



# From the Vineyard

ISSUE 42, MAY 2019 | JANE MOORE - EDITOR

## From Your Wine Steward – Gerry Hanley

Dear MERLOT Community Leaders,

It was great seeing many of you at the OLC-MERLOT INNOVATE Conference in Denver. We are grateful to our OLC partners for providing such a dynamic and welcoming gathering place for MERLOT members to engage with one another for the last 10 years – that’s almost half the “lifetime” of MERLOT’s 22 years! MERLOT was also a key partner in the 3rd Annual HBCU Summit on Affordable Learning and the 2nd Annual Community College Summit at INNOVATE. The HBCU leadership and community is doing an amazing job of applying the Affordable Learning Solutions strategies to their own institutions, as you will read more about in this newsletter.

A recent article in [Campus Technology](#) has described MERLOT: “This one ought to be called the OER Mothership, since you couldn’t do much better than to begin your OER content search here.” MERLOT continues to provide free educational services to the worldwide community teachers and learners and it is because of your efforts, energies and expertise that MERLOT has been able to keep the collection growing, the quality assurance improving, and innovations easily discoverable for all.

As our collection of academic disciplines continue to expand, the addition of the SkillsCommons repository and services ([www.skillscommons.org](http://www.skillscommons.org)) now provides an even greater educational resource that connects workforce readiness and academic skills. With over 1.7 million downloads of the OER from SkillsCommons, we are already having an impact on the adoption of OER, including those in industry. Blending education into the workplace through [apprenticeships](#) is one area that SkillsCommons is focused on and I hope you find these additions to MERLOT’s open educational services valuable.

Thank you for all you do with and for MERLOT. I wish you the best over this coming summer and look forward to supporting your leadership in MERLOT.

Cheers,  
Gerry

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## Feature Article – MERLOT Awards

**THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD** is reserved as MERLOT's highest honor. The recipient of this award exemplifies the vision that brings MERLOT members together to create the MERLOT Community. Individuals who receive this award have made many personal contributions



to MERLOT and have demonstrated their dedication to MERLOT through serving as visionaries and leaders. The recipients are selected by the previous winners from the past five years. This year's recipient is Sorel Reisman. Sorel was managing director of MERLOT from 2005 until 2018. As such he was responsible for the design, development, and maintenance of MERLOT and was instrumental in developing the Information Technology and Computer Science editorial boards. Sorel retired at the end of 2018.

### CLASSICS AWARDS

Ten editorial boards selected Classics Award Winners. These materials were deemed to be exemplars in their fields.

The winner of the 2019 MERLOT **Biology Classics Award** was ***Understanding Science*** <https://www.merlot.org/merlot/viewMaterial.htm?id=1186567>



The award was accepted by Lisa D. White. The MERLOT Biology Editorial Board has this to say about the Learning

Material: *Understanding Science* is a widely used, extensive, high quality website that originated as a project of the University of California's Museum of Paleontology. The mission of

Understanding Science is to provide a fun, accessible, and free resource that accurately communicates what science is and how it really works. The process of science is exciting, but standard explanations often miss its dynamic nature. This project has at its heart a re-engagement with science that begins with teacher preparation and ends with broader public understanding. The biology board loves this site, and thought it was time it won a Classic Award.

The winner of the 2018 MERLOT **Business Classics Award** was awarded to ***The Story of Stuff by Annie Leonard*** <https://www.merlot.org/merlot/viewMaterial.htm?id=325717>

The MERLOT Business Editorial Board noted: This site is based on a video, "The Story of Stuff", that demonstrates through animation the life-cycle of manufacturing products and the environmental impact of consumption. Students will develop an understanding of how mass consumption is part of Western industrial societies and how such consumption has led to a host of environmental problems. This site teaches students some of the basics of the manufacturing-consumption life-cycle. The entire website has been expanded to include videos and other teaching resources that point to the effects of corporate operations and can prove significant for students studying business ethics.

**The Engineering Classics Award** was accepted by Dr. Margot Vigeant on behalf of ***Thermodynamics by Eleanor Marrs, Katherine Mayer, and Margot Vigeant***. <https://www.merlot.org/merlot/viewMaterial.htm?id=1052199>

The MERLOT Engineering Editorial Board has this to say about the Learning Material: Addressed to chemical engineering undergraduate students, the website presents topics in thermodynamics; equilibrium, second law & entropy, reversibility, reaction equilibrium, internal energy & enthalpy and vapor-liquid equilibria. It is a fundamental course.



