

# From the Vineyard

MERLOT

ISSUE 53, JANUARY 2022 | JANE MOORE - EDITOR

## From Your Wine Steward: 2022- A Year In Need Of Community

Dear MERLOT Community,

As so many educators around the world work to share their expertise and passion for learning, the COVID pandemic continues to create severe challenges for teachers, learners, families, employers, employees, government workers, healthcare workers, and everyone spending their energies educating people. There is so much more that each person needs to do to achieve the goals of education and each person needs the support of others to help them in the education journey. One small way that MERLOT helps is by providing easier access to free educational resources. These educational resources are added to the MERLOT library by YOU! The more we grow the collection, the more we can help the educational community members find what they need - easy access to teaching-learning materials.

I invite you all to add one, free online educational resource to the library in the next 3 months so that we collectively can ease the burdens carried by so many. Even if 50% of the MERLOT members added just one resource, we could DOUBLE the number of materials in the library.

In 2022, MERLOT will continue its international programs in India, with the National Skills Development Council, in Africa with the Virtual University of Senegal, in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, and in the middle east with our partner, the Texas International Education Consortium. In the U.S. and with the essential support from the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, our partnership with Tennessee State University is producing significant Affordable Learning Solutions in about 25 Historically Black Colleges and Universities. Our SkillsCommons program continues to support the Lorain County Community College's grant in using OER to deliver workforce development training in manufacturing.

We have a number of new projects you'll learn more about in the feature articles below and at the upcoming OLC-MERLOT INNOVATE 2022 Conference in March and April. The MERLOT Community will gather both virtually (March 28- April 1) and face-to-face (April 11-14 in Dallas TX). We are looking forward to seeing you and supporting you as you continue to find ways to teach with compassion during these challenging times.

Cheers,  
Gerry Hanley  
Executive Director, MERLOT & SkillsCommons



### In This Issue

From your Wine Steward - Gerry Hanley	Page 1
Feature Article - Innovate 2022 Conference	Page 2
Feature Article - Engineering Board and STEM	Page 3
Feature Article - OER Webinar Series	Page 3
Feature Article - RISE Program Carlton College	Page 4
MERLOT Partnerships	Page 5
Peer Reviewers Extraordinaire 2022 Program	Page 6
Social Networking and MERLOT	Page 6
MERLOT at Innovate 2022	Page 7
Become a MERLOT Peer Reviewer Information	Page 8
Editorial Board News	Page 10
Meet the Editors	Page 10
Out and About with MERLOT	Page 10
Moore Musings	Page 11
MERLOT Statistics	Page 11



## INNOVATE 2022 Conference

This spring, the [Innovate 2022 Conference](#) will welcome thousands of educators and innovators to contribute to shaping the future of online, digital, and blended learning. As a joint conference presented by the [Online Learning Consortium](#) (OLC) and [MERLOT](#), Innovate 2022 will be held virtually March 28 - April 1, 2022 and onsite in Dallas, TX, April 11 - 14, 2022.

Ahead of the conference, the OLC is also convening its first [Leadership Network Symposium](#) in Dallas, TX, on April 11. Building on the impact of the previous Leadership Network Events, this one-day highly collaborative event will serve as a dedicated meeting space for up to 150 senior leaders to participate in five tracks addressing the ubiquitous challenges and promising opportunities in our field. Insights from this event will then be shared during the OLC Innovate conference immediately following the symposium and through a report that will be co-authored by event participants and released following the conference.

"OLC Innovate serves as the perfect meeting ground to reflect and share learned experiences, turning challenges presented by the pandemic into a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to look closely at the technology and approaches available to improve access and quality for learners everywhere," said Jennifer Mathes, CEO of the OLC. "We all have stories to tell in our shift from surviving the pandemic to thriving in our new world. But unless we commit to sharing our best practices and lessons learned, we won't be able to make the strides that we need to."

