

**Annual Report – FY09**  
**Cross Endowed Chair in the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning**  
**Illinois State University- Annual Report (FY09)**  
**July 1, 2008- June 30, 2009**

**(Submitted by Kathleen McKinney)**

**The goals of the Cross Endowed Chair in the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning** are to conduct high quality work and achieve recognition in the following roles:

1. Doing his/her own teaching, research, and service,
2. Supporting the SoTL work of others at Illinois State University and enhancing the value and reward for SoTL work on campus, and
3. Working at the national and international levels on SoTL and on the reputation of SoTL at ISU.

**Achievements toward meeting each of these goals for FY09. Note that some items enhance more than one goal but are only listed in one category.**

Goal 1: Cross Chair Scholarship, Teaching, and Service

1. I presented a paper, “Beyond Lines on the CV: Faculty Applications of their Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Research,” with Patricia Jarvis (Psych) at the annual meetings of the International Society for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (ISSOTL) in Edmonton in October and we published the paper in January in the *International Journal of the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning*.
2. I am on the editorial boards of, and review numerous articles for, *International Journal of the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning*, *Journal of Student Centered Learning*, and *College Teaching*. I also reviewed articles this year for *Teaching Sociology*, *Insight*, and *Journal of Excellence in College Teaching*.
3. I reviewed proposals for two conferences: ISSOTL and The SoTL Commons - Georgia.
4. With ISU colleagues and students (Patricia Jarvis, Gary Creasey, Mike Sublett, Jeff Walsh, Denise Faigo, and Derek Herrmann), I co-authored two chapters for an edited book, *Sustaining Student Voices in the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning*. The chapters were “A Range of Student Voices” and “Student Voices through Research Projects on Learner Autonomy.” The book is in press at Stylus and projected to be published in summer of 2009.
5. I presented (with Patricia Jarvis) at the “Partnerships in Learning Conference” in Normal, IL. in September. The presentation was about the decade-long collaboration on SoTL between ISU and the Carnegie Academy for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (CASTL).
6. I wrote a very brief article, “Sociology Internal Interest Group Taking Action,” for the ISSOTL newsletter, *International Commons*, to be published in May.
7. I am on the dissertation exam and dissertation committee for Janice Malak in EAF.
8. I gave one presentation on SoTL at the pre-conference workshop for new teachers and organized a session on SoTL at the American Sociological Association (ASA) annual meetings in Boston in August.
9. I continue work on a longitudinal, multi-method qualitative study of a subgroup (N=17) of sociology majors and the development over the course of the major of their sociological imagination, learner autonomy, and identity as a sociologist. A graduate student in sociology, Naghme Naseri, is my co-researcher and co-author. We will be doing a roundtable presentation of preliminary results at the Midwest Sociological

Society annual meetings in April. We plan to submit the final paper for presentation at ISSOTL next October.

10. I began work on a multi-institutional SoTL study of the sociology research capstone course. I put together a research team with faculty at Illinois State University and five other institutions. I wrote a small grant (\$2,000) and submitted this to ASA in December (grant announcement is in April). I have begun searching for literature and creating study measures and IRB protocols.
11. I am a member of the ISU Provost Faculty Excellence Initiative Committee (FEIC) and am the Chair of the FEIC Faculty Grants and Awards subcommittee. We implemented the FEIC Course Reassignment grant (created last spring) for Spring 2009. We also designed and implemented the FEIC Professional Development Activity Grants this fall. I took the lead on creating all these programs, reviewed all the grant applications, and did most of the administrative aspects of getting these grants in place.
12. I am the faculty advisor for the ISU Equestrian Club and Team, a Registered Student Organization Sport Club. This service includes helping with a wide range of activities, attending meetings, working with officers, doing paperwork, hosting an annual holiday potluck, and assisting with budgets/accounts.
13. I will give a SoTL workshop and sat on an invited SoTL application panel at the Midwest Sociological Society annual meetings in Des Moines in April.
14. I was elected Chair of the ASA, Section on Teaching and Learning in Sociology –a 3 year term as Chair Elect, Chair, and Past Chair-- in June and began my term in August. As Chair-elect this year, my duties were to help increase membership, serve as Program Chair for the section sessions for the 2009 meetings, and nominate members and chairs for section committees.
15. I served as an external reviewer for a colleague at another institution who is up for a prestigious teaching professorship. I also volunteered to complete the nomination (involves submitting a letter, obtaining 5 other letters, mentoring her to create a portfolio, and submitting five copies of all) of a colleague for a national teaching award.
16. I am a member of the Internal Advisory Board for the multi-Illinois State Public University project on the Ethnography of the University (EUI) which involves students in their own ethnographic studies of the university as a social institution. I attend meetings at UI and will work to help link SoTL efforts to this project.
17. See, also, professional presentations and other service listed below.

