Digital Ed E-NEWS

April 27, 2017

Welcome to this month's DE-news! We've got some exciting things happening this month. Check them out below.

You can also check out our Digital Education websites:
Digital Education | AP4DE | Online

Noncredit Associate Director Hired

Digital Education is pleased to announce that Jacob Askeroth will assume the new position of associate director for noncredit programs. This position is designed to help Purdue grow its profile in online professional development. Jacob comes to Digital Education from the Summer Programs unit and will transition into his new responsibilities on July 1.

Graduate Assistantships in Instructional Design

ITaP's Teaching and Learning Technologies group has established two graduate assistantships in instructional design to create opportunities for Purdue students in this field to gain experience. The assistantships are 12-month appointments with tuition remissions. One assistantship is focused on developing a research compendium for best practices for teaching and learning with technology, and the second on developing instructional media, using 3D modeling, augmented reality and animations. You can see the postings for these positions here and here.

Quality Matters Training Workshop

Digital Education and Teaching Learning Technologies will offer a one-day training workshop on Quality Matters (QM) on June 6, 2017. With over 1,000 institutions worldwide using its rubric to benchmark quality, QM is the leading quality assurance system for online courses. QM uses research-derived standards and peer review to certify courses. There is no cost to attend the workshop, but participants will be expected to purchase the Quality Matters manual at $20 when registering. Registrations are due by May 19. You can register here.

Graduate Course Prepares Students to Teach Online

EDCI 59100 Online Teaching and Learning will be offered in Fall 2017. The course is geared toward preparing graduate students to teach online as either a teaching assistant or future faculty member. You can learn more about the course here. Purdue Teaching Academy has reviewed the course syllabus and identified the successful completion of this course may be used toward the Instructional Development criteria for the Graduate Teacher Certification program here at Purdue. For more information about the course, contact Prof. Jennifer Richardson.

Purdue New University

On April 27th, Purdue announced the acquisition of Kaplan University as a bold move forward to further expand online access to higher education. The initiative addresses the need for postsecondary education for working adults and others unsuited to traditional campus study, and the explosive growth of online technologies as a means of delivering education to students of all types. Purdue will acquire the academic operations and assets of Kaplan University, including its 15 campuses and learning centers, 32,000 students, 3,000 employees and decades of experience in distance education. Almost all of these students are in fully online programs, and all existing Kaplan University students and faculty will transition to the new university, which will use the Purdue name in some fashion not yet identified. This will be a separate, self-supporting campus of the Purdue system. More info at http://www.purduenewu.org.

This is one of the strongest possible moves that could have been made to emphasize Purdue's commitment to digital education as a key way in which we will meet our land grant mission to provide accessible and affordable education to many.

Please be assured that this move in no way reduces our commitment to supporting and growing online courses and programs through the Purdue WL campus – in fact it will open up many new opportunities for us. We have an exciting new chapter ahead of us as we work to harness the amazing new capabilities that are being added to the Purdue system.

Question, comment or suggestion? **Send them here!**

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