With one-of-a-kind onsite and fully-online offerings, the blended OLC Innovate experience offers flexible pathways to challenge teaching and learning paradigms, reimagine the learning experience, and ideate on how disruptions in education today will shape the innovative classroom of tomorrow.

"Whether you are attending onsite or online, or both, our volunteers have come together to intentionally design experiences that support collaboration and discourse across modalities," said OLC Innovate Engagement Chair Katrina Wehr, Instructional Designer at Penn State College of Arts & Architecture. "We hope these engagement opportunities provide space to amplify voices within our community and connect, learn, and grow our ideas together not only during the conference, but also to support our community beyond the conference."

This year's [OLC Innovate program](#) offers unique engagement experiences and unparalleled access across all modalities as a way to represent the diversity of voices and perspectives gathered at the conference. Not-to-miss events include:

- Over 350+ live sessions focusing on learning innovations in research and practice, specifically tailored for educators of all experience levels and backgrounds to participate, learn, and engage collaboratively
- Community-driven engagement activities that push the boundaries of modern professional development and bring together participants in moving theory into practice in their own classrooms. Experiences include the Innovation Studio, space for hands-on learning in the heart of the exhibit hall, and the return of the thought-provoking gallery walk on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
- Inclusive gatherings of special interest groups within the OLC communities through formal Summits, include: Blended Learning, Community College, Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), Affordable Learning Solutions, Instructional Design, and Research
- Informal gathering points on Slack, in the Speed Networking Lounge, and with the Innovation Crews and Field Guides
- Impactful and resonant calls to action for educators to collaborate beyond the synchronous conference experience, including rich networks and communities of practice that sustain advocacy for equitable and inclusive learning.

"We've collectively learned that our greatest strength as a community is our ability to ideate and collaborate on designing our online, blended, and digital learning futures," said Conference Chair Rolando Mendez, Inter American University of Puerto Rico. "Moving toward these futures requires an intentional shift from transactional models of learning, and it's through gatherings like OLC Innovate 2022 that we bring about the change that is needed to center the success of our learners."

Access to live streamed sessions and on-demand recordings are available for one year post-conference, giving participants the ability to ostensibly view the entire virtual conference program and featured selections from the onsite conference. Discounts are available for students, groups, and OLC Members.

To register for either the virtual or in-person conference, click here: <https://onlinelearningconsortium.org/attend-2022/innovate/register/>.

## Engineering Board and STEM

The aim of this two-year project is to contribute to STEM promotion worldwide by highlighting the role of engineers' contribution to the development of well-known social, scientific, and technological developments. The project is mainly addressed to the general public as well as to a large number of high school and university students from diverse cultures and languages.

Gerry Hanley, MERLOT/Skills Commons CEO noted, "The proposal received an excellent evaluation and I believe will make a significant contribution. Developing and sharing resources and strategies for engaging students in learning about the impact of engineers and engineering on society can be very useful and productive for educator across many levels, K-12 to higher education, and across many disciplines." Gerry further commented that, "The expertise and commitment of the project team are outstanding. The team will bring their engineering expertise and their educational insights together to produce a library of teaching and learning materials that would benefit educators all over the world. I am very grateful for the leadership the team of researchers and innovators, members of the Engineering Board of MERLOT:

- Eduardo Montero (Editor of the MERLOT Engineering Board) (main researcher), Universidad de Burgos, Spain.
- Ana Pavani (researcher), Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
- Jennifer Baptiste (researcher), University of Trinidad and Tobago
- Natalia Muñoz-Rujas (researcher), Universidad de Burgos, Spain"

The widespread usefulness and significant value of the open educational resources created by the project would directly benefit the MERLOT Engineering community as well others, including the MERLOT Teacher Education community.

The objectives are clearly defined and well aligned with the priorities and strategic development of MERLOT. There is a good project management plan to achieve these objectives.

The multi-language scope of the project has the potential for international impact when it is coupled with providing open access to the resources.

