Georgia State University

From the SelectedWorks of Amanda "Mandy" J. Swygart-Hobaugh

Fall 2007

Getting Their Hands Dirty: Collaborating to Engage Undergraduates in Learning

Amanda J. Swygart-Hobaugh, M.L.S., Ph.D., Georgia State University



Available at: http://works.bepress.com/amanda_swygart-hobaugh/17/

Getting Their Hands Dirty

Collaborating to Engage Undergraduates in Learning

Hannah Britton, Ph.D., and Mandy Swygart-Hobaugh, M.L.S., Ph.D.

Teaching Summit 2007

In this session, we will...

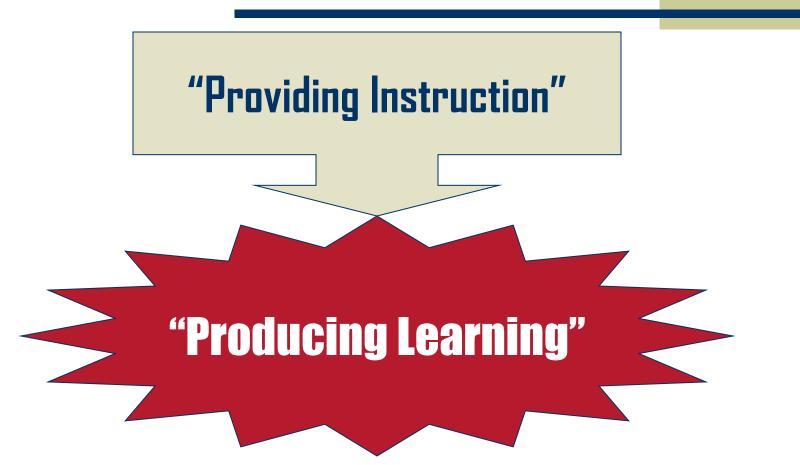
- Present our collaboration on assignment design and research instruction, then...
- You will discuss how you might design/redesign an assignment

Sound familiar?

I'm sick of reading the same-old tired research papers! How can I get my students more engaged in their learning?

> Let's put our heads together and think of some more exciting alternatives...

Barr & Tagg: "Paradigm Shift in Higher Education..."



Robert B. Barr and John Tagg, "From Teaching to Learning: A New Paradigm for Undergraduate Education," *Change*, November/December 1995, 13-25.

Shift could mean...

- Letting go of traditional "class time"...
- Taking some risks on what you're going to get...

BUT...

- Students are actively engaged and responsible for their learning
- They experience what real research in the field is, not just reading about it

Two "mini" original research projects!

- Gender's impact in campaign ads
 - Critical thinking
 - Analytical skills
 - Media literacy
 - Research methodology

- Gendered patterns of U.S. legislators
 - Critical thinking
 - Analytical skills
 - Quantitative literacy
 - Research methodology

Getting their hands dirty...

Campaign project

- Readings → research ?s and coding scheme
- Getting the data...
- Findings and selfcritiques

- Legislative project
 - Readings → research ?s and coding scheme
 - Getting the data...
 - Findings and selfcritiques

Potential Worries

- More work for me?
 - Preparation yes, grading no
- Control Freak?
 - Unknown produces learning
- Layers of Collaboration

Now, your turn!

- Break into groups and brainstorm ways to design/redesign an assignment that:
 - Achieves articulated pedagogical aims
 - Engages students' in original analysis, and
 - Involves collaboration between the instructor and another academic member (e.g., a librarian, a writing center professional, another instructor, etc.).

Resources

- Robert B. Barr and John Tagg, "From Teaching to Learning: A New Paradigm for Undergraduate Education," *Change*, November/December 1995, 13-25.
- KU Libraries' Subject Specialists:

http://www.lib.ku.edu/directory/subjectspecialists.cfm

- KU Writing Center: <u>http://www.writing.ku.edu/</u>
- KU Center for Teaching Excellence: <u>http://www.cte.ku.edu/</u>

THANKS FOR ATTENDING!!

Swygart-Hobaugh, A. J., & Britton, H. (2007, Fall). Getting their hands dirty: Collaborating to engage undergraduates in learning. Presented at the *KU Teaching Summit 2007,* University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS.