



From the Vineyard

MERLOT

ISSUE 51, MAY 2021 | JANE MOORE - EDITOR

From Your Wine Steward - Gerry Hanley

Dear MERLOT Community,

Once again, MERLOT wishes the worldwide community of teachers and learners a safe and healthy journey in 2021 as the COVID-19 pandemic continues to create heartbreaking tragedies for so many. We hope the free and open access to online educational resources will help you help others cope with these very challenging circumstances. We continue to provide a [free MERLOT-SkillsCommons OER portal](#) to help people move online with their teaching and learning. As a MERLOT member, you have access to MERLOT Content Builder which enables you to customize this OER portal for your community. MERLOT has supported a number of our partners in this way.

- [Pandemic Professors](#): volunteer tutoring for low-income children to help eliminate the inequities in education accentuated by the pandemic.
- [Women in Sustainable Employment \(WISE\)](#): Women have been affected disproportionately by the pandemic and we are helping provide free and open access to professional development resources. We create a version for the National Skills Development Corporation of India as well.
- [Technical colleges, high schools, and other higher ed institutions](#) making the transition to online education.
- Partnering with the [Texas International Education Consortium](#) to support their middle-east English as a foreign language programs moving online.

The growth of MERLOT in demand and usage has continued. Each month almost 2 million materials are viewed and about 1,000 people register as MERLOT members (about a three fold increase). Even with this significant increase in new members, over 13% of MERLOT members are contributing new resources and expertise to the MERLOT library. KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK! Since the start of the pandemic, the # of downloads of SkillsCommons resources has increased over 40%.

As OER has become a more viable option for course materials, revising the OER to align with local needs become more in demand. MERLOT and SkillsCommons has focused on building partnership with low-cost commercial providers that have easy to use technology platforms that enable people to easily customize OER to meet their specific needs.

Activities with some recent partners include:

- [Odigia](#) provides a competency-based education platform for adopting and customizing OER.
- [SoftChalk](#) provides easy to use tool to take static OER and make it interactive
- [ecoText](#) provides students and teachers ways to customize open textbook

All these activities are informing our major project with Historical Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), supported by the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation. Empowering these institutions with MERLOT's and SkillsCommons' open educational resources, practices, and services is the goal and you can explore our strategies and progress at their Affordable Learning HBCU Community Portal <https://hbcuals.org>.

My final comment is the deep gratitude for all the MERLOT editorial board members, our general members, and the MERLOT staff that have continued to put their hearts, minds, and compassions into continuing their contributions to the community's free and open library. With all your efforts, large and small, the world of learners and teachers have their burdens just a little bit lighter as education helps make the world a better place for all.

Sincerely Yours,
Gerry

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Feature Article - MERLOT Awards

The Distinguished Service Award

The Distinguished Service award is reserved as MERLOT's highest honor. The recipient of this award demonstrates the vision that brings MERLOT members together to create the MERLOT community and our services. Recipients of this award have exemplified, through their dedication and leadership, the highest values MERLOT holds. The recipients of this award are selected by the previous winners with consultation from MERLOT management. This year's recipient is our own Barbra Bied Sperling. Barb served as MERLOT's webmaster from 2000 to 2020. She began her tenure at MERLOT as the webmaster and became manager of MERLOT's technology team for many years, ensuring the upgrades, innovations, and expansions of MERLOT technologies were designed and deployed successfully. Barb was instrumental in the many MERLOT updates and improvements over the years including supporting editors and editorial boards and has always been willing to go that extramile for MERLOT and the team. We celebrate Barb's dedication and expertise with our highest honor and appreciation for her service.

The Institutional Stewardship Award

The Institutional Stewardship award recognizes efforts to promote MERLOT at an institutional level. MERLOT seeks to identify models that can be used to sustain support for MERLOT and demonstrate the value of MERLOT. Recipients of the award are judged by the MERLOT Management team. This year's recipient is [Ohio's Eastern Gateway Community College's Open Library for Education](#). Eastern Gateway has used MERLOT's and Skill Common's resources to promote affordable learning for its students. Since the inception of the initiative, Eastern Gateway students have saved more than \$22 million dollars in textbooks and lab fees in one year. Eastern Gateway has made the commitment to a "Free Education" at the community college level and combined with free tuition, the free access truly enables them to deliver on that promise to their community.

