

December 2023

THE CenterPOINT Press

A monthly publication of the Center for Inclusive Teaching and Learning at UW-Stevens Point

Supporting Faculty and Student Mental Health

The UWSP Teaching Conference, scheduled for Wednesday, January 17, 2024, will begin with a keynote presentation by Sarah Rose Cavanagh, author of *Mind Over Monsters—Supporting Youth Mental Health with Compassionate Challenge*. She is a senior associate director for teaching and learning at Simmons University and holds a Ph.D. in experimental psychology.

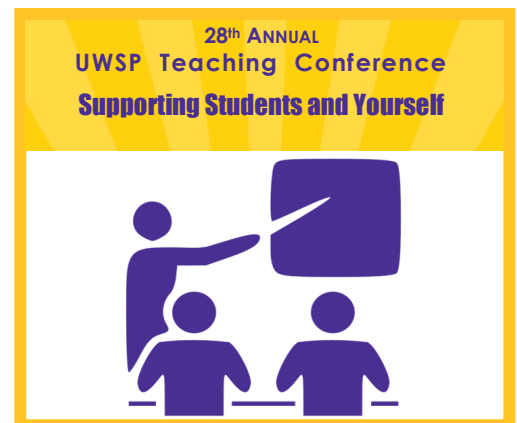
Dr. Cavanagh's presentation focuses on the last several years of disruption, uncertainty, and overburdened workloads that have exhausted teachers and students alike. Monsters have reared their heads, and we have understandably shrunk from them. Faculty are burnt out—sacrificing their own mental health, phoning it in out of desperation, or leaving the profession entirely. Students are experiencing an epidemic of mental health problems, especially anxiety.

How can we support our students without burning ourselves out? In this interactive keynote, we will learn about pedagogies of care and how higher education should respond to both faculty depletion and the student mental health crisis. Dr. Cavanagh will share research and food for thought that will be engaging for both faculty and staff members. We hope you will join us!

[Register to attend the Teaching Conference.](#)

Proposals to present at the UWSP Teaching Conference will be accepted through Wednesday, December 6, 2023.

[Call for Proposals](#)



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Finals Week Exam Processing

Finals week is a busy time in the CITL office as we average 5,800 sheets scanned for exam scoring. [Instructions and information for test scoring](#) are on our website at Services | Test Scoring and we offer the following checklist to ensure an efficient test scoring process. Each exam scoring packet should include:

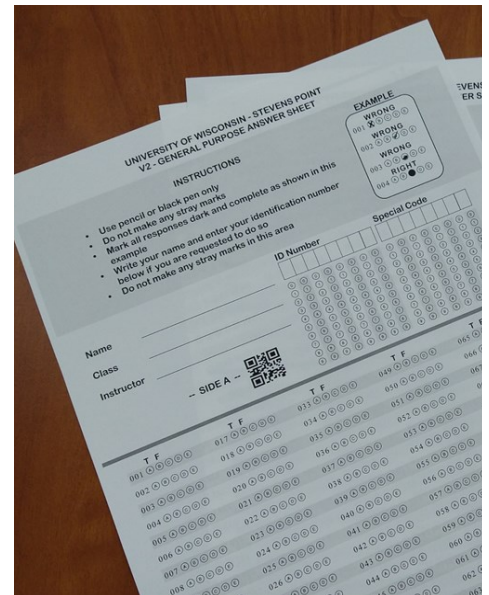
- ✓ A completed Exam Scoring Request form
- ✓ An intercampus envelope with your return information:
Instructor name, department, and building
- ✓ Your completed answer key with no stray marks
- ✓ Student answer sheets completed with **student names and IDs completed and bubbled**

Reminders:

With the large volume of packets to process during finals week, results may take up to 72 hours to appear in your OneDrive folder. All packets will be returned via campus mail.

Student answer sheets without a printed name and printed and bubbled ID number will need to be hand graded by instructors once your packet is returned via campus mail.

Please email us at citl@uwsp.edu with any questions.



THE JOYS OF Teaching & Learning
Engaging Students

The Universities of Wisconsin hosts a Spring Conference on Teaching and Learning every year. The [OPID 2024 Spring Conference for Wisconsin Educators](#) will be held on **April 18 and 19, 2024**, with the theme "Engaging Students."

[Call for Proposals](#) will be accepted for review through **Monday, January 8, 2024**.

Generative AI Support for Instructors

Please join us for the last session in our fall AI series on Thursday, December 7 at 4:00 p.m. for “**Critical Thinking and Artificial Intelligence**” presented by Dr. Dona Warren, Professor of Philosophy and Director of the Critical Thinking Center.

