The West Coast Great Teachers Seminar will be held at the Honeymoon Bay Retreat Centre in Honeymoon Bay near Lake Cowichan on Vancouver Island. Honeymoon Bay is west of Duncan and about an hour and 45 minutes drive from Victoria. For further information about the Centre please go to their website at: <http://www.honeymoonbayretreat.com/>.

- Seminar start time: 10:00 am, Monday, June 20, 2011
- Departure: 2:00 pm, Thursday, June 23, 2011

Participants are expected to commit to the full seminar as they will be experiencing a process that requires full participation from the very beginning to the very end. Activities will occur from Monday morning through early Thursday afternoon, including the evenings.

Please note that all rooms are shared accommodation so guests cannot be accommodated (two registrants per room; individual beds and shared bath – hotel quality).

To ensure a quality experience, enrolment is limited to 24 participants. The group will be living and learning together in a relaxed atmosphere of good humour and fun.

Additional details about the seminar will be forwarded to participants upon completion of the registration process. Questions can be directed to Nancy Sly at nansly@camosun.bc.ca or LTC@camosun.bc.ca. Or go to the Great Teachers Seminar website at: <http://ngtm.net/>.