**The Health Sciences Classics Award** was *Cardiac Case Studies: Apply Your Knowledge by RNCeUs*. <https://www.merlot.org/merlot/viewMaterial.htm?id=629937>

The MERLOT Health Sciences Editorial Board has this to say about the Learning Material: Although RnCeus.com offers many opportunities for a healthcare professional to gain Continuing Education Units (CEUs), the opportunity to use this website and go through the case studies is free to everyone. This material is easy to use, functions well, and can be used in the classroom as a group project or for individual assessment. Medical students, or any individual or student working with cardiac functioning and/or EKG interpretation, would be able to test themselves throughout their program to see how they are improving. This site is full of detailed case studies and accompanying EKG images; along with specific questions for the healthcare professional to consider. This material is a great way to focus on cardiac case studies and EKG interpretation.

**The ICT Literacy Classics Award** was awarded to *C.O.R.A (Community of Online Research Assignments)* at *Loyola Marymount University*. Accepting the award was Susan Gardner Archambault. <https://www.merlot.org/merlot/viewMaterial.htm?id=1152580>



The MERLOT ICT Literacy Editorial Board has this to say about the Learning Material: CORA is a well-known and well-used open access resource for faculty and librarians. This collaborative space facilitates adapting and experimenting with research assignments, and supports sharing the success or lessons learned so that others may benefit. The database contains multiple, reliable and reproducible research assignments that will not live as isolated entities, but are enhanced by user feedback

in order to build a rich corpus of best practices. Importantly, all lesson plans align to frameworks and standards documents frequently used in the information literacy community.

**The Instructional Technology Classics Award** was *Free Technology for Teachers* by Richard Byrne. <https://www.merlot.org/merlot/viewMaterial.htm?id=522084>

The MERLOT Instructional Technology Editorial Board has this to say about the Learning Material: The blog offers tutorials on a range of online tools which could be adapted to almost any teaching level and for just about any subject matter. Suggested resources and tips are creative, varied and useful. The author is obviously enthusiastic about this topic. Blog posts are added almost daily - several on some days. They span and are organized into grade levels from pre-k to university. In addition, there are links to other pages of the author's work: iPad Apps for School, Practical Ed Tech, Android 4 Schools, Google Tutorials, Alternatives to YouTube, Free Guides. A newsletter subscription is available to some of these. The site won the Teacher Education Classics Award in 2011.

**The Mathematics Classics Award** was *SIMIODE* by Brian Winkel. <https://www.merlot.org/merlot/viewMaterial.htm?id=1377023>

The MERLOT Mathematics Editorial Board has this to say about the Learning Material: SIMIODE has a vast collection of materials in differential equations including reading materials, videos and step by step guidelines to complete modeling scenarios. The collection is useful for both homework assignments and project-based explorations. In addition to all of this, the site includes a blog and communication tool so that students can communicate and receive feedback from each other.

**The Psychology Classics Award** was presented to **Mary Kite** for **Breaking Prejudice**. <https://www.merlot.org/merlot/viewMaterial.htm?id=1375478>

The Psychology Board had this to say about the site: Social psychologist Mary Kite (Professor of Social Psychology at Ball State University) and 21 students have joined forces to create AHAA--the Awareness Harmony Acceptance Advocates. AHAA's Breaking the Prejudice Habit Website documents the AAHA journey and presents a wealth of information that college instructors can use to explore, confront and discuss wide-ranging contemporary social issues and challenges. The collection includes information on prejudice including how to speak up, how to be an agent for change, along with many teaching resources useful for anyone regardless of their field of study.

**The Sociology Classics Award** was presented to **John Korey** for **Longitudinal Analysis**. <https://www.merlot.org/merlot/viewMaterial.htm?id=1264402>

Longitudinal Analysis is a set of exercises for trend analysis, cohort analysis and panel studies. Data consist of subsets of the General Social Survey (GSS) and the American National Election Study (ANES). Analysis is done using a commonly used statistical package – SPSS. This would be an excellent supplementary tutorial in a statistics class using one of the most common methods of data collection and analysis in the social sciences. Since the exercise is self-contained, it can be used for either a face to face or distance learning class. The Sociology Editorial Board felt that this set of exercises would be very useful for any course that included a section on longitudinal analysis.



**The Teacher Education Classics Award** was presented to **Jeremy Dean** representing **Hypothes.is**.

<https://www.merlot.org/merlot/viewMaterial.htm?id=1325320>

Hypothes.is provides educators and students with the opportunity to annotate anything found on the web.



### **MERLOT HOUSE CUP**

The House Cup (modeled on the Harry Potter House Cup) is an award to recognize the level of contributions made to the MERLOT collection during the past academic year. Contributions include: reviews, contributions to MERLOT, assignments, comments and editor reviews. The top five editorial boards in alphabetical order were: **Biology, Business, ICT Literacy, Sociology and Teacher Education**.

This year's winner was the Biology Board which made 989 contributions to MERLOT, including 123 individual reviews, and 30 composite reviews.

