

Faculty Focus

A free electronic newsletter
for those involved with
teaching in Higher Education

Magna Publications
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Welcome back to campus for the 2006 Fall Semester! Hopefully, you've had a restful, productive summer and are ready to tackle all the challenges and opportunities of a new academic year.

CALL FOR PROPOSALS!!!

[The Teaching Professor](#) newsletter and [Magna Publications](#) invite presentation, panel discussion, and interactive poster session proposals for the fourth annual [Teaching Professor Conference](#). The **deadline** for proposal submission is **October 20, 2006**. For more information, just click [here](#).

Have you created (or updated) your teaching portfolio lately?

Teaching portfolios are not only an effective way to document teaching accomplishments for tenure and promotion reviews, but they also help teachers become more self-reflective, said Monica A. Devanas, Ph.D., director of faculty development and assessment programs, The Center for the Advancement of Teaching, Rutgers-The State University.

"As you do a teaching portfolio you can't help but improve," said Devanas, who was speaking at an [online seminar](#) sponsored by Magna Publications. "Just the idea of thinking about teaching produces greater self awareness and a richer collection of information to base decisions on," she said.

A teaching portfolio describes one's teaching successes in the same way that a C.V. documents one's scholarship. Devanas reminded seminar participants that an effective teaching portfolio addresses more than what occurs in the classroom. Documenting activities such as advising, mentoring, community outreach, and development of innovative courses should not be overlooked when considering one's teaching roles, both in terms of self-improvement and documentation for promotion and tenure, she said.

Devanas advocated an eight- to 10-page teaching portfolio that consists of a description of teaching responsibilities, a teaching philosophy statement, a narrative of supporting evidence, and an appendix of documents. Supporting documents can include teaching awards, student course evaluations, peer evaluations, student products that illustrate learning outcomes, contributions to the scholarship on teaching, and documentation of participation in professional development activities, Devanas said.

If you missed the live 90-minute online seminar, "Teaching Portfolios: Improve Teaching and Personnel Decisions," you can [order the full-length CD for \\$189 and the transcript for \\$99 or save \\$49 and receive both for only \\$239](#).

The newest conference resource for busy higher education administrators is only a week away!

**GOT QUESTIONS?
GET ANSWERS.**



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Please let us know what topics are important to you! If you have a suggestion for an article for a future issue of this newsletter, contact Director Ginny Haight at ginnyh@magnapubs.com or 608-227-8190.

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