Abby Musgrove: “...as the Sunflower”: The Golden Ratio in Choral Music (20 mins.)
Mathematics and special proportions have been used in music by composers, instrument makers, and musicians for centuries. One such number, found throughout nature but also a fascinating mathematical curiosity, is the so-called “Golden Ratio.” This mathematical constant was well-known to the Greeks, and its special properties were revered for centuries by the Pythagoreans and other mystical groups. Later philosophers, musicians, and artists used it extensively in their works. It has even been dubbed the “Divine Proportion,” a name which entices composers and musicians to infuse their music with heaven itself. This presentation will explore examples of choral music that employ this ratio, spanning 1500 years of Western history.

Mark Walter: Aesthetic Discourse and "Life" (20 mins.)
Since antiquity, the conception of “life” has often been utilized in both theoretical and quasi-theoretical discourses about "beauty" and, in some cases, those dealing with artistic production and reception. I will examine some of the consequences of this relation and what they suggest for thinking about aesthetics today.

Ariel Ramirez: Solution(s) to Linear Equations through the Eyes of Mathematics Education
The purpose of the research presented is to characterize how students come to understand the nature of the solution(s) of a linear equation and a system of linear equations in the context of a linear algebra course. The goal was to test a conjectured sequence of concept formation. In the general literature, one attempt to reduce the difficulties in learning linear algebra is the push for the connection of the topics in linear algebra to real-life applications. In the case of systems of linear equations, understanding the connections that solutions have with the original systems may lead to a better understanding for the students.

Libby Karlinger Escobedo: Monsters in the Margins: Identifying with Antiquity in the Milemete Treatise (20 mins.)
When Walter de Milemete presented his handbook on good kingship to Edward III in 1326, he also gave the young king a copy of the Secretum Secretorum, believed in the Middle Ages to have been written by Aristotle for his former student, Alexander the Great. Thus Walter was identifying his treatise and his patron with both the great philosopher and the great king from antiquity. But the illuminators of the Milemete treatise went even further to promote this link to classical knowledge and learning, including numerous images of the so-called monstrous races. By including these monstrous figures, the creators of the manuscript identified the book with classical learning and with Alexander and they provided a visual distinction between the civilized, as represented by a text about good conduct, and the uncivilized, as represented by monstrosity.
David Diehl: Case Study: Minimization of Estate Tax in Family Business (20 mins.)
When a family’s wealth is largely tied to the substantial value of a small business, a chief aim of estate planning is to assure that the business will not have to be sold to pay estate taxes. This case study examines a business whose substantial value might require sale to pay the multimillion dollar estate tax that will result from a principal’s death. Interrelated concepts of share ownership, dividends, ordinary income taxation, inherited basis step-up, and estate taxation are all explored in an effort to plan for minimized estate taxes. An innovative solution for estate tax reduction results and is implemented. The case also highlights the important role of the accountant in planning for wealth preservation.

Susan Palmer: “Occupy Till I Come”: Reconciling Millerite Theology with the Founding of Mendota College (40 mins. per request)
This paper has two main objectives. One is to show the connection between the nationally-known Millerite Movement of the 1840s and the founding of the Advent Christian denomination and following that, the founding of Mendota College (later Aurora College and then Aurora University). The second objective, and the main point of my paper, is to show how Advent Christians struggled with the creation of permanent institutions, like a college, when their theology told them that Christ could return to earth at any time. In the end, those advocating a college turned to the Bible for their theological rationale.

Meg Bero: The Native American Church: Expressions of Faith, Renewal & Healing (20 mins.)
The introduction of Christianity into the lives of America’s indigenous people is often equated with loss. Members of the Native American Church, however, experience their faith as a source of renewal. Two case studies will reveal the role of the Native American Church, also known as the Peyote Religion, in healing and human thriving, as evidenced in the lives of two Native American Church Roadmen. This presentation will chronicle the evolution of the Native American Church as one of tradition and adaptation. It is a story of cultural renewal and survival expressed in art and ceremony. At a time of tumultuous changes in the lives of American Indian people in the late 19th century, spiritual practices provided answers and refuge for a displaced people. Increased exposure to Christianity influenced established beliefs. The Native American Church incorporated elements of Christianity while maintaining traditional practices and adapting to the new ideas in their changing environment. Today, despite persecution and repression, the Native American Church is the largest pan-Indian institution with adherents in over fifty tribes and some 300,000 members.
Session 2-A UBH South  12:00 – 1:30 p.m.
Moderator: Brian Husby

Jessica Thurlow: Reading Books: Tests and Reading in the Western Civilization Curriculum  (20 mins.)
Text messages, email, the internet, the latest blockbuster films and other mediums all compete for the attention of college students. But what about old-fashioned books and the pleasures of reading an afternoon away? While textbooks and excerpts from primary sources are standard in Western Civilization classrooms, full-length texts are often given short shrift. But in an era when students profess to not enjoy reading and to not reading at all, a full-length text may be just the “medicine” they need. This paper seeks to explore the use of book tests as a way to encourage reading (in the classroom) and as an alternative to general knowledge exams. Data collected from the History Department’s Western Civilization courses will be presented.