Goal 2: Support Efforts to do SoTL Work at Illinois State University and Work to Enhance the Understanding, Value, and Reward of SoTL on Campus

1. I rewrote and put out the guidelines for the second year of Department/School SoTL Initiatives Small Grants. In April I will review the applications (with the assistance of 2 colleagues) and select the departments.
2. I created a SoTL travel support grant program, reviewed all grants, and gave partial support to 6 of 14 first round applicants and 8 of 12 second round applicants.
3. I put together and sent out a SoTL informational mailing to all Chairs and Directors, including a handout on SoTL and ISU, and a copy of my book on SoTL (purchased at my author discount, no royalty rate of 50% off).
4. I created handouts and sent them to CAS for their new faculty. They were also included in the materials for the University New Faculty Orientation.
5. I organized with the help of Patricia Jarvis and Phyllis McCluskey-Titus a Student-Faculty conversation on learning and learner autonomy in September. My office sponsored the event. We had about 14 faculty and students in attendance.

6. I am organizing with the help of Pat Jarvis a Graduate Student-Faculty conversation on learning and learner autonomy in April. My office will sponsor the event.
7. I agreed to co-sponsor with CTLT and facilitate a SoTL Teaching-Learning Community for this fall. Not enough people signed up to do the group.
8. I designed and did the PR for a SoTL “working group” for spring 2009. The group formed with 6 members from 6 different departments. We meet every other week spring semester and I co-facilitate.
9. I reached out to the staff and faculty involved in ISU Civic Engagement programs to discuss possible collaborations between Cross Chair and their programs to support SoTL research on the outcomes of faculty efforts to increase civic engagement in students. I wrote up a plan and held a meeting. But, the collaboration did not proceed.
10. My office sponsored, and I led, a four-hour SoTL workshop for graduate students on February 27. Sixteen graduate students from 7 disciplines attended and received three books, a usb, breakfast, and a certificate of completion. I asked the Graduate School to co-sponsor this event but they were unable to do so.
11. I conducted a special 3-hour SoTL workshop for the 10 graduate students enrolled in COM 481- Seminar in Communication Education.
12. I created the idea for an internal, peer-reviewed, ISU SoTL publication. Dr. Pat Cross has agreed to write an Introduction. The Call for participation (as authors, reviewers, student assistants, etc.) went out in February. Work on finding peer reviewers has begun.
13. We continue to update our revamped ISU SoTL web page at <http://www.sotl.ilstu.edu/> with the assistance of Tom Silvia. I also worked with ISU Web support staff to add a link to SoTL under Research in addition to the link under Teaching.
14. I worked with several individual faculty members on SoTL grants, papers and publication outlets.
15. I am serving as a mentor for a colleague wanting to do SoTL related to service learning, and to present and publish his work.
16. We have an email list of over 100 faculty members (and a few staff) interested in SoTL work. I send information on SoTL opportunities to this list.
17. I continue to distribute numerous books on doing SoTL work to various faculty and staff who have been in teaching-learning communities or have received small grants or who attended summer institutes.
18. I represent ISU to the media (Vidette, Pantagraph, WJBC, TV 10...) doing interviews, etc. related to CASTL and other work. I also attempt to make SoTL and SoTL support visible on campus through the newsletter, articles in ISUReport, etc.
19. I continue to write, produce, and distribute (with Beth Welch) a 4-page SoTL newsletter in September and January to ISU faculty members. The newsletter is also on our website.
20. I monitor, via the UI IRIS grant alert procedure and a Foundation grant alert, grant opportunities related to SoTL and teaching and learning. I send these to colleagues who might be interested.
21. I co-sponsored, attended, and required SoTL grant recipients to present at our ISU annual teaching-learning symposium in January.
22. I was on the planning committee for our Partnerships in Student Learning Conference (ISU, IWU, and Heartland) in September. I worked to have sessions relevant to SoTL. My office sponsored (paid their registrations) the participation of three ISU colleagues with SoTL work to present.
23. I have begun planning of a summer (July) SoTL workshop for ISU faculty and academic staff new to SoTL.