Classics Awards

Four editorial boards selected Classics Award Winners. These materials were deemed to be exemplars in their fields.

The winner of the 2021 MERLOT **Health Sciences Classics Award** "[Transitions to Professional Nursing Practice](#)," was given to Jamie Murphy. The Health Sciences Editorial Board says, "The author covers all the necessary content. It is very important that BSN nurses and above understand the constantly changing landscape of the profession of nursing. The author accomplishes this in a deliberate unfolding of information."

John Green won the **ICT Literacy Award**, for his material, "[Navigating Digital Information](#)," The ICT Literacy Board stated, "The videos are engaging, clear, and concise. John Green accurately provides key concepts and uses current concrete examples to aid understanding - and points out the need to learn how to evaluate online resources."

The **Mathematics** Board awarded John Hammersley for [Overleaf](#). "This site provides a great online LaTeX editor fully free for personal uses, which is very good for many students and independent researchers who cannot afford the high costs of other LaTeX editors," reported the Mathematics Board.

"[PSPP: A Basic Tutorial](#)" was selected by the **Sociology** Board; Ed Nelson and John Korey shared the award. The Board noted, "This tutorial is intended for those who want to learn the basics of PSPP, which is a statistical analysis program available to users at no charge. This tutorial offers clear and concise step-by-step directions on how to use PSPP for a variety of purposes."

MERLOT House Cup

The House Cup (modeled on the Harry Potter House Cup) is an award to recognize the level of contributions made to the MERLOT collection during the past academic year. Contributions include Reviews, Contributions to MERLOT, Assignments, Comments, and editor reviews. The top five editorial boards in alphabetical order were: **Biology, Business, Health Sciences, Mathematics, and Teacher Education**.

This year's winner was the **Health Sciences Board** which made 931 contributions to MERLOT, including 65 individual reviews, and 9 composite reviews. Nancyruth Leibold, a new editor for the Board worked with Board Members Kelly Massey and Colleen Nevins to achieve this award.

New Award - The Rising Star Board

The Rising Star Board was selected from those Boards with between 2 and 4 members and is based on the number of reviews that were produced by that board divided by the number of board members between March 16, 2020 and March 1, 2021. The top small boards included Engineering, Health Sciences, Library, and Psychology. The winner of the Rising Star Award was Health Sciences.

Feature Article: Peer Reviewers Extraordinaire 2021

MERLOT created the Peer Reviewer Extraordinaire award to honor the hard work and generous donation of our members' time, energy and enthusiasm that they direct towards the growth and development of MERLOT. We rely heavily on our Peer Reviewers to help expand the MERLOT collection and perform the Peer Review process. The following individuals completed MERLOT GRAPE (Getting Reviewers Accustomed to the Process of Evaluation) Camp and worked with the Editors to complete their reviews on a timely basis. These individuals have completed at least fifteen Peer Reviews in the past 12 months and submitted a minimum of 5 materials to the MERLOT collection during that period.

Our 2021 MERLOT Peer Reviewers Extraordinaire are:

Biology:

Marty Zahn, Co-Editor of the Board

Juville Dario-Becker, Central Virginia College

Business:

Cathy Swift, Editor of the Board

Diane Bandow, Troy University

Computer Science:

Henry Chan, Editor of the Board, Hong Kong Polytechnic University

Joseph So, Hong Kong Polytechnic University

Tak-Lam Wong, Douglas College

Faculty Development:

Ray Purdom, Editor of the Board

Luz del Carmen Vilchis-Esquivel, National Autonomous University of Mexico

Health Sciences:

Nancyruth Leibold, Editor of the Board, Southwest Minnesota State University

Mary Bemker-Page, Walden University

History:

Art Finkle, Editor of the Board, Kean University

Miriam Kahn, MBK Consulting

ICT Literacy:

Lesley Farmer, Editor of the Board, California State University-Long Beach

Information Technology:

Leila Halawi, Embry Riddle Aeronautical University

Instructional Design and Technology:

Irene Knokh, Editor of the Board, University of Michigan

Mathematics:

Larry Green, Editor of the Board, Lake Tahoe Community College

Sergey Belyi, Troy University

Mohammed Kaabar, Washington State University

Professional Coaching:

Sherri Restauri, Editor of the Board, Coastal Carolina University

Psychology:

Catherine Honig, Editor of the Board, National Louis University

Julie Evey, Kent State University

Teacher Education:

Jane Moore, Editor of the Board, MERLOT

Loretta Driskel, Clarkson University

Cris Guenter, California State University-Chico

Elaine Lawrence, SUNY Oneonta

Esperanza Zenon, River Parishes Community College

More information about Peer Reviewer Extraordinaire 2022 will appear in the September issue of From the Vineyard---but start working on those reviews.

