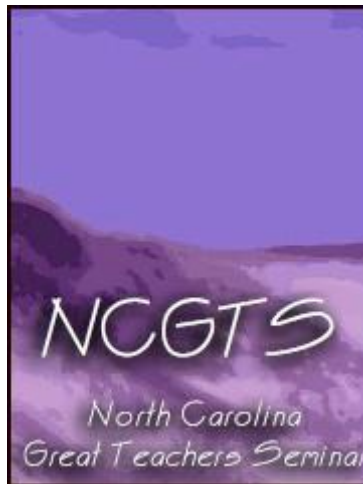


The 23rd Annual North Carolina Great Teachers Seminar



Seminar Summary v2.0

Compiled by Steve Smith

1st Person Seminars Higher Education Consulting, LLC

The 23rd Annual North Carolina Great Teachers Seminar (NCGTS) was held February 11-14, 2016 at the Trinity Center in Salter Path, North Carolina. 1st Person Seminars Higher Education Consulting, LLC coordinated this statewide professional development event for NC community college faculty. The NCGTS continues to be run as a self-supported event without commercial or outside business vendors or interests.

SEMINAR LEADERS AND PARTICIPANTS

Steve Smith (*1PS,LLC*) served as the Seminar Director assisted by community college faculty members Kay Crouch (*Caldwell CC & TI, retired*), Alison Moore (*Central Virginia CC*), Chuck Bowling (*McDowell Technical CC*), and Maria LeBaron (*Randolph CC*).



DEMOGRAPHICS

Thirty-six (36) faculty members & staff representing eleven (11) community colleges and one (1) independent educational organization participated in the Seminar. The range of experience included first year faculty to those with over 30 years of experience. Disciplines from all areas of the college were represented, including History, Communications, Spanish, Mathematics, Management and Business Technologies, Biology and Chemistry, Therapeutic Massage, Psychology, Sociology, English Composition, Health Sciences/Radiology/CT/MRI, CNA, Integrated Reading, Baking & Pastry Arts, Computer Science, Associate Degree Nursing, Music, Engineering, EMS, Office Technology, Criminal Justice, Economics, and Early Childhood Education.

The following community colleges were represented at the Seminar. All are North Carolina colleges unless otherwise noted.

- Caldwell Community College
- Forsyth Technical Community College
- Coastal Carolina Community College
- Pitt Community College
- Sandhills Community College
- Central Virginia Community College (Virginia)
- Central Carolina Community College
- McDowell Technical Community College
- Randolph Community College
- Wake Technical Community College
- Wilkes Community College

SEMINAR SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



This year, there was one NCGTS participant who was awarded a scholarship by the **North Carolina Community College Faculty Association** to attend the NCGTS.

Pictured (left) is Elizabeth Giarmo from Coastal Carolina CC. We appreciate the support that the NCCCFA has provided the NCGTS since 1999!

For more information, visit their [website](#).

Additionally, Emily Moore from Wake Technical CC was awarded the **Mer Linney NCGTS Scholarship** by 1st Person Seminars Higher Education Consulting, LLC. Marilyn Linney was an accounting instructor at Guilford CC in Greensboro, NC and a long time NCGTS Staff Facilitator. In the fall of October 2011 shortly before her retirement, Mer passed away suddenly and unexpectedly... a tremendous loss for her family and the NCGTS.



As a result, the 2013 NCGTS Staff decided to start the Mer Linney NCGTS Scholarship fund that will pay seminar tuition annually for a full-time, credit or non-credit faculty member from the NC Community College System. Scholarship requests for the 2017 NCGTS can be made via <http://ncgts.com>. Application can be made April through September of each year for the following year's seminar.

SCHEDULE AND ACTIVITIES

The NCGTS opened Thursday evening with a brief introduction to the seminar, purpose and philosophy. The participants introduced one another, avoiding mention of their college, discipline, and/or teaching field.

Friday morning was devoted to small group discussions of the innovation papers prepared by participants, and later that afternoon focused on discussions of the educational problems and problem solving. The “tricks of the trade” were presented in a large group session on Friday evening.