## Upcoming Webinar Series Explores Open Educational Resources

In collaboration with the Online Learning Consortium (OLC), Bay View Analytics is researching the factors impacting the growth of awareness, adoption, and effective use of Open Educational Resources (OER).

This project aims to provide educators (in K-12 and higher education) and their academic institutions with essential data to make informed strategic and operational decisions related to Open Educational Resources. [Upcoming webinars include:](#)

### **March 8, 2022: It's easy to grow OER adoption**

Faculty members who are aware of an OER initiative are 300%+ more likely to adopt OER than the general faculty population. This webinar examines the data behind this finding and introduces several individuals who have made this difference a reality. Attendees will leave with an understanding of successful strategies and the next steps they can apply at their institution.

### **March 15, 2022: How is the pandemic affecting the future of OER?**

Multiple surveys of students, faculty, and administrators have shown that the pandemic is producing fundamental changes in teaching and learning across all higher education. Many of these changes bode well for the future growth of OER adoption, while others will act against growth. Which of these competing pressures will prevail?

### **March 30, 2022: [The Three Projected Futures for Open Educational Resources\\*](#)**

\*Will be presented as a virtual session at OLC Innovate 2022

What is the future for Open Educational Resources (OER) in higher education? This presentation examines three different scenarios, noting how the future trajectory for OER has been changed: first by actions of the commercial publishers and most recently by the global COVID-19 pandemic.

## Upcoming Webinar Series Explores Open Educational Resources (continued)

Times of change are also times of opportunity. Funded by a three-year grant from the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, the project will explore the changing role of OER in both U.S. K-12 and higher education, including questions such as: How should OER be positioned in the pandemic and post-pandemic educational universe? Will the same factors that drove awareness and adoption before the pandemic still work? How should OER take advantage of new realities?

The project builds on over a decade of previous research by [Bay View Analytics](#) (all reports are provided without cost under a Creative Commons license). The most recent reports include:

- [A Year Apart: Adapting Curricula for a Pandemic, U.S. K-12 Education, 2021](#)
- [Infographic: A Year Apart: Adapting Curricula for a Pandemic](#)
- [Digital Texts in the Time of COVID: U.S. Higher Education, 2020](#)
- [The Impact of OER Initiatives on Faculty Selection of Classroom Materials](#)

Results will be presented in a series of free OLC-Bay View Analytics webinars, presented at the upcoming [OLC Innovate conference](#), and published annual research reports, infographics, and short papers, all available on the [Bay View Analytics website](#).

## The RISE Program at Carlton College

by Loretta Driskel (Teacher Education Board)



Our Teaching and Learning Corner (TLC) team, Laura Perry, Erin Blauvelt, and myself were awarded the [2021 USDLA Excellence in Teaching Award](#) for creating and teaching our workshop, **Reframing Instruction for Success Everywhere** (RISE) to advance faculty workforce development during the COVID pandemic. This is the third award received this year to honor the Teaching and Learning Corner and the RISE workforce development initiative. Earlier awards include the 2021 OLC Effective Practice awarded by the Online Learning Consortium and 2021 Phalanx Distinguished Service Award awarded by Phalanx, Clarkson's highest honorary society.

We did a segment for OER focused on MERLOT during the Module on Creating Content. Module 3 in our workshop is entitled Content Delivery. For this topic, in the Module Overview we explain to faculty how students need to engage with and absorb concepts through a variety of types of materials that are both created by them and created by others. We first have them watch a

short video explaining the concept of Open Educational Resources (OER), and then we use an interactive video to guide them through the process of finding OER they can use to engage students by searching MERLOT to locate content, starting with the Smart Search option and then providing examples of how MERLOT can also be used to search other OER digital libraries and demonstrating some of the engaging and often interactive content they will find.