Feature Article: HBCU Partnership By Maria Fieth

Maria Fieth is an associate Director at MERLOT-SkillsCommons



The MERLOT-SkillsCommons team, in partnership with Tennessee State University (TSU), has successfully launched a pilot project designed to upskill and support Affordable Learning \$olutions (AL\$) within a select group of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). AL\$ initiatives are saving campuses across the nation millions of dollars - a savings institutions can pass on to students. Generously funded under the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, TSU and their partner and affiliate institutions are building and supporting faculty skills and adopting campus-level protocols to establish sustainable use and reuse of open educational resources.

To ensure project acceleration, the MERLOT- SkillsCommons and TSU project teams are deploying carefully designed strategies with one such instrument being the [MERLOT-SkillsCommons HBCU AL\\$ Community Portal](#). The AL\$ Community Portal offers direct links to OER searches and sharing methodologies, CTE content, Virtual Labs, ePortfolio Showcases, project planning and so much more.

The [MERLOT-SkillsCommons HBCU Affordable Learning \\$olutions \(AL\\$\) Resource Center](#) is the latest tool created to support faculty and leadership teams. As a customized home for tips, tools, and toys, the Center's design offers campus wide support for strategic HBCU AL\$ initiatives. The rich collection includes archived workshops and video tutorials, OER search and revision methods made easy, workforce development content, and assistance in gaining campus buy-in and building leadership support.

HBCU Affordable Learning \$olutions Resource Center

The MERLOT-SkillsCommons HBCU Affordable Learning \$olutions (AL\$) Resource Center is home to tips, tools, and toys designed to support your campus-wide AL\$ initiative. AL\$ initiatives are saving campuses across the nation millions of dollars - a savings your institution can pass on to students. Our rich collection offers archived workshops and video tutorials, OER search and revision methods made easy, workforce development content, and assistance in gaining campus buy-in and building leadership support.

Planning Tools



OER 101



Supporting Faculty



Support is key when creating and sustaining large-scale efforts such as an HBCU AL\$ Initiative, and tools like the Portal and Resource Center provide much needed skill builders, content, and resources for faculty and leaders within HBCU AL\$ project universities.

As a Hewlett Foundation pilot project, the intention and design for this effort is to create a model easily scalable to additional HBCUs and other educational systems across the country such as Minority Serving Institutions as well as traditional higher education settings. Hewlett's generous funding is creating long-term useability features, helping to remove access barriers, and is better ensuring success rates for faculty and students. By increasing the likelihood of OER becoming a campus fixture, the project helps institutions build more affordable education and training opportunities and reduce costs for the institution and students alike. Win-Win!

MERLOT Partnership Projects



What started initially as the controversial Stanford Prison Experiment by Dr. Philip Zimbardo in 1971 became a collective social experiment called the [Heroic Imagination Project](#), a nonprofit research and education organization dedicated to training people to act in more heroic ways. For the past decade, HIP has been conducting trainings and workshops for businesses and schools across the United States and many nations around the world. Whether taking on bullying, police oversight, racism, or sexism, HIP has been committed to teaching the skills essential for acting more heroically every day.

MERLOT has been partnering with the HIP since 2014 and together has implemented HIP training in California State University for students, faculty, and staff with very positive results. MERLOT has also expanded its library of free and open educational resources to include HIP resources.



The newest collaborative project is the creation of the [Heroic Imagination in Literature](#) website that provides a series of essays that illuminate the character of mythical and real heroes in literature. This resource can help us all imagine how we can take heroic actions in our everyday lives. The website was built with MERLOT Content Builder and functions as an OER (open educational resource) center for people wanting to include HIP themes and resources into their teaching.