Jim Varney and Chetna Patel: Using the SMARTBoard to Increase Student Engagement and Teaching Effectiveness  (20 mins.)
Participants will engage in a hands-on session to learn how to use the SMARTBoard, an interactive touch screen device. Participants will learn the three levels of use; as a projection screen, as a touch screen, and as an interactive hands-on device to increase student engagement. Areas covered will include how to: access and install free SMARTBoard software --orient the SMARTBoard; use the menu bar with pens or your finger; convert handwriting to text; save to Notebook or other files; use the onscreen keyboard and text boxes; use lesson plan resources within the Gallery; and write/erase/save on webpages +/- PowerPoint +/- Moodle pages. Participants will also brainstorm how each can use the SMARTBoard in their specific teaching area.

Travis Ramage: The STARs of Aurora University  (40 mins. per request)
This 60 minute session will focus on the STAR program for conditionally admitted students to AU that consists of a four-day orientation which provides students an opportunity to adjust to campus life in/out of the classroom through sessions/activities led by faculty, staff, and STAR Mentors. The program also has a required 1 credit, First Year Experience (FYE) course that students take their first semester at AU based on the On Course text by Skip Downing. I will be sharing data from last year’s (Fall 2008) students and changes I have made to this year’s (Fall 2009) program including the creation of a learning community with the FYE course and ENG1000: Introductory Composition as well as a second required FYE course that the STAR students will take in their second semester designed to help students develop career goals and lay out a path for achieving these goals.
Session 2-B UBH North  12:00 – 1:30 p.m.
Moderator: Heidi Rosenberg

Denise Blank: The Good Neighbor Practice: Expanding the Theatre Industry through Alliance. (20 mins.)
“The Good Neighbor” policy germinated from an idea of practice, supported by study of various elements of human behavior (within HR motivation, audience economics and consumer behavior contexts), market segmentation and demographic research, and analysis of standard business strategy models. The policy provides a simple methodological framework, culled from retrospective analysis of four case studies (two from Aurora University, one each from Lookingglass Theatre--Chicago and Next Theatre--Evanston), of progressively complex integration of small- to medium-sized theatre companies with their local communities. By becoming integral parts of their “neighborhoods” (defined by physical location, subscriber base or industry affiliation), a company can ensure its survival and ability to remain true to mission.

Jeanine Clark Bremer: For What Purpose: John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park. (20 mins.)
The history of John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park and the Keys National Marine Sanctuary provide insight into some of the oldest environmental discussions in the US. Should environmentally important areas be restored, preserved, used minimally for profit, or be exploited to their fullest extent? The history of this unique marine sanctuary reflects that of the US’s treatment of terrestrial sanctuaries—ambivalence on the part of the people. This paper will chronicle the beginning stages of the park’s development and bring to light complex issues pertaining to development and preservation.

David N. Emanuelson: A Comparative Analysis of Midwest Park Districts to Midwest Municipal Parks and Recreation Departments (20 mins.)
This study evaluates park district services compared to similar services provided by consolidated general-purpose municipal governments. Two competing hypotheses are identified. The first states that parks and recreation departments provide higher levels of efficiency in delivering services than park districts. The second states that park districts provide higher service levels than municipal parks and recreation departments. The aggregate results of this study show that structure of government is not an important determinant of total recreation program levels. The study also demonstrates that structure of government is not an important determinant of levels of efficiency.

Ileana Brooks, Bob Daugherty, Helen Lee and Vicki Marques: Mapping Healthy Living Resources in the Greater Aurora Area (20 mins.)
In September, 2008 the Aurora University Institute for Collaboration, established a Healthy Living Council comprising the major university disciplines potentially involved in obesity related education and research, and community organizations and agencies concerned with obesity. The purpose of the HLC is to provide a collaborative community framework to jointly plan and implement initiatives to combat childhood obesity in the Aurora community. The researchers on this proposed project have been involved with the HLC since the beginning, and were instrumental in the Council’s recently being awarded a $30,000 planning grant from the Kane County Department of Health to initiate data collection and planning for more effective obesity intervention in the Aurora area. The researchers were specifically involved in mapping of healthy eating resources and gathering data from supermarkets and restaurants. These efforts are aimed at all population groups, however, and although there is recognition that the Latino.