Finally, the OER segment wraps up with faculty asked to search for and contribute a resource to the Collaborative OER Review Spreadsheet. We suggest they find a resource that would be useful in their class and then add it to the sheet to share with their particular school or department. On that sheet, they add comments about the pros and cons of the resource and optionally have the opportunity to ask questions about other contributions. Finally, we have them add the link to the resource to their Moodle course as a reminder for them to consider OER for content delivery and more.



## MERLOT Partnerships

### MERLOT and Partner in Publishing Innovation Projects



Over the years, MERLOT has worked with a variety of commercial partners as part of our [Affordable Learning Solutions Initiative](#). Over the 2021 summer, we launched an Innovation Project with [Partner in Publishing](#) who has for many years helped bridge the gaps between commercial and academic perspectives on academic technology.

#### Partner in Publishing reached out to MERLOT to work on a number of programs:

- [Uversity](#) is building a collection of faculty authored, faculty copyrighted, faculty control supplemental learning materials such as study guides, lecture notes, practice exams that would be offered to students at an affordable cost.
- [Honor Shield](#) is providing faculty with free tools to control students cheating during their exam periods.
- [XanEdu](#) is providing user-friendly tools to enable faculty to organize, curate, and customize their own collections of OER and publisher resources to create affordable learning solutions.

MERLOT and SkillsCommons will continue to explore and collaborate on Innovation Projects with Partner in Publishing and will be reaching out to you. If you have an interest in participating in these projects, we will welcome you and your feedback on how to do it all better.

### MERLOT, SkillsCommons, and H5P



MERLOT and SkillsCommons have partnered with H5P to provide awareness of the user-friendly application that can add and integrate interactives learning experiences into OER. Having just launched our in-kind collaboration, we will be working together on collaborative projects in Africa and India, led by our long-time program director in Africa, Moustapha Diack. Working with Dr. Diack's Digital Education Consulting group, MERLOT will help the adoption and enhancements of free and open educational resources in Senegal. We will also be adding "H5P Interactives" to the MERLOT library features so

people can find these engaging resources easily in MERLOT. Explore the [MERLOT-SkillsCommons H5P Initiative](#) in our Open Educational Practices portal

### MERLOT and Unversite' Numerique



Led by our Program Director for the MERLOT Africa Network, Moustapha Diack, we will be launching a program with the Unversite' Numerique (France) to build a French language OER collection and open educational practices for Francophone Africa. The development of multilingual OER collections is essential if we are truly going to open learning for all.

### MERLOT and ecoText



MERLOT and [ecoText](#) partnered this past year to bring faculty and students an affordable learning solution for revising and remixing Open Textbooks. We empower faculty and students to open the pedagogy in the course, diversifying the perspectives present in class

materials. Not only can you integrate MERLOT resources into an ecoText easily but the ecoText collection is now part of MERLOT's "Other Libraries" search.

### MERLOT and Nearpod



MERLOT and [Nearpod](#) are launching a collaboration to provide educators easy to use tools that for educators to revise and remix OER into customized curriculum that meet their students needs. Nearpod will be receiving a MERLOT "Classics" award from Teacher Education for its outstanding quality- CONGRATS to Nearpod! We will be working with NearPod

to provide a FREE trial offer for using this affordable platform. We'll be sending out invitations for you to request your FREE trail offer. We are planning free webinars about using Nearpod to integrate OER and create a learner-friendly experience.

## Peer Reviewers Extraordinaire 2022 Program

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 create peer reviews. Again this year MERLOT reviewers have the opportunity to earn free registration for the 2022 Innovate conference (virtual). Awardees also receive certificates of merit and be named at the awards ceremony. In order to participate, reviewers must have completed MERLOT GRAPE (Getting Reviewers Accustomed to the Process of Evaluation) Camp, complete 15 reviews that have been accepted by your editor, and submit a minimum of 5 materials to the collection between March 16, 2021 and **March 15, 2022**.