Do you have a heroic essay that you'd like to share? Heroic Imagination in Literature welcomes your contribution. See the website for sharing your heroic teaching resources!

Strategies for improving students' success in graduating in a timely manner are of critical importance for our higher education institutions. MERLOT's and SkillsCommons' Affordable Learning Solutions (ALS) initiative significantly reduces the cost of course materials for students through the adoption of free and open educational resources (OER).

[SoftChalk](#) is co-sponsoring a series of 5 webinars that demonstrates how an institution can design and deploy their own ALS program and how to customize OER to align with their campus and faculty needs. Three of the webinars focus on ways to "makeover" OER. By using SoftChalk, faculty and staff can easily transform static OER into active learning solutions for your students. From the simplest and easiest use of SoftChalk to the most sophisticated, these webinars will show you how to do it right.

- Design on a Dime
- Love It and Embed It
- Extreme Makeover

SoftChalk has created a [one-stop-shop for all the webinars as additional resources](#) free to access at your convenience.



Gerry Hanley
MERLOT, SkillsCommons, Cal State University

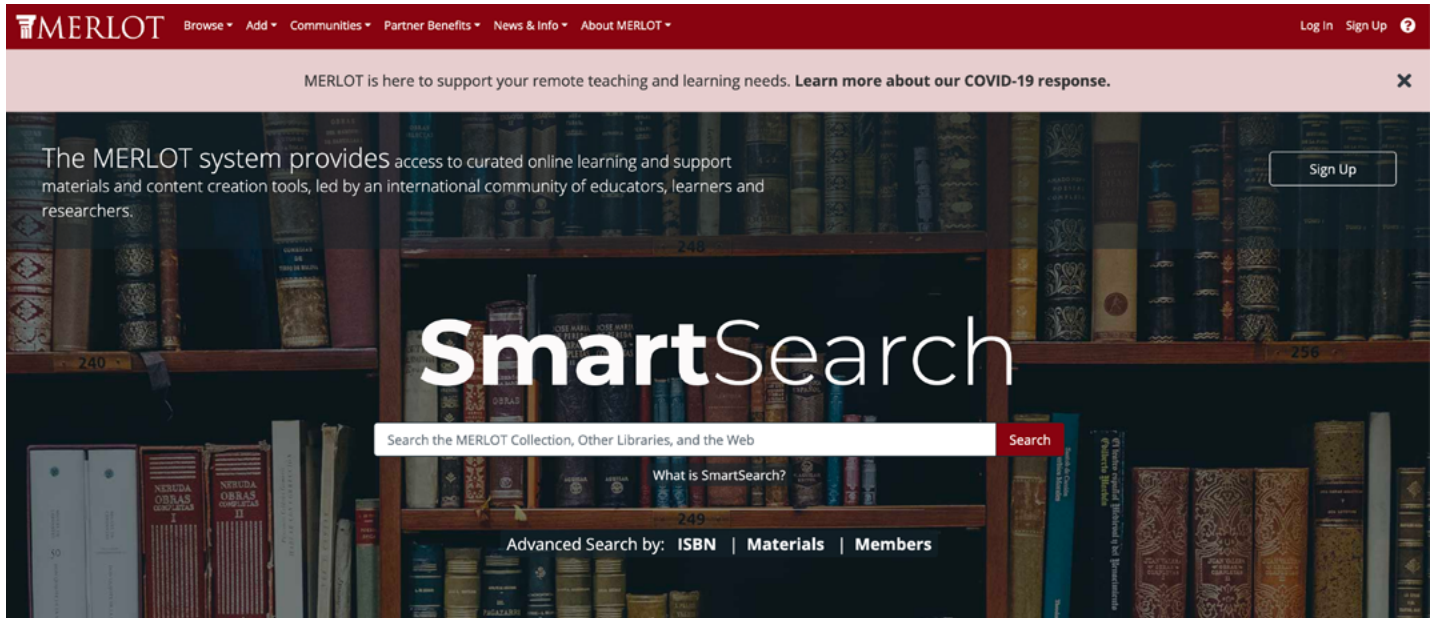


Sue Evans
SoftChalk



Rick Lumadue
SkillsCommons, Cal State University

MERLOT Technology

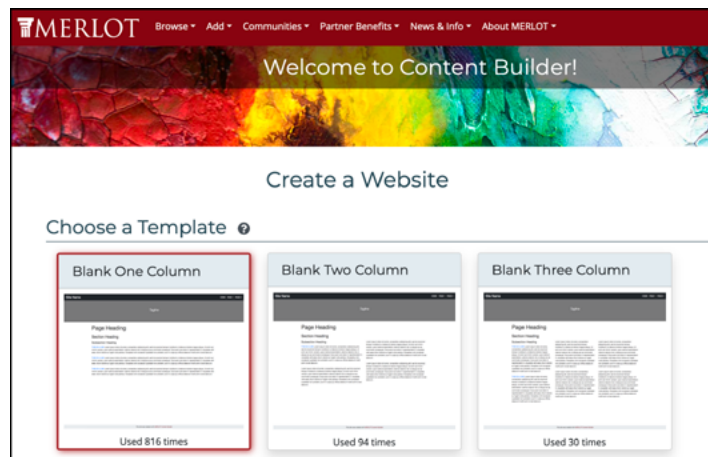


MERLOT has been busy during these uncertain times of the pandemic, offering webinars (via Zoom) to introduce (or reintroduce) faculty, administrators and librarians to MERLOT. If you would like us to conduct a webinar for your faculty demonstrating MERLOT or the Content Builder, please contact the MERLOT webmaster at webmaster@merlot.org to schedule.

In addition to the MERLOT collection, our [community portals](#), an extension of our collection within MERLOT are full of valuable resources. Browse the academic discipline, academic support or Partner community sites for additional information about your discipline, view Google alerts, Twitter feeds and much more!

If you haven't visited MERLOT lately, don't forget that when you search for resources, we not only return results from the MERLOT Collection, but also from over 70 other digital libraries and the web (based on an algorithm developed with Google). So please, go to www.merlot.org and see all the wonderful resources to help you teach online during this crazy time in our country.

Lastly, don't forget about the MERLOT Content Builder, our web authoring tool. With the sudden need to teach online, do you need a quick, easy, and free platform to create a website? Want to assign a web-building exercise but are stymied about which tool to use to minimize the learning curve? Or maybe you simply need to create a site for a project you are running. Well look no further! MERLOT has redesigned and rebuilt the Content Builder, its popular web development and authoring tool, free to MERLOT members. To access the Content builder, when logged in to MERLOT, click your name in the top right corner and select My Content Builder. Its that easy!



Grape Camp Information

To become a Peer Reviewer for MERLOT, individuals should be an instructor in an institution of higher education and have:

- Expertise in the scholarship of their field
- Excellence in teaching, with a few exceptions
- Experience in using technology in teaching and learning, and
- Connections to professional organizations in their discipline.

MERLOT has developed an orientation for Peer Reviewers to ensure that they become familiar with MERLOT processes and policies on Peer Review. MERLOT Management conducts GRAPE Camp (Getting Reviewers Accustomed to the Process of Evaluation) to assist Peer Reviewers on a regular basis. GRAPE Camp consists of a series of three one-hour workshops online, one per week. In these webinars, participants will:

- Develop an understanding of MERLOT
- Learn how MERLOT evaluates Learning Materials
- Conduct a group review
- Complete an Individual Review
- Learn how to use the Workspace tool, and
- Introduce participants to the Editorial Board of their disciplines.

The webinar includes people from a variety of disciplines and is archived so participants can review the material as needed. For information about GRAPE Camp, contact Cathy Swift.

You can attend GRAPE Camp Orientation three ways:

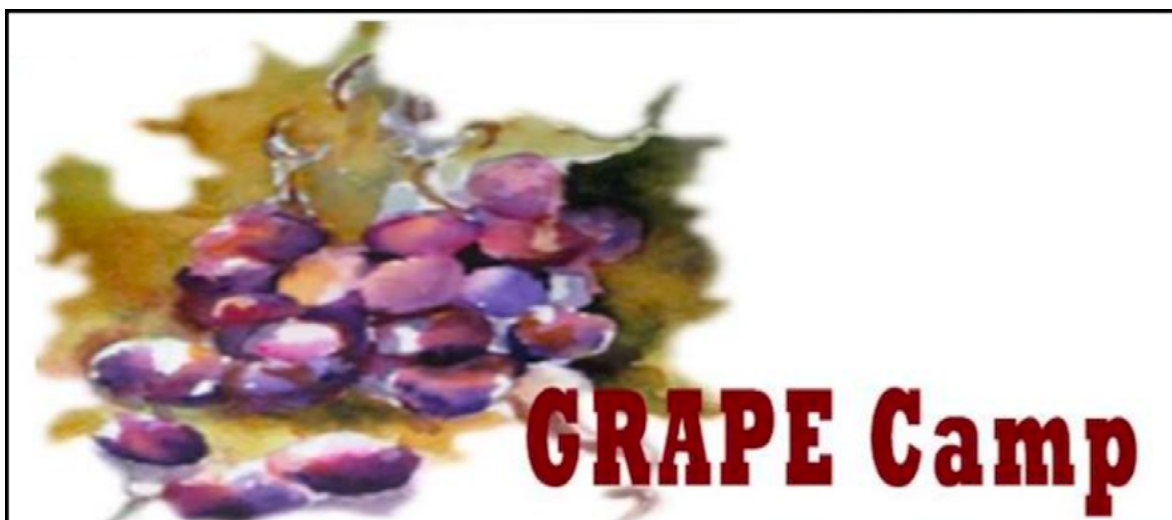
- You can attend the live webinars at the dates and times listed below
- You can sign up for the asynchronous session in which the recording of the live session is sent out right afterwards.
- You can opt for our self-study which you complete on your own.

Live sessions are scheduled on the following dates and times:

Live sessions are scheduled on the following dates and times:

- June - Thursday (10, 17, 24) at 11 AM Eastern, 10 AM Central, 9 AM Mountain, 8 AM Pacific, (4 PM GMT)
- July - Tuesday (13, 20, 27) at 11 AM Eastern, 10 AM Central, 9 AM Mountain, 8 AM Pacific, (4 PM GMT)
- August - Thursday (5, 12, 19) at 11 AM Eastern, 10 AM Central, 9 AM Mountain, 8 AM Pacific, (4 PM GMT)

[Sign up for any of these sessions here](#)



Comments from GRAPE Camp Participants:

"I've been reviewing papers for years, but this is the first time I've actually been taught how to do it properly. Grape Camp will improve the quality of my work as an author and as a reviewer."

"It helped me a lot to learn how to make my lesson and materials better by reviewing others. I could find my own problems by watching peer's lessons."

"I didn't realize that peer reviewers normally receive awards. This definitely interested me"

"It is apparent that MERLOT is a fine organization that appreciates its reviewers and operates as a team."

"This was a really enjoyable training experience. I'm quite excited at the prospect of applying the skills I learned toward (potentially - hopefully!) improving the OER experience for educators in search of materials."

"I realized that we can learn a lot by communicating with others who are in the same field with you and MERLOT just provides us this great platform to upgrade ourselves."

"Overall, this was very well done. I'm glad I participated."

"Cathy is prompt in responding to me (once time zones have been factored in), and has been a useful contact point throughout."

"Well-designed orientation."

"It was very helpful for me to do this asynchronously due to changing computer systems in the middle of the training! I am pleased to be part of your reviewer group."

"Respectful of participant's time by keeping sessions valuable and on-time."

"I think it's a great idea and appreciate the time of the facilitator."

"Grape Camp was a good learning experience. The materials were organized and clear."

"The instructor is knowledgeable, enthusiastic and responsive. Thank you."

"It was an enjoyable and comfortable 'classroom' environment."

"I think Grape camp is a good way to learn about doing reviews. The format is flexible, as in my case I missed a session and could watch the archived presentation".

"I thought the amount of time was just right and the instructor was available for questions between instructional sessions."