We will present our findings on the data obtained from restaurants and food markets and will attempt to provide some suggestions on program planning and implementation for obesity prevention.
Session 3-A UBH South  1:45 – 3:15 p.m.
Moderator: Mark Zelman

Hans Beck, Jane Davis, Saib Othman and Chetna Patel: Collaborative University/community Model Supports Student Achievement in Science and Math (20 mins.)
In the summer of 2007, when Aurora University sought the Illinois Math and Science Partnership grants from ISBE, it did so by utilizing the model of collaboration between colleges, partner districts and community partners that had been developed as part of the collaborative processes developed as part of our ACI/TQE Grant. The result was that AU received four of these grants to develop and implement Master’s programs in Teacher Leadership in Math and Science. Today, these programs are in their second year with cohorts of twenty five each. In the summer of 2009 our experience with these programs enabled us to successfully apply for and implement two grants for Summer Workshops/Institutes in Mathematics and Physical Sciences that continue through 2011.

Dennis Kripp and Brandon Kooi - Organizers
Vince Pelletiere, Deann Edgers, Faith Wilson, Rick Polad and Matt Kneller - Participants
Teaching Presentation
Introduction of a Blended Learning Model Faculty Training Pilot (20 mins.)
These sessions will provide an opportunity for our scholars and practitioners to share their experiences and collaboratively build new knowledge around teaching and learning in a blended learning course. The presentations will include examples of learning outcomes from the recently completed AU blended learning faculty training and pilot in the second 8 weeks of the Fall 2009 session. Discussions will include innovative techniques used by faculty and students, implications of the blended learning modality at AU, and lessons learned that can guide future practitioners of this course delivery modality.

Steven R. Rogg: Peer Evaluation of Teaching as Collaborative Inquiry: “Jugyokenkyuu” (40 mins. per request)
The Japanese practice “jugyokenkyuu,” commonly translated as “Lesson Study” or “Lesson Research”, is a form of teacher-led and student-focused professional development. This practice, common in schools in Japan, establishes a direct link between specific educational goals, teacher professional education, and student learning. Experiences of the Chicago Lesson Study Group suggest that this may also serve as a promising alternative to traditional peer evaluation of teaching. In this session, we will: (1) introduce key characteristics of jugyokenkyuu; (2) illustrate the alignment of jugyokenkyuu with core features of exemplary professional development; (3) report examples of jugyokenkyuu in professional education and peer evaluation; and (4) propose ideas for strengthening professional education and peer evaluation through collaborative inquiry in the practice of jugyokenkyuu.
Joan Fee: Educational Partnerships in the 21st Century: Expanding the Circle of Knowledge (20 mins.)
Across a number of professions, for example architecture, medicine, and teaching, there is increased pressure for wide-ranging partnership-involvement in preparing professionals. Yet, research shows that partnership work is difficult. Drawing especially on a theoretical framework of networking, this paper presents a case study of an unusual, diverse partnership. The partners—varied university faculty, teachers and administrators from two high-needs school districts, and personnel from an engineering firm, a math-science academy, and a museum—came together to design inter-disciplinary masters degrees to improve teachers’ knowledge and leadership. Partners perceived that their success resulted from wide empowerment and mutual respect.

Sarah Radtke: Transfer of Learning from Higher Education to the Work Place (20 mins.)
Transfer of learning is the ability to utilize one’s intellectual resources and didactic knowledge in situations where those resources are relevant. Transfer of learning fosters the continuous development of the learner, leading to effective knowledge transfer from higher education to the real-world, work setting. Athletic training students, like other pre-professional students, are given formalized knowledge in the classroom and are provided opportunities to practice and refine these skills in informal, clinical education settings. Students are then expected to transfer this knowledge into the real world working context once they become certified athletic trainers. A qualitative study was conducted to explore factors that influence transfer of learning from higher education to the work setting among recently certified athletic trainers.

