Geddes Preparations during Summer 2015 (GPS15)

Welcome to our Geddes Summer 2015 update, a newsletter for language faculty and graduate students. As we prepare our instructional support and lab services for Fall 2015, we wanted to keep you informed of what's new.

Also, building on the success of our Spring Mini-Conference, we will host a Professional Development Week from **September 28** -**October 2**. See below for more detailed information.



Priyanka George '15, with her Art-in-Place project for the Geddes Lab.

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Faculty discuss flipped classroom approaches at the Spring 2015 Mini-Conference

Geddes Preparations during Summer (GPS15) Newsletter

MyGeddes Reservations System

Have you ever wished you could see if a Geddes Room or Equipment Resource was available when you need it without having to contact a

staff member to find out? If so, the new MyGeddes Reservations System is just the thing for you! It lets you book reservations for certain rooms and equipment on your own, without having to wait for a response.



As always, if you're not sure what exactly you need, reservation request forms are still available. You can find

both at: http://www.bu.edu/geddes/reservations/.

Geddes now offering Faculty Mini-Grants for Course Redesign and other Technology Projects

The Geddes Language Center is pleased to announce a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the 2015-2016 Faculty Mini-Grant Program for amounts ranging from \$750 to \$1,500. Stipends are designed to provide initial funding to faculty members who are willing to explore and report on new ways to integrate technology and language learning, foster an environment in which faculty initiate innovative technology and learning projects and compensate for the extra time and effort to develop technology-based resources for their courses. All proposals will be reviewed on individual merit. 5 to 6 awards are made annually and are **due October 15, 2015.** More details on how to apply will be forthcoming.

Professional Development Week – September 28 – October 2

This year, to supplement our workshop series, the Geddes Language Center is organizing a fun-filled week of faculty development opportunities by our own peers in languages and of varying formats.

Professional Development Week will take place over five days from September 28 through October 2, after classes are in swing but before things get too hectic and become packed with conferences and other commitments.

So far we have 10 events and may add more, ranging from workshops to open forums to guided webinars—sign up for one or all! Each event attended gives you an added chance at winning a raffle from our drawing at the end of the week.

For specific details and event descriptions, see: http://www.bu.edu/geddes/resources/workshops



New Software: Wikispaces

A number of faculty are looking for a course website other than Blackboard. In time for Fall 2015, CAS IT and the Geddes Center have teamed up to bring you Wikispaces so you can easily build a course wiki.

Wikispaces will be administered locally and will be available to faculty in Romance

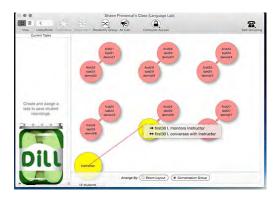
Studies, Modern Language and Comparative Literatures, and Classical Studies with support from Geddes. Our hope is that it meets multiple collaborative e-learning needs, and will thus be useful throughout CAS and beyond.

If you are interested in participating in this pilot during the coming academic year, email me at <u>mslewis@bu.edu.</u> Starting in late July, we will have a wiki request form available on the Geddes website under

Resources/Software Resources, as well as information about training sessions in available after August 1.

In the meantime there are plenty of online resources available to help learn more about Wikispaces and its interactive features. A complete list of **Software Resources** links and tutorials has been added to the Geddes website at: <u>http://www.bu.edu/geddes/resources/software</u>

DiLL now available on 18 workstations in the Geddes Lab



Last year's DiLL (Digital Language Lab) pilot was a success, and we've agreed to fund a license for this audiobased software for the 2015-2016 academic year. We will be increasing the number of stations available from 16 to 18 to accommodate language class enrollments. Book your lab sessions early!

Language Learning at CAS Website

In case you haven't heard, on May 14 a new, comprehensive, and eye-catching website on language learning for the BU Community went live! Check it out at: http://www.bu.edu/cas/academics/undergraduateeducation/language-learning-at-cas/ or by scanning the QR code to the right.



Beginning with Summer Orientation and supporting ongoing information needs for undergraduate education, the site represents a grand achievement for all language programs. Hats off to all those who had a hand in creating it.