**By the beginning of January, the following members of MERLOT have achieved PRE status:**

Biology	Pankaj Mehrotra
Business	Cathy Swift (Editor)
Criminal Justice	Paul Bowdre (Editor)
Engineering	Eduardo Montero (Editor)
Health Sciences	Nancyruth Leibold (Editor)
Health Sciences	Mwafaq Haji
Health Sciences	Robin Squellati
Health Sciences	Mary Bemker
ICT Literacy	Lesley Farmer (Editor)
Information Technology	Leila Halawi
Mathematics	Larry Green (Editor)
Mathematics	Sergey Belyi
Teacher Education	Jane Moore (Editor)
Teacher Education	Cris Guenter
Teacher Education	Elaine Lawrence
Teacher Education	Kelly Jackson-Charle

Please contact Jane Moore ([jane.moore@csulb.edu](mailto:jane.moore@csulb.edu)) if you are interested in participating. Send her your name, email address, snail mail address, your institution, and your editorial board by February 1. She will contact your editor to make sure that you are assigned enough reviews to complete the process.

## 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. We are happy to see increased interest in MERLOT due in part to social media initiatives.



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 at Innovate 2022

Multiple MERLOT members are presenting at Innovate 2022. Here's a list so you can connect while at the conference. Additionally, the Classics Award Winners will also present Emerging Ideas sessions at the conference. If multiple presenters are involved, only the MERLOT/Skills Commons presenters are listed below. Use the full schedule (<https://onlinelearningconsortium.org/attend-2022/innovate/program/>) to locate the names of other presenters. Note: All sessions are listed in Central Time Zone. Be sure to adjust to fit your own time zone

Day	Time	Presenter	Title	Location
3/28	10:15-11 am	Nancyruth Leibold (Editor, Health Sciences)	50 Ways to Leave Your Computer: Holistic Self-Care for the Online Educator	Zoom Room 2
3/28	2-2:45 pm	Teacher Education Board	What Happens When the Masks Come Off? Moving Forward, What Tools and Practices Should Stay with Us from Remote Learning?	Zoom Room 1
3/29	2-2:45 pm	Gerry Hanley (MERLOT/Skills Commons)	Cooking with Open Educational Practices: Capturing Pedagogical Strategies and Outcomes in ePortfolios to Serve Up Educational Success	Zoom Room 3
3/29	3:15-4 pm	Nancyruth Leibold (Editor, Health Sciences)	Student Perception of Feedback from Teachers in Online Courses: An Integrative Review	Zoom Room 3
3/29	4:30-5:15	Maria Fieth, Rick Lumadue (Skills Commons)	OER 101: Easily Reducing Costs in Education	Zoom Room 1
3/30	4:30-5:15 pm	Cris Guenter (Teacher Education Board)	Teaching Art Online: A Conversation on Creativity for All	Zoom Room 4
3/30	4:30-5:15 pm	Gerry Hanley (MERLOT/Skills Commons)	Sustaining a National Strategy for Career and Technical Education: Leveraging Past Programs to Create Future Success	Zoom Room 2
3/31	3:15-5:15 pm	Gerry Hanley (MERLOT/Skills Commons)	Scaling the Impact of the Affordable Learning Solutions: HBCU Leadership and Strategies for Faculty, Students, and Administrators	Zoom Room 4

### Discovery Sessions

Gerry Hanley	ROI For Affordable Learning Solutions: It is Much More Than Money Discovery Sessions are all asynchronous during the virtual conference.
Jane Moore	4/12 – 3:45-4:30 pm – Texas Ballroom D – Discover the Benefits of Peer Reviewing: You Had Me at MERLOT

In addition, MERLOT Classics Awards will also have Discovery Sessions....be sure to check the listings as they will be scheduled soon.

## 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, with a few exceptions
- 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
- Introduce participants to the editorial board in their discipline.

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](#).