Goal 3: Make Connections with and be Involved in SoTL Work at the Regional and National Levels

1. I continue to serve as the campus coordinator (with a team of five volunteers) for our (ISU) involvement in the Carnegie Academy for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (CASTL) Campus Program—an international, multi-institutional program. We are in phase three of this and are members of a group of schools focusing on students as scholars of teaching and learning, and learner autonomy. We are working on various ways (small grants, travel, workshops, collaborations, etc.) to support this work. Three faculty members and one student traveled to Edmonton, Alberta, Canada for a required meeting and presentations in October, all but one sponsored by the Cross Chair office. Two book chapters and two ‘conversations’ on campus (see above) are also outcomes of this work.
2. I served as a volunteer ‘expert’ facilitator for three days in an on-line discussion of individuals interested in SoTL at Georgia Southern University.
3. I gave invited workshops and/or keynote addresses on SoTL at Michigan State University in September, James Madison University in November, at a conference by the Collaboration for College Teaching and Learning in St. Paul in February, at Indiana-Purdue University- Fort Wayne in March, at sociology conferences in August and April, and at Western Michigan University in May.
4. As incoming Chair of the ASA Section on Teaching and Learning in Sociology, increasing the visibility and support for SoTL in Sociology is a key goal of my leadership.
5. I am a member of and on the advisory board for the ASA Department Resources Group, a group of about 60 sociologists who assist colleagues and departments with teaching, curriculum, reviews, etc.
6. I took the lead on, created a group, and applied for formal ‘interest group’ status of 30 sociologists who are interested in SoTL and members of the International Society for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning. Our application was approved in November. I am now working on several activities to achieve our specific goals.
7. I responded to numerous requests from faculty or campuses around the world for advice on SoTL projects, to read draft proposals or materials related to grants for SoTL or faculty development for SoTL, to read draft papers, etc.
8. I am active in the International Society for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (IS-SoTL), sitting on the IS-SoTL Making Public Committee, writing for the newsletter, and attending the meetings.
9. I assisted ISU colleague, George Padavil, in helping colleagues in Thailand to begin to organize a SoTL conference (sponsored by five Thai universities) for October 2009 in Bangkok. I helped line up the keynote speaker, workshops, and book display, working on initial conference themes and sessions, etc.
10. I supported, by helping with public relations and by donating a percentage of royalties from my Intro Soc exercise book (with Barbara Heyl), the funding of small travel scholarships for graduate students and new faculty to the ASA pre-conference on teaching.

### **Brief Summary of Budget and Major Expenditures FY09**

The Budget for the Cross Chair in SoTL in fy09 consisted of \$25,000 in permanent operating funds, \$19,600 in URG funds from ORSP for SoTL research grants to faculty, and the Endowed Chair's salary. How funds were used (some expenses are estimates given the fiscal year is not yet ended) are below. Each expense is followed by the goals (see above) to which it contributed.

#### SoTL URG Funds

All \$19,600 in URG funds plus \$400 from Cross Chair operating GR funds went to Department SoTL Initiative grants of \$10,000 each to COM and CJS in a competitive grant process. (goal 2)

#### General Revenue Operating Funds

The \$25,000 in GR funds were distributed as follows.

- \$7,825 went to travel grants to 14 faculty, academic staff, or graduate students to present SoTL work around the world. (goals 2 and 3)
- \$5,425 covered the registration and travel of two faculty members and one graduate student to attend and present, as required by our CASTL participation, at the 2008 ISSOTL meetings in Edmonton Alberta. (goals 1, 2, and 3)
- \$4,050 (moved to personnel-salary) went to a graduate research assistant and a faculty summer SoTL scholar for assistance on SoTL research, CASTL work, and faculty development efforts related to SoTL, as well as to five faculty members for participation in a semester-long SoTL working group. (goal 2, 3)
- \$2,825 was for travel by the Endowed Chair to present SoTL work. (goals 1, 3)
- \$2,200 in SoTL books for faculty and graduate students and administrators for information purposes and in SoTL workshops. (goal 2)
- \$1,200 in miscellaneous operating expenses included printing of calls for grants, SoTL research materials, handouts, event fliers; catering for events; telephone; and office supplies. (goals 1, 2, and 3)
- \$700 went to co-sponsor SoTL events or grants with other units. (goal 2)
- \$375 in printing and production of two issues of the *SoTL at ISU Newsletter*. (goal 2)