### **The Editorial Board for Biology includes:**

Michael Plotkin, Mt. San Jacinto College, Co-Editor of the Board  
 Martin Zahn, Thomas Nelson Community College, Co-Editor of the Board

### **Board Members:**

Jim Bidlack, University of Central Oklahoma  
 Juville Dario-Becker, Central Virginia Community College  
 Camille Freeman, Maryland University of Integrative Health  
 Whitney Holden, Arkansas School for Mathematics, Sciences, and the Arts  
 Sarah Keim Janssen, Kansas City University of Medicine and Bioscience  
 Ronald Mayne, Life University  
 Crystal Peirce, Harper College  
 Suzanne Wakim, Butte College  
 Teresa Wolfe, Portland Community College

## Feature Article – Peer Reviewers Extraordinaire 2019

The MERLOT Peer Reviewer Extraordinaire MERLOT created the Peer Reviewer Extraordinaire award to honor the hard work and generous donation of our members' time, energy and enthusiasm that they direct towards the growth and development of MERLOT. We rely heavily on our peer reviewers to help expand the MERLOT collection and perform the Peer Review process. The following individuals completed MERLOT GRAPE Camp (Getting Reviewers Accustomed to the Process of Evaluation) and worked with the Editors to complete their reviews on a timely basis. These individuals have completed at least fifteen Peer Reviews in the past 12 months and added at least five materials to MERLOT. Our 2019 MERLOT Peer Reviewers Extraordinaire are:

- Jim Bidlack, Biology, University of Central Oklahoma
- Juville Dario-Becker, Biology, Central Virginia Community College
- Whitney Holden, Biology, Arkansas Science and Mathematics Academy
- Crystal Peirce, Biology, Harper College
- Michael Plotkin, Biology, Mt. San Jacinto College
- Martin Zahn, Biology, Thomas Nelson Community College
- Cathy Swift, Business, MERLOT/Skills Commons
- Diane Bandow, Business, Troy University
- Jody Paul, Computer Science, Denver Metropolitan University
- Joseph So, Computer Science, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University
- Tamer Osman, English, Teacher Education, Zhengzhou University
- Renee Aitken, Faculty Development, University of North Carolina, Greensboro
- Ray Purdom, Faculty Development, University of North Carolina, Greensboro, Retired
- Luz del Carmen Vilchis Esquivel, Faculty Development, Nat'l Autonomous Univ. of Mexico
- Liza Mayeux, Health Sciences, Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady University
- Arthur Finkle, History, Kean University
- Lesley Farmer, ICT Literacy, California State University, Long Beach
- Leila Halawi, Information Technology, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
- Gary Ackerman, Instructional Technology, Mount Wachusett Community College
- Irene Knokh, Instructional Technology, University of Michigan
- Harriette Spiegel, Instructional Technology, The University of Tennessee at Martin
- Ashley Sergiadis, Library and Information Services, East Tennessee State University
- Sergey Belyi, Mathematics, Troy University
- Larry Green, Mathematics, Lake Tahoe Community College
- Mohammed Kaabar, Mathematics, Universiti Sains Malaysia
- Jessica Hall, Professional Coaching, Coastal Carolina University
- Sherri Restauri, Professional Coaching, Coastal Carolina University
- Julie Evey, Psychology, Kent State University
- Catherine Honig, Psychology, National Louis University
- Tom Sparhawk, Sociology, Central Virginia Community College
- Loretta Driskell, Teacher Education, Clarkson University
- Tammy Garren, Teacher Education, Strayer Studios
- Cris Guenter, Teacher Education, California State University-Chico
- Elaine Lawrence, Teacher Education, SUNY Oneonta
- Jane Moore, Teacher Education, MERLOT
- Esperanza Zenon, Teacher Education, River Parishes Community College

More information about Peer Reviewer Extraordinaire 2020 will appear in the September issue of *From the Vineyard*—but start working on those reviews.

## Feature Article – HBCU Awards

The HBCU Summit was held during the Innovate conference. Moustapha Diack, Southern University and Robbie Melton, Tennessee University System presented awards honoring those who have supported HBCU (Historically Black Colleges and Universities) institutions, growing the network in the U.S. and in Africa.



**Mike Abbiatti** was recognized for his leadership role as Summit Ambassador and his contribution in building the AL\$ Network since its inception in New Orleans in 2017.