Recent Grape Camp Graduates:

Name	Board	Institution
Vianka Miranda	Business	Northwestern State University of Louisiana
Ngozi Onyla	Chemistry	Adelphi University
Mary Bemker	Health Sciences	Walden University
Wendy Freckleton	Business	Northern Caribbean University
Carol Linder	Biology	New Mexico Highlands University
Julie Robinson	Biology	River Valley Community College
Ibidunni Osundare	Teacher Education	Marymount University
Joshua Steimel	Engineering	Pacific University
Jillian Baxter	Music	Albany State University
Mahmood Nikbakhtzadeh	Biology	CSU - San Bernadino
Ganiyu Oladimeji	Information Technology	Moshood Abiola Polytechnic (MAPOLY)
Dawn Gordon	Health Sciences	Minnesota West Community College
Robin Squellati	Health Sciences	Walden University
Anna Schmidt	Music	University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee

Social Networking and MERLOT

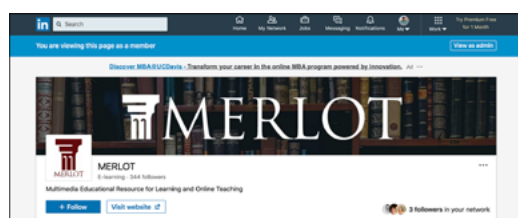
We have many ways for you to stay connected with MERLOT and all the wonderful things happening with the website and initiatives. Please share these sites with your colleagues. If you have information you'd like us to post on our social media pages, please send it to webmaster@merlot.org.



MERLOT has a [Facebook](#) page and we'd love for you to Like us!



You can also follow us on [Twitter](#).



MERLOT is also on [LinkedIn](#). We invite you to join us and network with other MERLOT Users.

News

Editorial Board News

We are looking for those interested in becoming editors in Agriculture, English, World Languages, and Communication Sciences and Disorders. If you are interested or wish to nominate someone, please contact Jane Moore (jmoore@calstate.edu). Thanks!

Both the Psychology and Teacher Education Boards presented at Innovate 2021. If you attended the conference, check out their sessions.



Many thanks to **Laura Franklin**, who retired as long-time editor of the World Languages Board. Laura has been editor of the World Languages Board of MERLOT since 2020 and recently retired from the Northern Virginia Community Colleges.

Meet the Editor



World Languages - New Editor, Bertrand Tchoumi

Dr. Bertrand Tchoumi is a New Leaders endorsed school leader and the founding Principal of the Baltimore International Academy (BIA) West, A multilingual immersion school in Baltimore city, Maryland. A former journalist and World Press Institute fellow, he taught French at both secondary and university levels before transitioning to school leadership. Before his current position, he served as Assistant Principal at Monarch Academy Public Charter School and Baltimore International Academy East, Baltimore, Maryland. Bertrand has been a member of MERLOT since 2006.

He holds a Doctorate Degree in Urban Education Leadership from Morgan State University. He wrote a very innovative dissertation titled: *Why do you "talk" like that? The Accented voices of Black African Immigrants in School Leadership*. In addition to narrative inquiry and decolonizing epistemologies, his areas of interest include urban education leadership and bilingual and multilingual learning.

Dr. Tchoumi also earned a Master's in Educational Leadership from Langston State University in the United States; and a bachelor's degree in French Modern Letters and a master's degree in African Literature from the University of Yaoundé I, Cameroon. He has facilitated numerous professional development sessions for the Baltimore City Public School, the Maryland Foreign Language Association (MFLA), and the North East Conference for the Teaching of Foreign Language (NECTFL). In 2013, the French Embassy in the United States awarded him a grant to attend a two weeks training at CAVILAM in Vichy, France. He is also the 2010 winner of the MFLA Escola Teacher Incentive Grant.

Out and About with MERLOT



Loretta Driskel, Associate Editor for Teacher Education was awarded the OLC Effective Practice award at Innovate 2021. She and colleague Erin Blauvelt shared their experience with the RISE workshops. The Clarkson Teaching & Learning Corner, in which Loretta and Erin work was honored with the highest award at Clarkson University, the Phalanx award, for their diligence in stepping up to the plate with their Reframing Instruction for Success Everywhere (RISE) workshops that helped prepare faculty with a baseline of skills for teaching online. Loretta was promoted from Graduate Instructional Designer to Senior Instructional Designer in 2020, in large part due to the pivot to online learning. She now supports Clarkson University's online experiences, in addition to her support of the Graduate School.

Out and About with MERLOT (continued)



Irene Knokh, Editor of Instructional Design and Technology Board will be presenting at [Accessibility Camp Bay Area](#). She will be discussing her personal experience and interest in UDL and accessibility from the perspective of senior citizens. Irene serves as Russian Associate Editor on the World Languages Board and as a member of the Professional Coaching Board. She has an Educause blog, [Low-Cost or Free Professional Development](#), and has recently been accepted to present at the 43rd Annual ASCUE Conference, June 14-16.