Carmella M. Moran PhD, RN and Peggy Hernandez MSN RN CNE: Correlating Admission Criteria and Program Outcomes (20 mins.)
Qualified applicants exceed capacity at the Aurora University School of Nursing, as in many other baccalaureate programs across the country. Nursing admission literature increasingly points to the value of standardized pre-admission testing. The Test of Academic Skills (TEAS®) developed by Assessment Technologies Institute (ATI) is a valid and reliable measure of academic skills which has been used at Aurora University for the past six years. The content mastery series had been used for the same period of time. It was unclear how this data and pre-admission GPA were related. Reduction of the attrition rate of junior level students by refining admission criteria was the primary purpose of this investigation. Data from 136 students acquired over the past two years were analyzed using SPSS for Windows Release 15.0. To establish a minimum standard on the TEAS®, a variation of the contrasting group’s standard-setting method was chosen to take advantage of accumulated examinee data. In order to evaluate the relative weighting assigned to composite TEAS® score and the GPA used for admission, a regression analysis was performed predicting Fundamentals 2.1 score from TEAS® score and GPA. Zero order correlations indicated that both TEAS® score (r=.422, p<.001) and pre-admission GPA (r=.184, p=.016) were significantly related to Fundamentals score. Regression analysis showed that TEAS® score contributed uniquely to the prediction of Fundamentals score (R2=.166, p<.001), while pre-admission GPA did not (R2=.022, p=.056).

Thomas Jackson: Assessment: A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words (20 mins.)
The focus of this session is on using images, still and moving, as collected classroom evidence of student learning. Capturing student demonstrations in images while they engage in new learning or the explanation of what is understood promotes clarity and opportunity for the teacher and the student and serves as an assessment vehicle. Two easy to learn free video software products, PhotoStory 3 and Windows MovieMaker, will be used to demonstrate how to capture and create assessments that detail student knowledge. This video documentation allows for replication of the performance, authentic discussion, and constructive reflection of improved student learning strategies and understanding.
Session 4-A UBH South  3:30 – 5:00 p.m.
Moderator: Carole Esposito

Dr. Johnny K. Lloyd: The Implementation of CD-ROM Technology in the Anatomy & Physiology Lab (20 mins.)
CD-ROM technology is here to stay. In the past decade, the inclusion of a CD-ROM with a textbook is a standard item. As computer technology (software capability) has improved, CD-ROM’s offer an interactive approach to learn anatomy & physiology with detailed and quality cadaver photographs, illustrations, animations, study aids, and various self-testing procedures.

In this presentation, the Anatomy & Physiology Revealed and MediaPhys CD-ROM’s (from McGraw-Hill) are discussed and shown. In the 2005-06 academic school year, cat dissection was replaced by the A & P Revealed CD-ROM. The CD developed by a medical school allowed students to view and dissect actual cadaver images and had timed practical exams. A total of 5,000 anatomical structures are revealed. In addition, the two CD-ROM’s are used on the lab practicals. At the end of every semester course, an evaluation is conducted and students are asked to rank the various teaching tools and methods that have enhanced their learning of the material. Results of the survey from previous years which include both CD-ROM’s and other activities will be presented.

Michael R. Sawdey: Stealing Oreo Cookies—What to Write in the Photography Portfolio (20 mins.)
Taking photographs, Diane Arbus once observed, is like sneaking into the kitchen at night and stealing Oreo cookies. How might students manage to write about their own photographic work with similar grace? If one is to judge from the sort of “artists’ statements” found in most portfolios and exhibits (student or otherwise), the task is not an easy one and most of the results are dismal. In this presentation I will explore an approach to this writing problem based on immersion in certain types of models and adoption of a different implied audience in the resulting statement. This approach has applications in other types of writing where the rhetorical context is complex and indirect.

Cathryn Wilkinson: Wealth from Scarcity: Bach’s Organ Sonatas in the Theory Curriculum (40 mins. per request)
In beginning theory courses, students are exposed to many types of music and sift out underlying compositional principles. Bach’s organ sonatas (BWV 525-530) are little known beyond the circle of organists, and on the surface, as trios, they appear quite elementary. But when mined for content, this texture yields a broader wealth of musical imagination.

The limited texture is a catalyst that let Bach to denser elaborations within basic Baroque harmony and solidified his reputation as a contrapuntal composer. The analysis of selected movements from the sonatas reveals that Bach’s use of scarce materials hides a complex and inventive underlying process. Even beginning students can learn to recognize Bach’s ability to weave a rich musical tapestry from only three threads.
Session 4-B UBH North  3:30 – 5:00 p.m.
Moderator:  John Krummen

Christina Bruhn: The Child and Family Service Reviews: A Program Evaluation (20 mins.)
The Federal Child and Family Services Reviews were initiated to hold states to a higher standard of child welfare practice. When the first set of reports became available, it quickly became apparent that every state had “failed” the review and was consequently required to develop a performance improvement plan (PIP). The objective of this research was to compare the outcomes of the second round of reviews to those of the first round. In cases where states continued to “fail”, examinations of the PIPS were conducted. The research questions are whether the PIP plans were responsive to the deficits identified, the degree to which PIP approaches were evidence-based, and the degree to which PIP processes and outcomes could be empirically evaluated.

