“We are using technologies our students are already familiar with to promote critical thinking, help facilitate research-infused education, and increase student-faculty and student-student interaction.”

Dr. Candice Dalrymple, Associate Dean of Libraries and Founding Director of the Center for Educational Resources
TEACHING DIGITAL NATIVES

The facility of today’s students with technology, for everything from entertainment and social endeavors to serious research and scholarship, is a given and can be leveraged to powerful effect. It can, however, be challenging for faculty to incorporate technology into instructional activities in a way that authentically enhances the classroom or laboratory experience, provides opportunities for active and engaged learning, and meets 21st-century students’ expectations and learning styles.

For more than a decade, the Center for Educational Resources (CER), under the leadership of founding director Candice Dalrymple, has supported full-time faculty in the Krieger School of Arts and Sciences and the Whiting School of Engineering in their pursuit of teaching excellence and improved learning outcomes.

IMPROVING PEDAGOGY

CER professionals—including instructional designers, software developers, and curriculum specialists—assist with digital course enhancements, collaborate with faculty on grant projects, assess learning outcomes, and offer opportunities to learn about cutting-edge educational innovations to extend instructional impact.

The CER is also the home to the TA Training Institute, which helps young graduate students develop strong teaching skills, and manages the Tech Fellows program, a yearly initiative that promotes the development of new learning tools through grant-funded faculty-student partnerships.

A GATEWAY APPROACH TO IMPROVING STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Recent studies suggest that student learning in, and enthusiasm for, STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) subjects can be improved by introducing active engagement and collaboration as a core element of instruction.

The university seeks to better understand how students learn and to promote pedagogical innovation in “intro” courses that provide a gateway to more advanced work in sciences, engineering, and quantitative studies. As a part of this initiative, a faculty steering committee awarded grants to support 10 different instructional enhancement projects. CER was awarded a grant to design and implement the Active Learning eStudio, a classroom to facilitate collaborative, discovery-based learning. The eStudio provides a shared space for gateway science courses offered across the curriculum of the Krieger and Whiting Schools and allows faculty to experiment with student-centered, active learning pedagogical approaches and assess the impact of these approaches.

EXTENDING THE REACH AND IMPACT OF THE CER

Physically and programmatically, the Sheridan Libraries continue to evolve from the traditional model of the library as solely a repository of print-based materials to an indispensable resource for improving the educational experience. CER’s role in this ongoing transformation is critical: The center works with faculty and students to enable application of digital collections and networked services for new approaches in instructional and scholarly communication.

Endowed Directorship of the Center for Educational Resources

$2,500,000

We seek endowment funding to name the directorship of the Center for Educational Resources. Such funding will ensure that we can retain the high caliber of leadership the center has enjoyed and, through this leadership, ensure CER’s continuing impact on pedagogical excellence, instructional technology, and student outcomes assessment.

Programmatic Support

$50,000 annually or an endowment of $1,000,000

The Technology Fellowship Program supports student-faculty partnerships to develop digital course resources by combining faculty content expertise with the technology skills of students. The results of these $5,000 grants often seed larger curricular reforms. This program, initially funded by the office of the provost, has generated increasing faculty and student interest, and we would like to expand access across the university. In addition, during the campaign the CER will be seeking current use funding to support a variety of programs that respond to center initiatives, priorities, and opportunities.

CONTACT US TODAY

Sylvia Eggleston Wehr
Associate Dean for External Affairs
The Sheridan Libraries and University Museums
Johns Hopkins University
3400 North Charles Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21218
410-516-8327
443-527-0467
sew@jhu.edu
www.library.jhu.edu