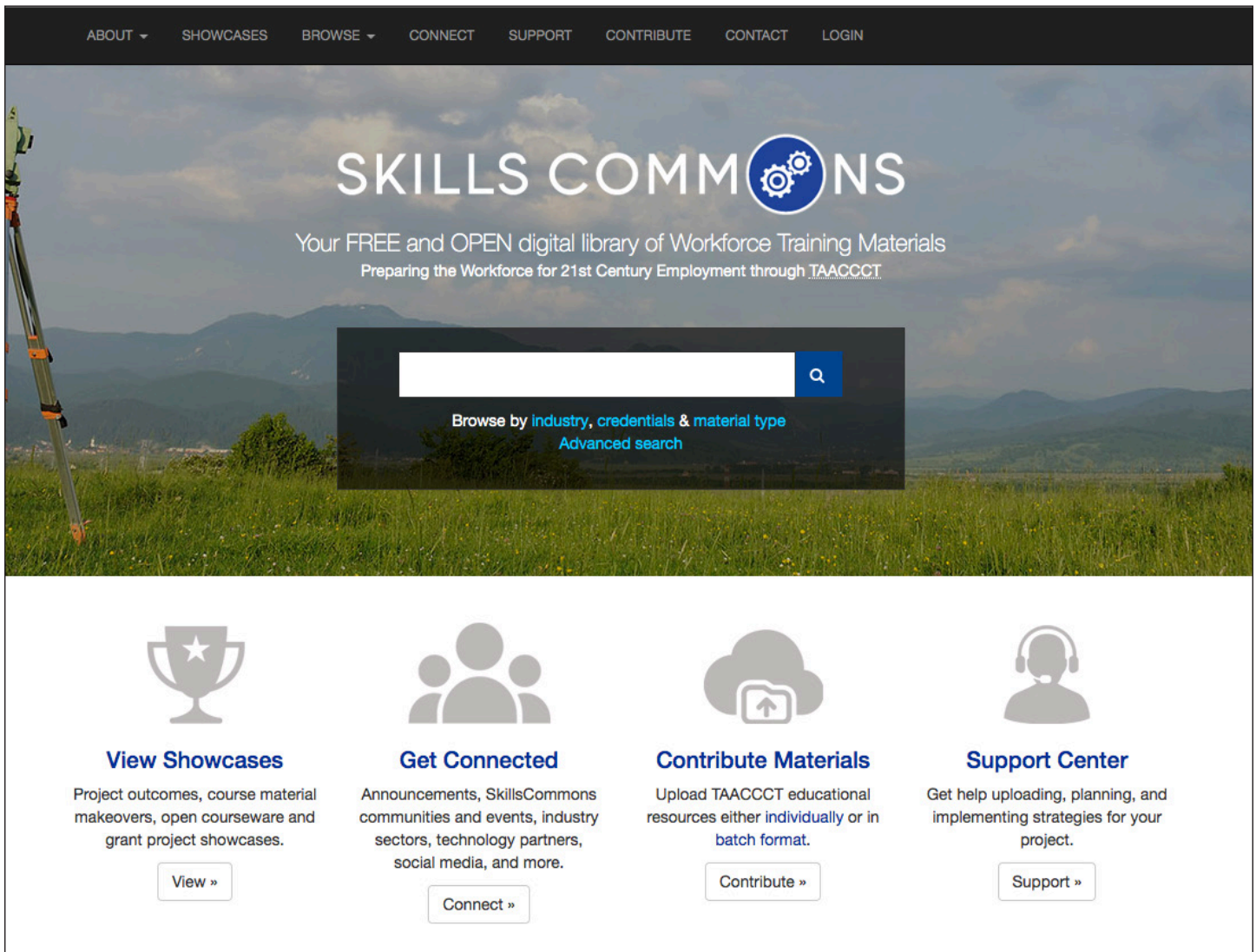
**Mary Teuw Niane** was recognized for his leadership as National Minister for Higher Education and Research, in launching the Virtual University of Senegal in 2013, a model of virtual university for West Africa and the whole continent. Dr. Niane was unable to attend but Moustapha Diack and Robbie Melton accepted the award on his behalf.



**Ray Belton** was celebrated for his leadership role in launching the AL\$ Network in New Orleans and for his pioneering role enabling the deployment of an AL\$ portal for the Southern System. Accepting the award for Dr. Belton was Sharron Herron-Williams, Vice-Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Southern University-Shreveport.



**Glenda Baskin Glover** was honored by the HBCU Affordable Learning Solutions Leadership Committee as a supporter of that initiative. Tennessee State has hosted numerous OER faculty workshops, piloted OER courses, and served as one of the leading agencies for coordinating OER with other HBCUs. A delegation from Tennessee accepted the award from Gerry Hanley and Moustapha Diack: Tokesha Warner (Tennessee State), Audie Black (Tennessee State), Robbie Melton, Denise Malloy (Southwest Tennessee).



## Feature Article – SkillsCommons by Maria Fieth

### Looking for Affordable Solutions for Advanced Manufacturing, Healthcare, or IT Training Resources?

There is no more pressing issue among employers than recruiting, retaining and training workers for short-term success and long-term sustainability. SkillsCommons, the world’s largest open repository of workforce development training and educational materials, provides easy access to high-quality FREE and OPEN training resources across industry sectors and workforce partners! SkillsCommons offers direct access to curated, high-quality advanced educational and training materials to lower costs in credentialing, training, and up-skilling efforts. Browse SkillsCommons today [www.skillscommons.org](http://www.skillscommons.org) or send a note to [support@skillscommons.org](mailto:support@skillscommons.org) for personalized technical assistance.