Terry Shapiro: Comparison of counseling MMPI’s married and divorced (20 mins.)
The primary purpose of the study was to compare the personality characteristics of former marriage counseling clients who stayed married with those who divorced. Hypothesis one: persons who divorced following marriage counseling have more neurotic traits than those who stayed married. Hypothesis two: persons who divorced following marriage counseling are more independent than those who stayed married. Hypothesis three: persons who divorced following marriage counseling are more dissimilar than those who stayed married. Support for hypothesis one was found for females. There was no support for hypotheses two and three. Strongest finding – interaction effect between gender and marital status on mental health. Men who remained married had higher MMPI scores (more pathological) than men who got divorced. Women who remained married had lower MMPI scores (less pathological) than women who got divorced.

Mark H. Stone: Utility of the Mini-Mental Status Examination for Assessing Dementia in Elderly Persons (30 mins. per request)
The most commonly used screening instrument for dementia is the Mini-Mental Status Examination (MMSE). The utility of the MMSE was evaluated using two samples of elderly persons. Fifty persons had identified signs of dementia, and fifty had no signs according to a neurologist specializing in Alzheimer's dementia. The Dementia Rating Scale-2 (DRS-2), and Repeatable Battery for the Assessment of Neuropsychological Status-A (RBANS-A) were also used in assessment to provide more comprehensive standards. The MMSE was found predictive in discriminating dementia from non-dementia, and highly correlated to the DRS-2 and RBANS-A. Age and sex were found to be modest demographic predictors, but not level of education. MMSE items were further evaluated using Rasch's probabilistic model.
POSTERS:

Posters will be located outside UBH North and South from 1:45 until 5:00 p.m.

Steve Davis: Parental Attachment and Moral Absolutism in Emerging Adulthood
The transition to college provides adolescents with numerous opportunities to develop an appreciation of diverse moral belief systems, and their ability to take advantage of these opportunities might be enhanced by secure attachment relationships with parents. In the Spring terms of both their freshman and senior years, 62 college students completed measures of attachment to each parent and a measure of the acceptability of various morally controversial behaviors. While cross-sectional analyses from each time period suggest that parental attachment actually predicted greater moral absolutism, longitudinal analyses found that (a) maternal attachment prospectively predicted less moral absolutism, especially about behaviors representing personal autonomy, and (b) paternal attachment prospectively predicted increased moral absolutism, but only about stealing behaviors. Results suggest that, towards the beginning of college, secure attachment may reflect an acceptance of parents’ (often traditional) values. However, maternal attachment may come to play a different role over time, facilitating exploration of the diverse value systems that are available in college.

(Research was presented at the 2008 Conference of the Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues)

Faith A. Wilson: Using Moodle to Create an Online Classroom Environment
Oftentimes faculty are nervous about the possibility of teaching online. The purpose of this poster session is to provide a brief and non-threatening tour of the many possible Moodle applications available to instructors interested in what an online, hybrid class might look like at the graduate level. An emphasis will be placed on the transformation of face-to-face classroom learning activities to an online format which works particularly well for smaller class sizes. The presenter will provide an example of one of her online Moodle courses to show to conference attendees allowing for the development of spontaneous questions and conversation.

Gail Zieman: Service Learning Early Literacy Project
The Read a Little, Read a Lot! Service learning early literacy project begun in 2008 as a way to educate pre-service teachers about the importance of early literacy development while providing an opportunity for service learning. As a required course assignment, students from EDU 5480 Methods of Teaching Reading and Language Arts in the Elementary School must assemble an early literacy kit for distribution to local 4K children. The kit contains two types of literature: a fiction book and a non-fiction book, along with a writing activity, a learning game and information for parents. Target stores help fund the project. Literature is provided by bonus points accrued by students who order literature from Scholastic Publishing for their personal and professional libraries.

Joan Erickson and Brenda Barnwell: The Process of Reciprocal Peer Observations
The authors piloted a model of peer collaboration for the improvement of teaching (Cutler & Spodek; in Hutchings, 1996). During the poster session, a model for evaluation of teaching, without a focus on subject matter will be examined. The pre-observation conference involving the development of teaching goals and data collection methods, as well as the verbal and written components of the post-observation will be presented. Intentional and unintentional outcomes of this project will be outlined. One benefit includes an understanding that when an observation is completed by a peer who is not in an evaluative role, untried teaching strategies can be explored with less risk than when the observation has an evaluative component.
The Faculty Development Committee wishes to thank each of the presenters, the individuals who volunteered to help with the conference and those who attended the 2010 Aurora University Faculty Teaching and Research Conference.