You can attend GRAPE Camp Orientation three ways:

1. You can attend the live webinars at the dates and times listed below
2. You can sign up for the asynchronous session in which the recording of the live session is sent out right afterwards
3. You can opt for our self-study which you complete on your own.

Live sessions are scheduled on the following dates and times:

- February - Tuesday (1, 8, 15) at 11 AM Eastern, 10 AM Central, 9 AM Mountain, 8 AM Pacific, (4 PM GMT)
- March - Friday (18, 25, April 1) at 3 PM Eastern, 2 PM Central, 1 PM Mountain, Noon Pacific (8 PM GMT)
- April - Thursday (14, 21, 28) at 11 AM Eastern, 10 AM Central, 9 AM Mountain, 8 AM Pacific (4 PM GMT)
- May - Tuesday (10, 17, 24) at 11 AM Eastern, 10 AM Central, 9 AM Mountain, 8 AM Pacific (4 PM GMT)

You can sign up for any of these sessions at the following site: <https://freeonlinesurveys.com/s/AxTKO2R2>

### Comments from GRAPE Camp Participants:

"I think it was very comprehensive and efficient way to explain the material"

"This was an exceptionally valuable experience. The time was well utilized in the synchronous sessions, and the pace of instruction worked well. The progression from week to week makes perfect sense for the end goal. I appreciate the feedback given on my sample peer review work; that kind of feedback is important for those of us learning how to do this process. Dr. Swift answered all questions expediently when I emailed her, invited participation from the group during work sessions, and clearly made an effort to include our specific areas of interest when teaching the peer review process. I would highly recommend GRAPE Camp (especially the synchronous version) to other faculty!!"

"Thank you so much for the excellent training."

"Thanks for the opportunity to participate in the GRAPE Camp, the information presented was clear and useful. The presenter was quite knowledgeable and made good use of the technology. I am able to go back and watch sections of the video for clarity."

"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."



## Comments from GRAPE Camp Participants (continued):

"It helped me a lot to learn how to make my lesson and materials better by reviewing others. I could find my own problems by watching peer's lessons."

"I didn't realize that peer reviewers normally receive awards. This definitely interested me"

"It is apparent that MERLOT is a fine organization that appreciates its reviewers and operates as a team."

"This was a really enjoyable training experience. I'm quite excited at the prospect of applying the skills I learned toward (potentially - hopefully!) improving the OER experience for educators in search of materials."

"I realized that we can learn a lot by communicating with others who are in the same field with you and MERLOT just provides us this great platform to upgrade ourselves."

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

"Cathy is prompt in responding to me (once time zones have been factored in), and has been a useful contact point throughout."

"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."

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

## Recent Graduates of GRAPE Camp include:

NAME	BOARD	INSTITUTION
Michelle de Sa	World Languages	Federal University of Matto Grosso Du Sul
Francisco Buctot, Jr	Agriculture	Southern Leyte State University
Carlou John Letigio	ICT Literacy	Araneta Learning Center for Child Development
Johann Botes	Health Sciences	Treinamento
Megan Graewingholt	Library	CSU Fullerton
Gabriel Rubio Perez	Engineering	Universidad de Burgos - Spain
Kelly Jackson Charles	Teacher Education	The University of the West Indies
Peter Longley	Health Sciences	Quinnipiac University
Jacqueline Fajardo	Chemistry	University of Delaware
Beatrice Harris	Psychology	Tennessee State University
Mursalata Muhammed	English	Grand Rapids Community College
Sammy Chapman	Library	Purdue University Northwest
Mahalab Bowman-Campbell	Psychology	Clafin University
Benjamin Kantack	Psychology	Lycoming University
Heather Ulrich	Professional Coaching	Fairfield University
Megan Lavalette	Professional Coaching	Fairfield University
Galina Robertsons	Business	Riga Technical University

## News

### Editorial Board News

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

Two MERLOT Editorial Boards submitted proposals to Innovate and had them accepted: **Psychology** and **Teacher Education**. Be sure to check them out on the list of presentations for the conference.

