

Ep. 053: Reclaiming Our Spaces

Podcast: <https://ProDev.illinoisstate.edu/podcast/2019/ep053.shtml>

Dana Karraker joins Claire and Jim to discuss the 2020 University-Wide Teaching & Learning Symposium. They begin by unpacking the theme, Intentional Technologies: Reclaiming Our Spaces. They draw connections to the works of the 2020 the keynote speaker: educator, musician, and author of Teaching Naked, Dr. José Antonio Bowen. With the call for proposals now open, the three also explore the formats of potential presentations and how they are selected. If you have an idea for a presentation at the 2020 Symposium, the deadline to submit it is Monday, September 30, 2019. Find out more at CTLT.IllinoisState.edu/Symposium.

Transcript

JIM: Hi there, I'm Jim.

DANA: I'm Dana

CLAIRE: And I'm Claire. Let's Talk Teaching

[Music playing]

JIM: Welcome to Let's Talk Teaching, a podcast from the Center for Teaching, Learning, and Technology here at Illinois State University. I'm Jim Gee. Joining me today, Dr. Dana Karraker, one of our Coordinators here at CTLT. Hi, Dana.

DANA: Hello.

JIM: And our director, Dr. Claire Lamonica. Hey Claire.

CLAIRE: Hi Jim.

JIM: So, Dana in addition to doing Faculty Development here, you are also our Coordinator for Special Events, and we are talking about an annual special event today and can you believe we're actually talking about the 2020 Symposium? We've actually hit 2020.

DANA: Wow.

JIM: So, what we want to talk about specifically about the symposium today is well, we have a couple things. We want to talk about the theme, but we also want to talk about the call for proposals actually went out a few weeks ago now and folks have until September 30th to submit a proposal. So, Dana, what's the theme and you know, what are we looking for?

DANA: So, the theme is Intentional Technologies: Reclaiming our spaces. So that's a little bit...

JIM: What does that mean?

DANA: What does it mean, exactly. Yeah, it's a little bit...

CLAIRE: Obtuse?

DANA: There! I couldn't think of the word.

JIM: Well to be fair when we come up with the themes and we were all in the meeting, you know, we kind of workshop this. We want something that gives people an idea it, you know, we have a keynote speaker, we'll talk about that person I'm sure as well. But it has to be broad enough to where people can kind of paint onto that what they want to bring to a conversation, a campus-wide conversation about teaching and learning, right?

DANA: Right, so we do have technologies in our title. And, but it's plural technologies.

JIM: Right.

DANA: Very broad definitions of that and, it's kind of hard to talk about it without talking about our keynote, so can we talk about him now?

JIM: Sure!

DANA: Okay.

JIM: Absolutely!

CLAIRE: No, it's a secret.

[Laughter]

DANA: Well...

[Laughter]

DANA: Seems like there was an order of things.

JIM: Well, you know, you know in years past we have not had the keynote speaker.

CLAIRE: No.

JIM: Locked down.

DANA: Yes.

JIM: but the last few years were, you know, we've been we've been kind of on top of it. In fact, I think we knew who this person was going to be a long time ago.

CLAIRE: Yeah, like last winter.

[Laughter]

JIM: Yeah.

DANA: Right, hm mmm, so...

JIM: So, who is it?

DANA: His name is José Antonio Bowen, and he is actually his discipline is music. He's a musicologist and a jazz performer, but he is also an Administrator and as a former President of Goucher College at, out east, and then he has just taken on a role as a Senior Fellow for the Association of American Colleges and Universities. So AACU.

CLAIRE: Oh, cool!

DANA: So that is he has just moved into that role. He is the Author of a book that many of our faculty are familiar with. It's called "Teaching Naked: How Moving Technology OUT of Your College Classroom Will Improve Student Learning."

JIM: Okay, so!

DANA: So!

[Laughter]

JIM: So, the question is, why is the Center for Teaching, Learning, and Technology inviting this speaker to come who's talking about moving technology out of your classroom. I'm guessing his thesis is a little more nuanced than that.

DANA: Very much so.

JIM: Okay.

DANA: Thus, our title.

JIM: Yeah.

DANA: See how we worked our way.

JIM: Yeah.

DANA: through that so intentional technologies Technology's pretty ubiquitous. It's everywhere and it's really kind of taken over our spaces in ways that aren't necessarily productive.

CLAIRE: Like dinner tables.

DANA: Everywhere, yeah. And... So, the second part of our symposium theme title is the "Reclaiming our Spaces." So, how can we use technologies in ways that really facilitate students learning? So, there we go.

JIM: So, there we go.

DANA: Yeah.

JIM: and when we're talking about technologies, we're not just talking about smart phones. Technologies can be, when you say it's a broad.

DANA: Right.

JIM: Sort of definition. How broad is it?

DANA: How broad is it? Technologies are anything that helped us do our work.

JIM: Okay.

DANA: And you know we've had different technologies all through... through...

CLAIRE: History.