### Looking for Affordable Solutions for Training Materials in Safety?

SkillsCommons.org, the world’s largest repository of FREE and OPEN resources has you covered! Visit <https://www.skillscommons.org/discover?query=safety> for direct links to industrial safety, lab safety, safety in healthcare workplace and more! Find training materials ready for you to download and put to use right away!

Need assistance in finding the right piece for your organization’s needs? Send us a note at [support@skillscommons.org](mailto:support@skillscommons.org) for personalized technical assistance.

**Looking for Affordable Solutions for Apprenticeship and Work-Based Learning Training Resources?**

SkillsCommons.org has just the thing! Learn how SkillsCommons resources can benefit your apprenticeship and work-based learning programs by supporting your mentors, managers and apprentices. Browse the SkillsCommons apprenticeship showcase today at <http://support.skillscommons.org/showcases/apprenticeships/>.

**Looking to Fill Positions Where Women are Currently Underrepresented?**

SkillsCommons.org FREE and OPEN training resources can help! The SkillsCommons Women in Sustainable Employment (WISE) Pathways IMPACT community was created to share best practices and design, produce and/or digitize new and existing materials, tools and strategies that successfully engage women in high demand career pathways where women are currently underrepresented. An editorial board of subject matter experts assisted in developing, sharing, and critically reviewing these innovations. You are welcome to take and use these materials for free! Browse the collection at <http://support.skillscommons.org/connect/impact-communities/wise/>.

**Does Your Industry Expert Need Better Support to Become an Expert Trainer?**

SkillsCommons, the world's largest repository of FREE and OPEN workforce development training materials, offers access to this online mini-course to provide professional development to industry experts, helping them establish a successful learning environment and develop teaching techniques that engage learners. Jumpstart to Successful Instruction includes three sections of 10-13 self-paced, interactive modules each requiring an average of only 17 minutes to complete. Find the Jumpstart course and other OPEN training and educational resources in SkillsCommons at <http://support.skillscommons.org/showcases/open-courseware/teacher-training/jumpstart/>.

Need assistance in finding the right piece for your organization's needs? Send us a note at [support@skillscommons.org](mailto:support@skillscommons.org) for personalized technical assistance.







## Feature Article – How MERLOT Makes a Difference

Some brief interviews with MERLOTians on the House Cup winning Biology Board were very instructive as to the value of MERLOT in their professional lives:

### **Jim Bidlack, University of Central Oklahoma**

The Biology Editorial Board's Most Senior Member is Dr. Jim Bidlack, who has been with MERLOT since about 1999. He was appointed by then Oklahoma Chancellor, Hans Brisch, to be a MERLOT Editorial Board Member, and has served in all capacities, as a member, associate editor, co-editor and editor for the editorial board. Jim included MERLOT activities as part of his dossier for tenure and promotion at University of Central Oklahoma (UCO) – at all levels - and is now a full, tenured professor, thanks to MERLOT. There was also a time when UCO included Merit Pay (a bonus of \$5,000 in each department) for exemplary service and Jim was a MERLOT Co-Editor at that time, and attributes to receiving the maximum Merit Pay for his MERLOT activities, along with pretty good teaching, some publications and service. Since then, Dr. Bidlack has been a regular editorial board member with MERLOT, doing an average of 20+ reviews per year, and is convinced that his post-tenure reviews go smoothly, in part, due to his MERLOT activities, which are featured in his Dossier every three years.

### **Crystal Peirce, Harper College**

After 10 years as an adjunct faculty member at Harper College, I finally decided to apply for a full-time tenure-track faculty position when it became available. During my various interviews with members of the hiring committee, I talked about my work with MERLOT, including my work as a peer reviewer and my involvement in the biology editorial board. When my dean

called to offer me the position, she specifically mentioned how impressed she and the college Provost were with my work with MERLOT and how it set me apart from the other candidates. In every meeting with my dean, she always asks me if I am still active on the biology board and wants to make sure I have time to work on my peer-reviews. It is nice to know that my administration appreciates and values my continued involvement with MERLOT.

### **Whitney Holden, Arkansas School for Math, Science, and the Arts**

I teach concurrent credit college Microbiology to 11th and 12th graders at the Arkansas School for Mathematics, Sciences, and the Arts. Access to the OER materials in MERLOT has helped me develop my Microbiology class to be almost entirely OER, through an OpenStax textbook, online articles, and virtual labs. The only cost to our school is lab supplies for hands-on labs and the course is completely free for students. I plan to do the same as much as possible with any other courses that I develop in the future. I am looking forward to integrating other MERLOT features into my classes, particularly the new Content Builder III website design tool. Students in my Microbiology class and my Infectious Disease in History & Culture class already do several group presentations throughout the year, but now I am planning to replace one of those presentations with a website design project on a topic of each students' choosing.

