

THE NOSS-MD NEWS

• September 2021 •

[Happy Fall Semester!]

We hope everyone is off to a great start in this strange fall term of masking, hybrid teaching, and yes, more Zooming. We wish you all the best as you continue to adapt to new teaching requirements, and we want to remind you that we are here for you as a resource! We hope to see you at our virtual events, which have been a great way to stay connected!

Stay well, everyone!



SAVE THE DATE!

- Our first NOSS MD workshop is happening this Friday, September 17 at 2:30pm virtually. (More details at the end of the newsletter.)
- The fall NOSS MD conference will be held Friday, October 15—submit your proposals now!

Teaching Tip

It's easy for students to feel isolated during these times, especially with online classes. Consider starting each seminar or live class with a quick "wellness check." There's no need for everyone to share or be too personal, but remind students that they can reach out and let you know what is happening with them as a way to help ensure their success during the term.

Remind students that there are resources such as student counseling and their academic success center. Share the links in the chat.

Finally, start off class on a positive note by asking everyone to share one good thing that happened to them since the last class. Those two or three minutes at the start are a great way to build connections and remind students that they are supported, especially in an online class.



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Faculty Spotlight

Celebrating our inspiring members and educators

Angela Wood, Professor of English at Howard Community College, co-coordinates and teaches Developmental English. She also teaches Science Fiction and Children's Literature courses. She has been at HCC for 22 years and is an integral part of the English and World Languages division.

What does student success look like to you?

A student who wants to take another class. Not because they have to, but because they have discovered that they can learn, and that learning connects the dots: English is related to science is related to the arts is related to math, and it's all integrated.

What's your favorite thing to teach?

It changes all the time! Right now I'm really enjoying demystifying texts: I teach an integrated developmental course and we write paragraphs about short texts, including videos and images. I point out that every text has a beginning, middle, and end, including the paragraphs my students are writing as responses to these texts. I talk about how we can read images and videos as texts, and finding those introductions, supporting points, and wrap-ups aids comprehension. Once students see the structure behind the text, they can begin to analyze how the introduction engages the audience; how the body supports and explains the main ideas, and how the writer leads the audience to the purpose of the text by the conclusion.



Ang and Linus in their Boston Bruins jerseys!

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What advice would you give students to stay successful during remote learning or hybrid learning?

“Plan to succeed.” I’m teaching a six-credit course: students need to have up to 18 hours a week for working on their coursework, including and especially, time for reading. A three-credit course would require nine hours each week. Set a schedule that includes your usual work, family, life and leisure responsibilities. Always log in to your LMS around the same time each time, and plan to remain online and working for at least an hour each time. Carving out dedicated time is more difficult when you don’t have a scheduled class to attend: schedule yourself.

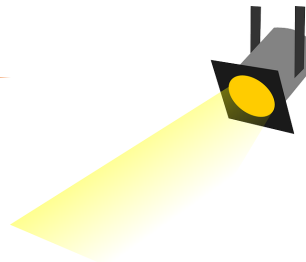
How have you kept yourself and your students motivated during the pandemic?

I tell really lame jokes and I share comic strips from different sources (and then break them down as mini-texts and show the beginning/middle/end and appeals to the audience). I share my experiences learning new things, especially when I fail really badly. I ask them to share their experiences learning how to do a sport, or cook a recipe, or braiding hair. My dog appears in my Zooms sometimes, and students will bring up their cat, dog, or in one instance, a tarantula. (shudder) Online learning has allowed students to see us professors as more relatable, and I think that’s a strong positive.

Since we’re all lifelong learners, what’s something you enjoy learning about?

Hockey. I spent my first fifty years being anti-sports, and now I’m obsessed with hockey. I watch it, read books and articles about it, and study the different skills that the players master. I feel like I’m immersed in a self-study course about these amazing athletes and their surprisingly complex strategies and situational awareness while on the ice. I now ask my students to explain various penalties and scoring strategies for their sports, trying to make sense of how sports are similar and different. (And there’s that beginning/middle/end motif, as well. We can talk about both essays and games can start strong, then run out of energy or support, and how a coach, or teacher, can help identify what needs more practice.)