DANA: ...all different kinds. Yeah, history and learning, yeah and as they come along, you know, learning how to use them and incorporate them. What Dr. Bowen is proposing with this "teaching naked" is talking about the face-to-face contact that's that students have with faculty so that face-to-face interactions that we have and kind of maximizing that learning type of opportunity. With technology, you almost have to think about the relevance of a university education. So, with technology you can go get information almost anywhere, so, what is the use of having a brick-and-mortar? Face-to-face college classroom. His "Teaching Naked" book talks about ways to rethink our university spaces and the purposes, the ways that the people in those spaces are interacting with each other and how learning happens.

CLAIRE: And I just want to interject here that he is a phenomenal speaker.

JIM: Oh, that's right because you both saw him at another event.

CLAIRE: We actually heard him. Well, it's actually kind of an interesting story because way back like last, I don't know, December, or so, we get we got this email from the Provost, from Dr. Murphy, who is at a conference, and she said "I'm sitting here listening to this speaker, and he's fabulous we really need to bring him to ISU and she gave us his name and I'm like, oh, well like that's a "Teaching Naked" guy. So, then we were so, that must have been last fall, because then we went to a conference in November. And we heard him speak, and I'm texting Dana probably, I surely, I wasn't doing that during the keynote speaker, but possibly! Across the room going "we have got to bring this guy to our campus." And she's like "Yes! This is the guy that Dr. Murphy told us about", and so we really I mean, we came back and got right on it. So, Dana, Dana had him lined up I think very early in the year.

DANA: Well, I had been in contact with him before previous symposium and we couldn't get him for that one.

JIM: Right.

DANA: and so, he had actually contacted me about that same time saying, "Hey... are you interested?" I said "why, yes, we are." So

JIM: That's good.

DANA: Everything kind of fell into place very nice.

JIM: That's great. That kind of gives us some context of what you can expect at the symposium from a keynote speaker standpoint, from a theme standpoint, and I guess what we're doing is we're asking, you know, between now and September 30th for... our colleagues on campus to actually propose workshops that they can kind of, they can kind of put in that orbit around that idea. It doesn't have to be exactly about the theme, but we and of course it, you know anything that's talking about teaching and learning, Claire, we want to make sure...

CLAIRE: We always we always say, you know, any anything that you want to talk about that contributes to the conversation about teaching and learning about Illinois State University is worth exploring. But, and we have a theme essentially just sort of provide a framework, but we don't restrict people to

JIM: Right.

CLAIRE: To thinking about that theme, but I'm, you know, I'm really excited about the symposium, I think it's going to be great, he we're going to have some chances for people to interact with Dr. Bowen. We're going to have some at least one reading group maybe more than that exploring reading the book together over the fall. Some people are reading at this summer. So, I think, you know, I think this is going to be really bang-up and I really hope that people will if you have even the glimmer of an idea. If you just have sort of a glimmer of an idea and you're not sure how to frame it as a proposal. Give us a call. Somebody will help you; you know, I will help you. Dana, Julie-Ann, you know, Mayuko. There's a lot of people around here... Oh, maybe even Jim...who can help people put together proposals.

JIM: Sure.

CLAIRE: If you if you're just like, you know, I kind of tried this thing in my class and it didn't really work but it was "I feel like it's got potential and I'd sort of like to talk about," that's fine. We love that.

JIM: Mm-hmm, and you can also, and we'll send people to our website at the appropriate time but as part of the, you know, on the same page, it has the link to the proposal form because of course, it's all online. There are also some sample proposals from years before. You'll know what questions you need to ask before you actually start filling it out and whatnot.

CLAIRE: There is a rubric.

JIM: There's a rubric, and hey, we practice what we preach around here. We have a rubric to evaluate proposals, which is something that we introduced a few years ago now, but, you, you'll know what are the what you know, are the criteria in the standards for a successful proposal. Dana that you know, that makes me think that that when we're talking about such a broad definition for technologies that there may be some what we

would consider I guess the phrase nowadays would be OG technology, some old-school technologies that that people are finding new use for or finding success in bringing back in the class as well. So, it's not just about cutting edge stuff is it?

DANA: Right. I think this this theme is pretty broad. So, there's a lot of possible proposals that would really even fit in with this. So, one of Dr. Bowen's, he talks about a learning economy, which I'm trying to still wrap my head around but So, if we think about learning is a process and it involves change or transformation is a word we like to use around here and then an economy as a system of interactions and exchanges so, if you think about a classroom and the interactions and exchanges that are taking place in there, and that the processes are to create this change, this learning change. He talks about in that learning economy he comes up with this term he calls the new 3 R's, so, Relationships, Resilience, and Reflection and so something that instructors have to remember now is that what we're teaching in our classes right now?

JIM: uh-hum.

DANA: Is not going to be and we can't imagine what we're preparing our students for...

JIM: Right.

DANA: because things are changing so much...

JIM: Right.

DANA: in terms of technologies the worlds and all that type of thing. So, he proposes that. That our education should really just give students a tool-box.