## MERLOT Technology

### MERLOT Content Builder is 10!!

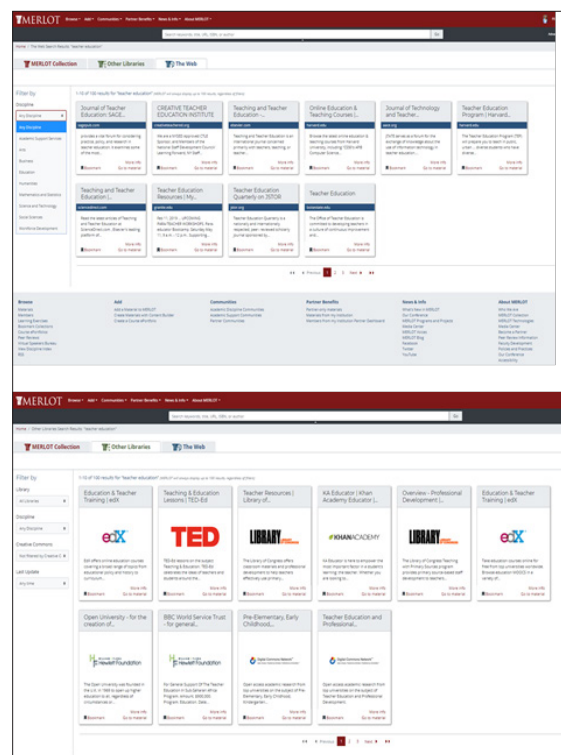
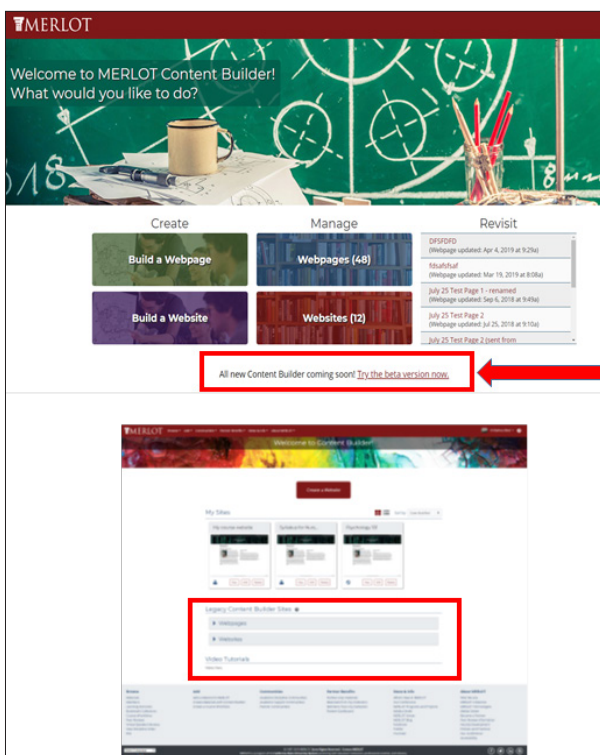
Over the past 10 years, the MERLOT Content Builder has gone through a few design changes to improve the user experience. Up until now, we did all we could with the original code. That is why the MERLOT development team took on the task of designing a completely new user interface. This new Content Builder has a design center, enabling users to develop web sites quickly and easily and make global changes to the look and feel of the entire site!

The Content Builder is in beta, but we've made it available for all to start using (minus a few bugs that we are working on.) Simply go to the Content Builder like you always do (either from the Add menu at the top of click the Create a Material icon on the hope page). From there, click the Try the beta version now at the bottom of the page. Once on the new main page, you will notice a Legacy section. We have moved over all your previously created webpages/sites which you can import into the new Content Builder. Keep in mind that since the structure has changed, anything that you import may need a little formatting. If you have any questions, please contact the MERLOT Webmaster at [webmaster@merlot.org](mailto:webmaster@merlot.org).

### MERLOT Smart Search

Continuing with new and improved, 20+ digital libraries have been added to the MERLOT Smart Search in the past few months bringing the total to over 60. That means when you search MERLOT, you not only get results from the MERLOT collection, but we go way beyond that search and bring you results from all those digital libraries as well as the World Wide Web! Using a proprietary MERLOT user profile, the web search looks specifically for the newest and most popular higher education learning materials. While these resources are not peer reviewed, users can contribute the materials to the MERLOT collection for subsequent curation and peer review by our 25+ MERLOT Editorial Boards. And materials discovered by Smart Search can also be added to users' MERLOT Bookmark Collections and Course ePortfolios.