Attend in person in CCC 224 or for those unable to attend in person, please use the [Zoom link](#). Please [register to attend](#) if you would like an emailed reminder the day before the presentation.

CITL will continue to provide ongoing professional development support for faculty and instructors around generative AI and teaching and learning this spring. We are planning to bring in partners from K12 and business to learn how they are using AI. And, we’ll provide additional programming for faculty and instructors who want to learn more about what AI can do and how it can be used in their courses, including providing access to an asynchronous course for faculty and instructors on how to teach with AI. Keep your eyes on the CITL newsletter and Campus Announcements in early 2024 to learn more.

Book Group Spurs Rich Discussion

The virtual Book Group discussion on Sandra Yancy McGuire’s *Teach Students How to Learn* concluded on November 15.

CITL’s Angie Servi facilitated the 4 virtual discussion sessions. Participants considered the metacognitive strategies described in the book. Rich discussion centered on how the strategies could be applied in the future at UWSP, and how participants are currently utilizing some of the metacognitive strategies.

Watch for more Book Group offerings in Spring semester. All UWSP faculty and staff members from any campus location are encouraged to participate in CITL virtual Book Group opportunities.



Self-Paced Training OPPORTUNITIES

Take advantage of these free, CITL-created trainings.



[Faculty and Instructor Training for Promoting Transfer Student Success](#)

Many of the practices suggested in the training are great inclusive teaching practices that stand to benefit many students, even if they are not transfer students.



[Leadership Development Series](#)

This six-part series covers key competencies for leadership. Regardless of your current leadership role, you will find multiple benefits in this training created for UWSP faculty and staff members.



Holiday Break

Our team will be monitoring the CITL email inbox the week of December 25 - 29, 2023. You can expect a response within 24 hours.

Reminder:

We are also here to serve you through Winterim in January 2024.



Share Some Pointer Praise

As we approach the end of the semester, consider those on campus who deserve **Pointer Praise**—folks who have gone above and beyond and deserve a pat on the back message of appreciation.

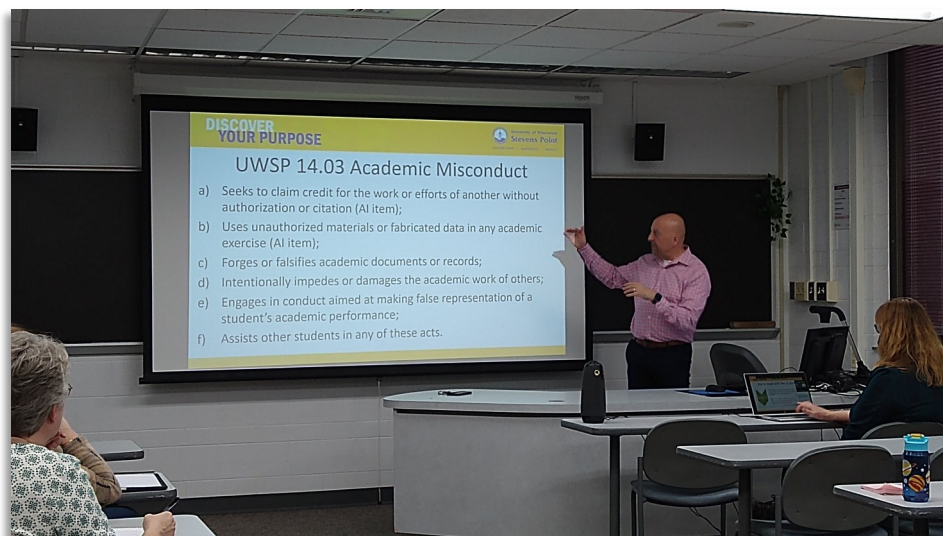
Take a moment to share an anonymous uplifting message to any UWSP faculty or staff member through **Pointer Praise**.



CITL Hosted a Third AI Presentation

Dean of Students Troy Seppelt presented “**AI and the Academic Misconduct Process**” on Thursday, November 16.

Video recordings will soon be available on the AI Series playlist on the **CITL YouTube channel**. Watch for Campus Announcements and upcoming newsletters about when the recordings are online or subscribe to our **YouTube channel**.



Encourage Graduating Seniors to Take the Graduation Exit Survey

December and January grads will receive weekly emails starting on December 1 with a link to an individualized survey. Their personal and degree information will be pre-populated, so they'll just need to answer some questions about their plans after graduation. It should take less than five minutes.

If you teach a senior seminar or if you have advisees who are graduating, please consider providing time in class to complete the survey. Data from this survey is important information UWSP can share with prospective families, elected officials, and community business leaders. **Thank you!**