New Faculty Learning Community (NFLC) – AY 2013/2014
Facilitator: Professor Jim Brunnhoeffer

The objective of this community is to equip new faculty with the basic tools of developing courses, measuring the students’ progress in learning, and using the measurements to feedback improvement in course design and delivery. This will include a series of eight workshops for new faculty beginning in June 2013 with a three day teaching workshop coupled with a follow up two hour session in August to review the product arising from the skills and techniques developed in the June 2013 workshop.

During the Fall Semester, 2013, we will hold three, two-hour workshops to: 1) introduce faculty (particularly tenure track, non-tenured faculty) to the use of media (recorded, live, interactive) and software available at Roger Williams University and through professional development funds, in the delivery of their classes, 2) assist faculty in developing measurable learning outcomes for the courses they are teaching and coordinating those learning outcomes with NEASC and accrediting agencies servicing Roger Williams University, 3) develop measurement instruments and protocols to assess the accomplishment of the learning outcomes developed, and 4) develop traceable feedback loop in the assessment and course development process.

During the Spring Semester, 2014, we will hold three, two-hour workshops to: 1) review the course delivery “highs and lows” for the first semester and delve into what worked, what did not work, why things worked or did not, and how success, or the lack thereof, is measured and validated, 2) begin to develop an on-line, supplementary module or a distance learning module for a course each faculty member is teaching, and 3) develop a research plan that will augment the teaching assignments coming to each faculty member in the Fall Semester 2014.

For the summer session, we will use the new faculty training sessions held in the School of Engineering each summer to assist new faculty. We will add a follow-up session prior to the start of classes to review applications of the skills learned and to assist all new faculty with the electronic support system (Bridges) at Roger Williams University.