Diane Badow, Associate Editor in Business, has two publications out in May.

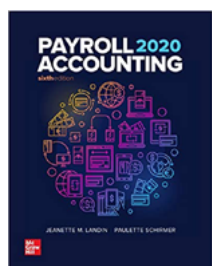
Mary Bemker, Health Sciences Editorial Board member has a new book in press: *The Successful Completion of Your DNP Project: A Practical Guide with Exemplars*.

Leila Halawi, Information Technology Board member is the lead designer for [Aviation Resilience Through Sustainability](#), a MOOC course being offered at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. Course description: While currently enduring one of the worst global pandemics, we are witnessing immense political, environmental and economic turmoil. Influenced by world and business conditions, this course will examine aviation resilience and the role of sustainability. Participants will learn about what resilience and sustainability mean to society, businesses, and, most importantly, the aviation and aerospace industry. Topics include defining resilience and sustainability for the aviation sector, developing resilient and sustainable aviation, and managing sustainable operations. This short course will help you identify and overcome challenges to help you build resilience in your career.

James Marion, another member of the Information Technology Board was recently awarded the PMI Risk Management Professional Certification – March 2021. Jim is author of two new publications:

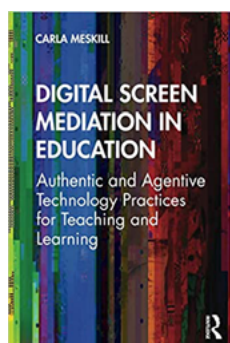
Marion, J. W., Richardson, T. M., & Anantatmula, V. (2021). *Managing Quality in Aviation Projects*. Engineering Management Journal, 1-13.

J Marion, J Lewis, T Richardson (2021) *Project-Led Strategic Management: Project Management Solutions to Develop and Implement Strategy*. Business Expert Press. NY



Jeanette Landin, Board member in Business published the 7th edition of her book, [Payroll Accounting](#). She also presented on topics in New York, Budapest, Ireland, and London, all virtually. She lead a team of colleagues in publishing a chapter about preparing neurodiverse students for the workplace in a book published by Coventry University, UK.

Elaine Bernal, editor for Chemistry has been elected to the California Democratic Party Assembly. She serves on their Computer and Internet Caucus.



Congratulations to **Carla Meskill**, a World Languages reviewer on the publication of her book, *Digital Screen Mediation in Education*

Meeting Notices:

Online Learning Consortium/MERLOT Accelerate 2021



OLC invites you to join them at OLC Accelerate 2021! This year we continue to adapt to the challenges and changing conditions of online education and global pandemics by offering two #OLCAccelerate conference experiences. We begin with a fully virtual conference experience September 20-24, 2021 and continue the professional development, networking, learning and sharing opportunities when we reconnect in Washington, D.C. at the gorgeous Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center: October 5-8, 2021.

Register Now: <https://onlinelearningconsortium.org/attend-2021/accelerate/register/>

Moore Musings

Dear Jane, What are the advantages to being a peer reviewer? – Curious

Dear Curious,

It's easy to get caught up into the craziness of day-to-day teaching or instructional design. Sometimes what you lose is the opportunity for your own learning. Peer reviewing gives you a chance to look at new materials, to evaluate them, and to see how they might work in your own classroom. Don't hesitate to contact me directly with any questions, or scroll up to find the link to sign up for GRAPE Camp and get started

– Jane

MERLOT Statistics

MERLOT Collection as of May 24, 2021

94,051	# Items in Collection
5,669	# of Materials w/a Peer Review
14,852	# of Materials w/an Editor's Review
12,642	# of Materials w/a Comment/Discussion
1,439	# of Materials w/a Learning Exercise
184,323	# of Registered Users

Usage Statistics for 2021, to date

8,506,810	# of Material Views
1,167,087	Total # of Visits
2.82	Avg. # Pages/Visit
2:12	Avg. Length of Visit

Are you interested in writing for From the Vineyard, or adding news and updates? From the Vineyard is published September, January, and May. Getting your information in print is easy. Send your submission to Jane Moore. Unfortunately we can't publish all articles/stories in each issue; if you don't see your story in the issue, we promise to try to get it into the next one!

