



# Teaching Learning Center

The Teaching Learning Center (TLC) nurtures instructional design, critical thinking, and technology skills for faculty at Cedar Valley College. The TLC provides assistance in instructional design and technology in a supportive environment. It also provides a forum for informal faculty discussion.

## TLC Leads with Vanguard Online

“The time has come to unfurl Vanguard Online training!” proclaimed TLC Director Tim Xeriland as he announced a unique four-day seminar for April 23-26.

Completely online and available twenty-four hours a day, Vanguard Online will continue a tradition established by earlier “Vanguard” initiatives in 2004 and 2005.

“As with those groups,” Xeriland continues, “‘Vanguard’ denotes a special group of faculty especially committed to innovative teaching. The difference this time will be the focus on online teaching.”

Planned topics include:

- Innovative online teaching techniques
- Discussion-based online teaching
- Assessment
- Ideas for creative media

Unplanned topics will emerge from discussion.

Xeriland adds, “The positive reaction of the 2004 group focused the decision to host the program again in 2005. We had even larger numbers because so many of the origi-

nal members returned.”

“The significant gap was that we didn’t cover online teaching. Although we planned to launch Vanguard Online in Fall 2006, we had to postpone when we lost a key employee during the preceding summer. Now, we intend to go ahead despite short staffing.”

**Vanguard Online**  
**972-860-8239**  
or  
**txeriland@dcccd.edu**

### April TLC Events

#### April

- Word to Web (4/2, 12:30-1:30)
- Book Review (4/3, 1:00-2:00)
- eBay Basics (4/5, 1:00-2:00)
- Generational Difference (4/12, 1:00 - 2:00)
- Library Week (4/16, 12:30-1:30)
- Library Week (4/17, 12:30-1:30)
- Library Week (4/18, 12:30-1:30)
- Library Week (4/19, 12:30-1:30)
- Ed Dawson's Parting Thoughts from an Odd-Shaped Room (4/23, 1:00-2:00)
- Vanguard Online (4/23-26, Online)

### Welcome

#### New TLC Committee

Tim Xeriland  
Dr. Jerry Cotton  
Saeid Darabadey  
Ed Dawson  
Paula Dennis  
Dr. Suryakant Desai  
Kevin Kirby  
Michael Marlow  
Lenora Mathis  
Janell Nelson  
Lisa Nightingale  
Mary Lou O’Neal  
Brenda Paduch  
Christina Reeves-Shull  
Ginnette Serrano  
Andrea Smith  
Dr. Ron Williams

## FAQ: What is educational scaffolding?

“Scaffolding” implies sturdy structural support for the work at hand. Educational scaffolding follows exactly that principle. Course scaffolding means clearly delineated instructions that promote student security and safety. In *Beyond Technology: Questioning, Research, and the Informative Literate School Community*, Jamie McKenzie lists eight characteristics of effective educational scaffolding:

Scaffolding provides unambiguous direction.

Scaffolding clarifies purpose.

Scaffolding keeps students on task.

Scaffolding offers assessment to clarify expectations.

Scaffolding points students to worthy sources.

Scaffolding reduces uncertainty, surprise, and disappointment.

Scaffolding delivers efficiency.

Scaffolding creates momentum.



## CEDAR VALLEY COLLEGE

Teaching Learning Center  
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3030 North Dallas Avenue  
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Visit the TLC online at  
[tlccvc.org](http://tlccvc.org)

## TLC STAFF

Tim Xeriland, Director/Instructional Designer  
Ed Dawson, Faculty Assistant/Newsletter Editor  
Lenora Mathis, Multimedia Graphics Designer

## HOURS

Monday - Thursday 9:00-4:30  
Friday 9:00-1:00

## INNOVATION IN THE CLASSROOM

### Cedar Valley College Value of the Month

## Communication

Maintaining appropriate systems for the open sharing of information

### You say hello



The Teaching Learning Center welcomes its newest staff member, multimedia graphics designer Lenora Mathis.

After coming to CVC in 2005 as a Graphic Design instructor, Ms. Mathis (“Call me Lenora!”) became Head Women’s Soccer Coach in 2006.

She jokes that diversity is a personal characteristic. “I am a typical, wishy-washy Libra.”

Multiple interests led the Waco native to concentrate on computer-based graphics and photography while completing a double major in business and art at Austin College. At Texas Women’s University, she earned a Master of Arts in Teaching with an art emphasis.

Lenora has taught elementary and high school art in the Arlington Dallas school systems. In addition, she has been an SAT trainer for The Princeton Review.

### I say goodbye

When I began teaching half a century ago, who could have imagined that I would use a computer to write my farewell message? Or that I would ever be involved with something called the Teaching Learning Center?

Although “normal” faculty work has been rewarding throughout thirty years in the Cedar Valley/DCCCD community, working with a Title III grant to develop the Teaching Learning Center was a singular surprise and honor. It has been invigorating to stay with the TLC as faculty representative and to experience TLC institutionalization, the broad range of workshops, the increasing participation, and the general growth of our one-of-a-kind resource. The best aspect has been the population, the users and staff who share energy and expertise in what used to be just an odd-shaped storage room.

I am proud that the Teaching Learning Center has become a place where people from all CVC groups and disciplines converge. Bonded by a common goal of innovative, contemporary service to students, our quality staff and committee leave me looking forward to much good news from the TLC.

To all, my gratitude and best wishes.

Ed Dawson