Once you perform a search, just click on one of the 3 tab that describes the universe of resources you want to explore (MERLOT, Other Libraries or The Web) and MERLOT will present you with results! For more information on the MERLOT Smart Search, go to [http://info.merlot.org/merlohelp/topic.htm?#t=MERLOT\\_Smart\\_Search.htm](http://info.merlot.org/merlohelp/topic.htm?#t=MERLOT_Smart_Search.htm)





### Social Networking and MERLOT

We have many ways for you to stay connected with MERLOT and all the wonderful things happening with the website and initiatives. Please share these sites with your colleagues. If you have information you'd like use to post on our Facebook or Twitter pages, please send it to [webmaster@merlot.org](mailto:webmaster@merlot.org). MERLOT has a [Facebook page](#) and we'd love for you to Like us! You can also follow us on [Twitter](#). MERLOT also has a [LinkedIn group](#). We invite you to join us and network with other MERLOT Users.



### MERLOT Blog

The MERLOT blog can be accessed at <http://blog.merlot.org>. Our blog was created to provide commentaries on contemporary issues written by MERLOT Managing Director, Sorel Reisman.

Please have a look and follow what we have to say. Feel free to add your comments and join the discussion about the topics you find there. If you have any suggestions about topics you'd like us to address, please email ([webmaster@merlot.org](mailto:webmaster@merlot.org)).

## Update on MERLOT Community

Become a MERLOT Peer Reviewer and GRAPE Camp Information To become a peer reviewer for MERLOT, individuals should be an instructor in an institution of higher education and have:

- Expertise in the scholarship of their field
- Excellence in teaching
- Experience in using technology in teaching and learning, and Connections to professional organizations in their discipline.

MERLOT has developed an orientation for peer reviewers to ensure that they become familiar with MERLOT processes and policies on peer review. MERLOT management conducts GRAPE Camp (Getting Reviewers Accustomed to the Process of Evaluation) to assist peer reviewers on a regular basis. GRAPE Camp consists of a series of three one-hour workshops online, one per week. In these webinars, participants will:

- Develop an understanding of MERLOT
- Learn how MERLOT evaluates Learning Materials
- Conduct a group review
- Complete an individual review
- Learn how to use the Workspace tool, and
- Introduce participants to the Editorial Board of their disciplines.

The webinar includes people from a variety of disciplines and is archived so participants can review the material as needed. For information about GRAPE Camp, contact Cathy Swift.

### 2019 GRAPE Camp Orientations are scheduled for summer in:

- June – Tuesdays (11, 18, 25) at 5 PM Eastern/ 2 PM Pacific
- July - Wednesdays (10, 17, 24) at 11 AM Eastern/ 8 AM Pacific
- August–Tuesdays (6, 13, 20) at 11 AM Eastern/ 8 AM Pacific

To register for any one of these sessions or to sign up for asynchronous sessions, please complete the [short form questionnaire](#).

If these times don't work for you, you can also participate asynchronously by completing the questionnaire above and

indicating that you want to do it asynchronously. In addition, you can sign up for a Self-Study, which you do at your own speed.

You can also participate in the discussions about GRAPE Camp in [MERLOT Voices](#).

### Comments from GRAPE Camp Participants:

"I've been reviewing papers for years, but this is the first time I've actually been taught how to do it properly. Grape Camp will improve the quality of my work as an author and as a reviewer.

"Overall, this was very well done. I'm glad I participated."

"Well-designed orientation."

"It was very helpful for me to do this asynchronously due to changing computer systems in the middle of the training! I am pleased to be part of your reviewer group."

"Respectful of participant's time by keeping sessions valuable and on-time."

"I think it's a great idea and appreciate the time of the facilitator."

"Grape Camp was a good learning experience. The materials were organized and clear."

"The instructor is knowledgeable, enthusiastic and responsive. Thank you."

"It was an enjoyable and comfortable 'classroom' environment."

"I think Grape camp is a good way to learn about doing reviews. The format is flexible, as in my case I missed a session and could watch the archived presentation".

"I thought the amount of time was just right and the instructor was available for questions between instructional sessions."

## News

### EDITORIAL BOARD NEWS

We are looking for those interested in becoming editors in Agriculture, Chemistry, and Communication Sciences and Disorders. If you are interested or wish to nominate someone, please contact Jane Moore ([jmoore@calstate.edu](mailto:jmoore@calstate.edu)). Thanks!

### MONTHLY REVIEWER INCENTIVE AWARDS

Congratulations to our monthly reviewer incentive award winners!

**January - Julie Evey, Psychology,  
University of Southern Indiana**

**February - Julie Evey Psychology,  
University of Southern Indiana**

**March - Juville Dario-Becker, Biology,  
Central Virginia Community College**

**April – Susan Moncada, Business,  
Indiana State University**

Thanks to all for the work they do for MERLOT. Each month a name is drawn from those who have contributed reviews to MERLOT during that month. The winner receives a \$50 electronic gift card to the store of their choice. The more reviews you do, the better chance you have to win.

