

JKN to Develop ‘Basics of Teaching’ at Holland College for Sessional Instructors

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Charlottetown - As part of a Holland College Curriculum Services initiative, and in collaboration with the Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology (SIAST), JKN will produce an online course on *The Basics of Teaching at Holland College* to address the identified needs of sessional instruction staff.

In recent years, Holland College has experienced a marked increase in the number of sessional instructors delivering its post-secondary programs and night course offerings. While each of these individuals brings expertise from their specific field of study, their levels of experience in instructional training varies. Based on feedback from College staff, Curriculum Services will launch an online training initiative to support instructional staff and promote faculty development.

“This training will bridge a need among sessional instructors and new faculty members,” says Mary Lou Griffin-Jenkins, a consultant with the College’s Curriculum services department. “In addition to introducing teaching techniques, this course will give instructional staff the ‘student experience’ in an online learning environment.”

Led by Curriculum Services, JKN will work with College staff to develop a one hour module on curriculum delivery and classroom management techniques. SIAST, which has won awards for its instructor-facilitated online courses, will provide instructional design expertise related to course architecture. The course will be delivered through SAM, the College’s learning management system. In addition to being a training opportunity for instructors, this project will be a template for designing, developing, and delivering future courseware.

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“We’re extremely pleased to work with JKN on this initiative,” says Griffin-Jenkins. “As a Centre of Excellence for e-learning, JKN will be an instrumental resource as the College continues to grow its online learning capacity.”

This project is a recipient of the 2009 President’s Innovation Fund at Holland College. It is expected to be released by June 2010.