

Staff Development Workshop Evaluation Summary
Just Bend the Nail
Tuesday, March 18, 2003

A Staff Development workshop entitled “Just Bend the Nail” was held on Tuesday, March 18, 2003. Two sessions were held, one at 1:30 p.m. and the other at 3:30 p.m. Roddy Gray was the presenter of the workshop composed of learning and teaching styles.

A total of 49 participated in both workshop sessions. Surveys were received from 45 participants.

Workshop Evaluation Results

- 26 respondents at 1:30 p.m. session
- 19 respondents at 3:30 p.m. session
- 100% rating the overall workshop as excellent to good (excellent-58%, very good-36%, good-7%)
- 100% indicated that they would recommend the workshop to WCC colleagues.
- 95% indicated that the workshop was just right in length of time allotted.
- Respondents were composed of: 74% (31) faculty; 14% (6) staff; and 12% (5) administrator's.

Overall comments from the respondents indicate that Mr. Gray's presentation was very enjoyable and humorous although humorous story telling was too timely.

Below are the actual comments given by participants to the evaluation questions.

Which part of the workshop did you find to be the most valuable, and why?

- The touching tips near the end; the analogy with the characters from *The Wizard of Oz*.
- The positive attitude about teaching the speaker reflected.
- (2) Great humor, I had fun!
- Communication tips - I'm new to the classroom (not teaching) and I'm gathering as much vicarious experience as I can.
- Suggestions for being a better teacher, jokes were very interesting, feel-good at the end.
- The manner in which the presentation was given. The comical presenter was so entertaining.
- Presentation type.
- Mr. Gray's excellent rapport and ability to use personal experiences with his information to emphasize the points dealing with different learning styles.
- (5) All of it.
- Using stories to illustrate points.
- Small inspirations for getting students attention.
- Real life examples.
- All was great!
- Finding new techniques in teaching-unusual things-off wall-change in routine.
- The humorous and the points to be successful in the classroom.
- Teaching techniques, because it is important to present different teaching styles.
- The last part was most practical-applicable in the classroom.
- Teaching philosophy tips to get your "Wizard's Cap" humor.
- The topics on reaching students.
- It can't be separated into parts. It was a wonderful presentation.
- The speaker kept me interested the whole time, & the point of the workshop was clear & fun.
- Entertaining-very humorous-impressed the idea-Inspirational.
- I liked the part that he said start classes differently each day. Don't be predictable.
- Very entertaining.
- Humorous presentations to daily life.
- Comments on classroom experience.
- Examples.

- Stories/humor.
- The personal stories.
- Humor, substantive.
- The message was inspiring.
- Personal anecdotes-specific examples of how to teach- & a bit "atta boy".
- Pointers on varying teaching methodologies.
- Humor-I like it.
- Purpose of teaching reaffirmation.
- Reaffirmation of teaching as a profession.

What part of the workshop did you find to be the least valuable, and why?

- The first twenty-five minutes, while funny, had precious little to do with the actual content. Cut it down about fourteen minutes.
- Could have had less stories.
- Enjoyed all!
- Everything was critically important.
- It is not really an "informative" lecture--but it was enjoyable.
- Starting with 10 minutes of humor is wonderful but 30+ minutes was excessive. 1/3 the time = stories was making me think I was wasting my time. I have a class to prepare for tomorrow.
- Took 45 minutes of story telling to get to teaching strategy.
- The intro was a bit long. I guess I feel guilty enjoying myself on college time.
- Would have liked a few more tips,
- Opening remarks just a little too long.
- I needed him to get to the point quickly.
- Very funny guy, but he spent way too much time on telling stories and not enough giving us concrete examples of how to vary instruction to meet diverse learning styles of students.
- Don't know.
- Original humor before meat was too long.

General Comments:

- Outside of the somewhat overlong introduction, this was extremely interesting, very informative, and a joy to attend.
- What a nice boost for moral to know that just perhaps you might have done at least one thing right and hope that you will do more right!
- Excellent use of humor.
- Very enjoyable.
- What a wonderful workshop.
- Everyone should have the opportunity to be uplifted.
- Best workshop in 10 years.
- Informative and entertaining. Mr. Gray is very charismatic.
- Thanks, excellent speaker.
- One of the best presenters I've ever seen.
- Very good and entertaining speaker.
- Enjoyed this "southern gentlemen"- refreshing & uplifting!!!
- Excellent-need to bring back- another subject-great ideas to change teaching ways.
- Well done.
- Outstanding!!
- I have used Mr. Gray's classroom techniques.
- Thank you for the enjoyable workshop. I will use some of these tips to reach my students ASAP!!

- I am not sure that this talk was essentially about learning styles. It was very enjoyable, but I don't think it was a "workshop". I cannot say that this was informative, but I was not bored!! I think he would be a good speaker but advertised as motivational rather than a learning styles expert.
- Maybe too much humor but good stuff. Good revival effect.
- Excellent! Very interesting! Would like to see him again.
- Thanks to planning & research for giving us a nice afternoon.
- This workshop was enjoyable and at least as valuable as any other I have attended.
- Great speaker! Great presentation & material.
- Very motivating, excellent ideas.
- Good use of time, perfect for mid-day workers.
- Enjoyed the presentation.
- Excellent!
- Very entertaining.
- Nice to have something to remind us of why we are here and what we can accomplish.