**Mohsen Keshavarz**, a reviewer in Business has been interviewed for [Leaders and Legends of Online Learning](#). His text, [Preparing Educators to Teach in a Digital Age: A model of Professors Empowerment](#) is available in MERLOT.

Thank you to **Deirdre McDonald** who is stepping down as editor for Library. **Kim Grotewold** from Texas A & M San Antonio will be co-editing with **Ashley Sergiadis**.

### Meet the Editors - Amy McGlothlin and Karl Suhr - MUSIC



Amy McGlothlin, saxophonist, bagpiper and conductor, is a dynamic and adaptable teacher and clinician with experience teaching students of diverse backgrounds and abilities. Amy teaches academic music courses, applied lessons, masterclasses, clinics and coaches chamber and large ensembles. She has a flexible and adaptable teaching style geared towards each individual student balancing their needs with the appropriate level of rigor. Dr. McGlothlin has a proven record of success with special needs and high risk students. Amy, a chamber music specialist, is a member of Triage Woodwinds, and the Pharos Saxophone Quartet. She is Rovner Ambassador and Yamaha Performing Artist and is the Director of Bands at Fitchburg State University in Fitchburg, Massachusetts.



Karl Suhr grew up in Seward, Nebraska. He attended Concordia College in Seward obtaining a BA in Music, and the University of North Texas for a Master's Degree in Library Science. Karl worked as a library assistant III in the music library at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln for 3 years, as a reference librarian at Nova Southeastern University in Davie, Florida for 3 years and has been at Southeast Missouri State University as electronic resources librarian since June of 1999. He enjoys spending time with his wife and 2 daughters, reading, painting/drawing and playing music on guitar and viola. He teaches guitar and ukulele part time and performs regularly in a string quartet with his family. Karl began working as a reviewer for Merlot in 2014 and was excited and honored to join the music editing team in 2019.

### Out and About with MERLOT

**Gerry Hanley** (Executive Director of MERLOT and SkillsCommons), **Maria Fieth**, and **Rick Lumadue** (SkillsCommons) presented a virtual webinar last month "Finding and Sharing Open Educational Resources for Strengthening Community Colleges Training Grants." The webinar provided grantees of the Strengthening Community Colleges (SCC) with information about the resources that are available to use in grand implementation.

**Irene Knokh** (Editor for Instructional Design and Technology) did a presentation for University of Michigan Medical School's Dean's Office, "Everyday Inclusivity: Creating Digital Communications and DIY Digital Ergonomics."

### Meeting Notices



[Join Us at OLC Innovate 2022!](#) Advancing online education begins with you. Join us for the OLC Innovate 2022 conference and help shape the future of online, digital, and blended learning.

**Virtual: March 28 - April 1, 2022 Dallas, TX: April 11 - 14, 2022**



## Moore Musings

**Dear Jane:**

*I'm not sure what the Bookmark Collections are or how I can use them. Can you help?*

*– A Reader*

**Dear Reader,**

I suspect that you use bookmarks in your actual books to hold your place or use post-it arrows to mark important passages. Our Bookmark Collections can work the same way and even more. You can collect materials for a specific class, or a topic and save that Bookmark collection for use with your students or in your class preparation. In addition, you can copy other Bookmark Collections that your fellow MERLOTians have developed. It's a win-win!

*Jane*

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!

### MERLOT Statistics

#### MERLOT Collection as of January 31, 2022

97,031	# items in Collection
5,787	# of materials w/a Peer Review
15,957	# of materials w/an Editor's Review
13,342	# of materials w/a Comment/Discussion
1,462	# of materials w/a Learning Exercise
189,984	# of registered users

#### Usage Statistics for 2021

21,444,610	# of Material Views
2,428,928	Total # of visits in 2021
2.97	Avg. # pages/visit
2:25	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. 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!