During the small group discussions on Friday, the Seminar staff identified topics in which there was a great deal of interest. On Saturday morning, participants reviewed the list of topics and voted on those they wished to discuss further. The selections included the following:

- Student Responsibility/Accountability
- “Mr. Gadget” (*tech devices in the classroom*)
- Online Class Management
- Making it Real
- “Buttzzup?” (*Ideas for classroom activities*)
- Making the Quantum Leap
- Soft Skills
- Using Groups
- High Maintenance Students
- The Flipped Classroom
- Bridging the Age Gap

The topic sessions were held on Saturday morning in more traditional, conference –style sessions. Participants engaged in a positive, solutions-based discourse of teaching methods, strategies, and teaching innovations. Saturday afternoon was an opportunity for participants to individualize the seminar—some reviewed their notes and reflected on their learning, while others gathered together in special interest sessions. Many participants visited local sites and areas of interest in and around the NC Crystal Coast.

Saturday evening's session focused on 5 (five) faculty who were new to teaching. Participants shared their thoughts and advice for successful teaching and responded to questions from those new to classroom teaching. An innovative classroom "sorting" technique was demonstrated and afterwards, participants enjoyed the seminar's final social event, music from the "homegrown" GT band, and casual conversation.

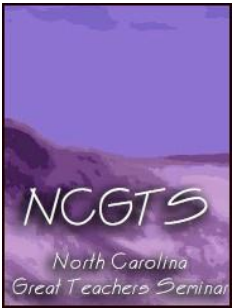
Sunday morning closed the seminar with group presentations on the nature of "The Great Teacher"—all of which were profound representations of the art and spirit of teaching. The final closing circle gave each person an opportunity to express what he or she was taking home from the seminar. In addition to the structured Seminar activities, participants found time to share ideas and thoughts during meals, early morning workout sessions (yes, Great Teachers exercise), and in late night discussions. Many participants stretched themselves through new activities of various kinds.

INSPIRATIONAL BOOKS

The following books were available throughout the seminar period (the infamous *Great Teachers Browsing Library*) for perusal by participants and were furnished by the participants themselves as part of the Seminar format.

- 9780787980665 1455398223910 The Skillful Teacher [Stephen D. Brookfield] [320pp.]
- 9780674013254 1455398199861 What the Best College Teachers Do [Ken Bain] [207pp.]
Team-based Learning [Larry K. Michaelsen, Arletta Bauman Knight, L. Dee Fink]
- 9781579220860 1455398188910 [286pp.]
- 9781582346083 1455398177162 Why Read? [Mark Edmundson] [160pp.]
- 9781620401071 1455398169365 Why Teach? [Mark Edmundson] [222pp.]
- 9780520271425 1455398152048 Unequal Childhoods [Annette Lareau] [461pp.]
- 9781598715842 1455398120788 Intertexts [Casie Fedukovich, Paul Colby, Shawna Jones] [276pp.]
- 9781929229482 1455398112264 A Framework for Understanding Poverty [Ruby K. Payne] [199pp.]
- 9780345472328 1455398084961 Mindset [Carol S. Dweck] [277pp.]
- 9781928896456 1455398072734 Teaching Adults, Revisited [Elizabeth Jones] [140pp.]
- 9780465025275 1455398061695 Six Easy Pieces [Richard P. Feynman, Robert B. Leighton, Matthew Sands] [176pp.]
- 9780962936067 1455398052054 The First Days of School [338pp.]
- 9780785288374 1455398042120 The 21 Irrefutable Laws of Leadership [John C. Maxwell] [309pp.]
McKeachie's Teaching Tips: Strategies, Research, and Theory for College and
- 9780495809296 1455398031803 University Teachers [Wilbert McKeachie, Marilla Svinicki] [496pp.]
- 9781567314571 1455398025492 Whack on the Side of the Head [Roger Von Oech] [240pp.]
- 9780312644895 1455398007321 Common Sense Economics [James D. Gwartney] [227pp.]

9780801859748 1455397988380 Collaborative Learning [Kenneth A. Bruffee] [319pp.]
9780312474744 1455397957851 Acting Out Culture [James S. Miller] [834pp.]
9780807856031 1455397933749 The Joy of Teaching [Peter G. Filene] [159pp.]
9780470281918 1455397920423 Student Engagement Techniques [Elizabeth F. Barkley] [416pp.]



For the most up-to-date information about the North Carolina Great Teachers Seminar, visit <http://ncgts.com>. The 24th Annual NCGTS is scheduled to be held February 23-26, 2017. 1st Person Seminars Higher Education Consulting, LLC may be contacted at +1.910.280.3247 or on the web at <http://1stpersonseminars.com>.