### NEWS FROM EDITORIAL BOARDS

**Lesley Farmer**, Editor of the ICT Literacy Board was selected to receive the CSULB College of Education's first ever Faculty Service Award. "I am sure that my work with MERLOT contributed to my recognition."

**Arthur Finkle**, Editor of History has a new book: U.S. Immigration, 1833-1965: Amalgam of Ideals, Nativism and Foreign Policy, (DE, Hadassah Word Press, 2019).

Many thanks to **Kelly Massey**, who is retiring as editor of the Health Sciences board. Kelly will remain on the board, supporting our newest editor, **Liza Mayeux**.

**Larry Green**, editor of Mathematics demonstrated how valuable OER is for students. You can't miss this: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dj8uNX7-N9M&feature=youtu.be>



### MEET THE EDITOR

#### Health Sciences – Liza Mayeux

Liza Mayeux, M.Ed, R.T.(R) (CT)(ARRT) is the Director of Educational Technology at Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady University where she supports faculty in designing and developing

courses and course content. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Radiologic Sciences, and a Master of Education in Educational Technology Leadership from University of Louisiana at Monroe (ULM). She is currently pursuing a Doctor of Education in Curriculum and Instruction at ULM.

She began her career in the clinical area working as a radiologic technologist where she had the opportunity to precept radiology students. When provided with the opportunity to teach, she transferred over to the academia. Here she began her career as an instructor and then became the program director for the Associate degree program in Radiologic Sciences. Since then she transitioned to becoming an instructional technologist and now serves as Director for Educational Technology.

She has worked on several projects and has assisted with various instructional design aspects within the University, particularly in the health professions programs. She enjoys working with faculty to enhance the student's experience in face-to-face, blended and online learning environments.

Liza has been a PRE (Peer Reviewer Extraordinaire) for two years. She takes over as editor of the Health Sciences Editorial Board.

## Out and About with MERLOT

**Esperanza Zenon**, Associate Editor for Teacher Education recently took part in “Office Hours No. 25: The Invisible Labor of OER,” a webinar on what it takes to develop a program based on OER.

**Irene Knokh**, Editor of Instructional Technology, and Jane Moore, Editor of Teacher Education presented “Take a Sip of MERLOT and Save Your Students Money” at The Star Symposium. Their presentation (free to use) can be found at: [https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1AUk3nb6wos18Y1HWPLR9UIhU8FX\\_dwnBnMsObpMcRoA/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1AUk3nb6wos18Y1HWPLR9UIhU8FX_dwnBnMsObpMcRoA/edit?usp=sharing)

## Meeting Notices



### Online Learning Consortium Collaborate

June 4, 2019 - Ashford University, San Diego, CA

September 19-20, 2019 – University of Hawaii, Maui, HI

October 10, 2019 – Anderson University, Anderson, SC

To register or get more information about Collaborate events, go to: <https://onlinelearningconsortium.org/collaborate-overview/>



### Online Learning Consortium ACCELERATE 2019

The [call for proposals](#) is open through May 23 for Accelerate to be held at the Disney World Swan and Dolphin Hotel November 19-22, 2019.

The conference is devoted to driving quality online learning, advancing best practice guidance and accelerating innovation in learning around the world.

For more information, go to:

<https://onlinelearningconsortium.org/attend-2019/accelerate/>



### Quality Matters Annual Conference

The 2019 QM Connect Conference will be held at the Gaylord Texan Resort & Convention Center in Grapevine, Texas, October 27-30, 2019. Registration opens May 15.

Further information can be found at:

<https://www.qualitymatters.org/events>

## Moore Musings

*Dear Jane,*

*I hear that there is a new award, in addition to the House Cup. Can you give us more details?*

– A Reviewer

Dear Reviewer,

You're right! The Council of Editors decided that smaller boards needed to have the opportunity to win an award for production. This award will be based on the reviews per capita that a board produces rather than the number of reviews. The editors will decide on a name for the award based on the suggestions from reviewers. You can add your clever title to the list: <https://forms.gle/pMAyvCqtdfSeNDREA>

– Jane

## MERLOT Statistics

### MERLOT Collection as of April 30, 2019

83,917	# items in Collection
5,191	# of materials w/a Peer Review
15,845	# of materials w/an Editor's Review
6,327	# of materials w/a Comment/Discussion
14,226	# of materials with a user rating
1,017	# of materials w/a Learning Exercise
161,752	# of registered users

### Usage Statistics for January - April 2019

350,000	Total # of visits
3.3	Avg. # pages/visit
2.2	Avg. length of visit

Are you interested in writing for From the Vineyard, or adding news and updates? From the Vineyard is published September, January, and May. Getting your information in print is easy. Send your submission to [Jane Moore](#) by the first Wednesday of the month in which you wish it to be published. Unfortunately we can't publish all articles/stories in each issue; if you don't see your story in the issue, we promise to try to get it into the next one!

