

WORK SESSION**AGENDA ITEM WS-I**

CCC Board of Education – Topic Summary	
Topic:	Sabbatical Report Abstracts
Date:	March 19, 2025
Prepared By:	David Plotkin, Vice President Nora Brodnicki & Amanda Coffey
Division/Department:	Instruction & Student Services Sabbatical Committee
Issue Before the Board:	Informational Report on Sabbatical Activities

REASON FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION:

The Board annually reviews the Sabbatical Abstracts and hears reports from instructors on their sabbatical activities.

BACKGROUND:

Nora Brodnicki (Art) and Amanda Coffey (English) Co-Chair the Sabbatical Committee and will present abstracts from the 2023-24 faculty sabbaticals.

Elizabeth Carney, Michael Patterson, and AJ Smith will present sabbatical projects.

Sabbatical Abstracts for Academic Year 2023-2024**George Burgess, Science Department, one term**

During my Fall 2023 sabbatical, I partially revised CCC's in-house OER textbook for CH 106 (Introductory Chemistry III). The revisions include revamped text to reduce rote memorization and technical jargon; vastly improved images, chemical structures, and spectra; and migration to a robust external platform (Google Sites) with improvements to navigability and organization. While the revision only reached partway through the textbook, it sets the groundwork for offering CH 106 students a significantly improved educational resource.

Elizabeth Carney, Center for Teaching and Learning, two terms

I used my sabbatical to research equity-informed assessment principles and practices that I can apply in my role as the College's Assessment Coordinator. I found frameworks and real-world advice that will guide me going forward. Also helpful were the preliminary results from a national survey that I helped develop as part of the Grand Challenges in Assessment project. All of this research informed my design of a faculty learning community that will support faculty in using rubrics for more equitable learning; I intend to teach the FLC in Winter term, 2025.

Mark Devendorf, Art Department, three terms

During my sabbatical, I accomplished the writing of a comprehensive textbook, "The Art and Mastery of Editing," for DMC-104, Digital Editing, filling a critical gap in course materials by combining theoretical insights with practical application. I reached the rough cut phase of a documentary on mystic Arthur

Machen and successfully completed the student-collaborated documentary film *Sex Trafficking: Portland*, which raises awareness in our community. Additionally, I researched the role of social media and AI in the film industry, creating CCC Filmmaking social media accounts to enhance students' professional opportunities. I researched and tested new filmmaking equipment. These efforts will enrich the learning experience and better prepare CCC students for successful careers in the evolving media landscape.

Bruce Mulligan, Welding and Automotive Department, two terms

In my endeavor to create a new course for our Welding Program, I was able to come away with several visual examples of repair techniques and processes that can be shown to students in our classes, who are attempting repair work similar to what is shown in the presentations. This would apply to students attending the "Welding Special Projects" and "Welding Fabrication" courses in particular. Hopefully, my efforts will help spread the word that we are here to support our local community, leading to an increase in the number of participants in our program, which was the primary motivation for my project.

Michael Patterson, Science Department, one term

During my sabbatical, I accomplished three objectives. First, I participated in the American Association of Anatomists' and the Human and Anatomy and Physiology Society's annual conferences and their pre/post-conference hands-on workshops. Next, incorporating information from these conferences and my own research, I have redesigned the entire BI-233 lab content to more performance-based active-learning modules, which is being piloted in Fall 2024. Lastly, I have updated the BI-233 Moodle platform, to allow students to create their own exam study guides, and to foster online learning if students are unable to attend class, whether due to illness or school emergency closure.

AJ Smith, Skills Development Department, two terms

During the course of this sabbatical, I conducted a literature review of effective classroom management strategies, placing special emphasis on the context of Adult Basic Skills (pre-college) students and classrooms. In addition, I've included a review of established techniques for respectful de-escalation of problem situations when they occur. This includes an analysis of various stages of the cycle of escalating behavior and strategies for intervention and de-escalation at each phase. The findings are synthesized in a presentation document whose intended audience is faculty working with Adult Basic Skills students as well as the wider college teaching community.

Wryann Van Riper, Welding and Automotive Department, one term

The purpose of my sabbatical was to align the classes I teach with the needs of the local industry. I have learned that to prepare students for a successful career in automotive, they need opportunities to work with others in a team in a professional setting, communicate well with others, develop skills to resolve conflicts and work safely together. We could model this at CCC by working together as an automotive team at CCC to create a training environment that aligns with industry partnerships.