JIM: uh-hum.

DANA: So that they can be prepared to solve complex problems that they have can't even imagine yet and he also talks about each discipline has a way of approaching problems in different ways. I come out of the School of Education. How do educators? How do teachers? Approach societal problems, and what is their role in that? How does the physicists do it? How do communication people do it?

JIM: uh-hum.

DANA: So, you can see how this has very wide broad implications.

JIM: And Claire. That's kind of one of the great things about this symposium. It's a university-wide symposium. We like to say it's the largest conversation, one-day conversation, at least about teaching and learning on the ISU campus. It's really the time when people come together, and we cross those disciplinary silos. We talk about that, right.

CLAIRE: Yes. Yes. I, you know when we get feedback on the symposium one of the things that people always talk about is the opportunities that they've had to engage with faculty from other disciplines and...

JIM: uh-hum.

CLAIRE: to hear about what's going on in departments other than their own. So, you know even just hallway conversations with, I have neighbors on my block from, gosh I don't know, probably Dana and I probably five or six different University Department, academic departments, you know and it's kind of a, the symposium is like a, it's like a, neighborhood, you know,

JIM: Right.

CLAIRE: with all these all these people crossing paths and having conversations.

JIM: Okay, so, Dana very quickly, as we kind of wrap up here, about the symposium the types of proposals people can make, and we talked a little bit about that and... What are the different options that people have as far as what kind of proposal they're going to what kind of? Venue, the presentation they're going to make. Okay.

DANA: One of the options is, what we're calling the individual proposal, that can be no more than two people. So, one or two.

JIM: Right. Yes.

DANA: even though it is individual.

JIM: Right. Yeah-yeah.

DANA: but some people do bring an extra along and they call that individual and that's a 20-minute session and so, time to present your information and answer questions.

JIM: uh-hum.

DANA: and then we have 50-minute sessions which are for panels so more than two.

JIM: Right.

DANA: Three or more and then we have a poster session, which is done at the end of the day, also, combined with kind of a...

CLAIRE: Wine?

DANA: Social hour.

[Laughing]

CLAIRE: Sorry, I got all excited about the alcohol there.

JIM: Yeah, you know, if you listen the podcast about the symposium last year, I think you also were the one to bring up the alcohol.

CLAIRE: Oh, was I?

[Laughing]

JIM: I think you were. So, you see a pattern forming here, and I, you know, I'm really not even a big wine drinker.

CLAIRE: Once a year I go crazy.

JIM: Right.

[Laughing]

JIM: Yeah, maybe two tickets.

CLAIRE: Yeah.

JIM: Maybe not just one drink ticket, maybe two tickets. So...

DANA: So, our panels oftentimes will be people who have done some collaborative work together they may not always be in the same academic department or school. Sometimes our cohorts that work together in the summertime. Our global cohort or civic engagement cohort if they're interested in sharing what they've done. You know, they did the planning and preparation over the summer and had some time to implement. They can come and share what they've learned, for that.

JIM: And then we also have a poster session, right?

DANA: Yes. That's at the end of the day.

JIM: That is at the end of the day.

CLAIRE: That's the one with the wine.

JIM: Oh, that's one of the one with the wine. I forgot about that.

CLAIRE: I even got all distracted by that. Got all distracted about that. I'm still back in the event that I did back in June or late May.

DANA: So yeah, those are the three things, so people can propose an individual, a panel, or a poster.

JIM: Mm-hmm, and once in a great while we will we may suggest to someone that. Hey Instead of form A, it should be in a different form, and they may come back with it.

DANA: Right?

JIM: Okay. Well, so the symposium is Wednesday,

JIM and DANA: January 8,

JIM: 2020. The deadline to submit your proposals for the 2020 university-wide teaching and learning symposium is at 11:59 p.m. So, it's Monday night, September 30th, and we're usually pretty good about letting people know by mid-October. Maybe late November,

DANA: We're pretty quick.

JIM: Yeah about if they're in or not, if their proposals been accepted or not.

DANA: Yes.

CLAIRE: But we'll open registration as soon as the proposals close, or pretty quickly after that.

JIM: We will open register. Yeah, we typically open registration about the middle of October. So, so the ones who sign up first, are typically the presenters because as... Dana reminded me, because, we include that link to registration in their acceptance letters.

CLAIRE: Right.

JIM: Dana, Claire, thank you so much.

DANA and
CLAIRE: Thank you.

[Music playing]

JIM: And, that's all the time we have for this episode of Let's Talk Teaching. You can find out more about our pokey little podcast and, of course, about the university wide, teaching and learning symposium, and how to submit your proposals. Just go to our website... CTLT.IllinoisState.edu. Look at our beautifully redesigned homepage, and you will actually find links for the symposium, and for our podcast, right there on the homepage. For Dr. Dana Karraker, for Dr. Claire Lamonica, for all of my colleagues here at the Center for Teaching, Learning, and Technology, until we talk again. Happy teaching!