Want to nominate a colleague to be featured in our faculty spotlight? Email enunnally@howardcc.edu with the faculty member’s name, email address, and why you think they are a great asset to student success!



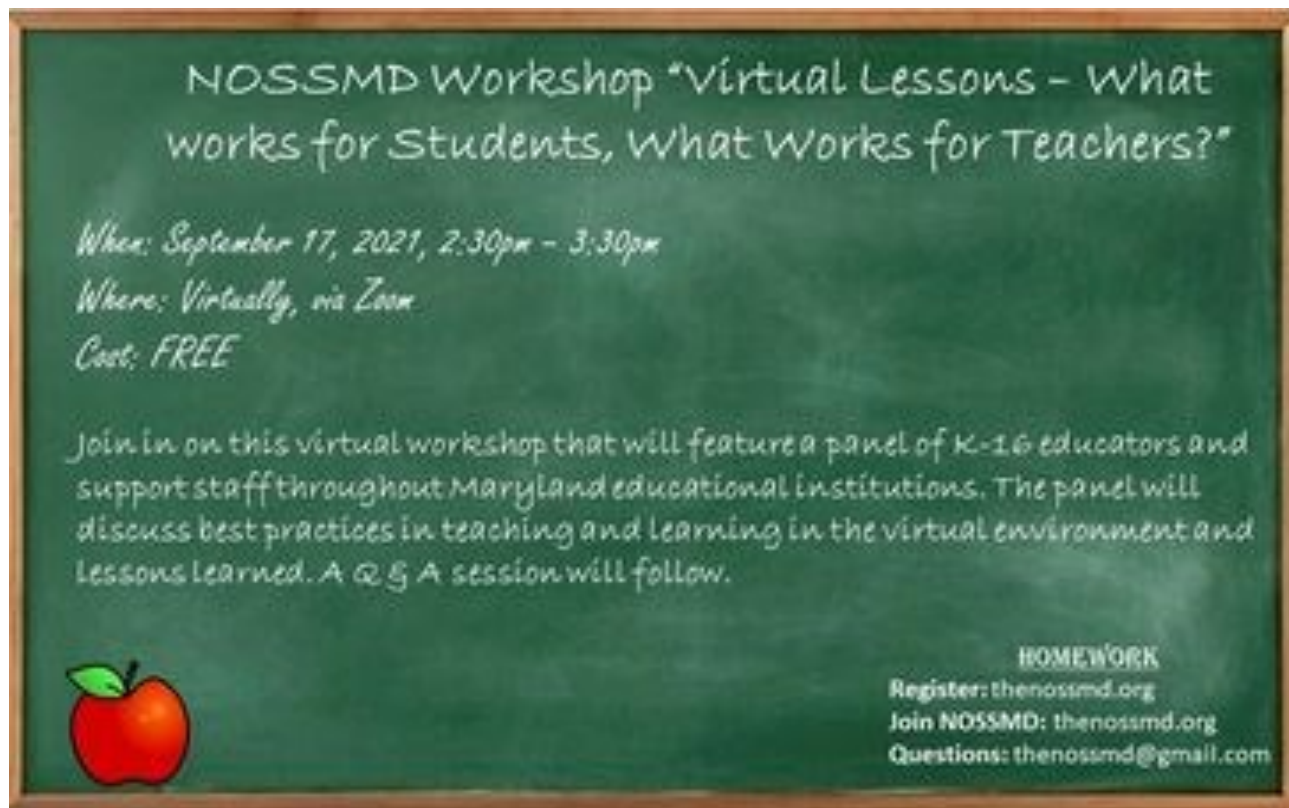
THE NOSS-MD NEWS

Upcoming Events

Join us this Friday for one of our famous virtual workshops!

You'll get an hour of great conversation, speakers, and leave with new ideas to rejuvenate your virtual lessons, your students, and yourself!


JOIN US!



NOSSMD Workshop "Virtual Lessons - What works for Students, What Works for Teachers?"

When: September 17, 2021, 2:30pm - 3:30pm
Where: Virtually, via Zoom
Cost: FREE

Join in on this virtual workshop that will feature a panel of K-16 educators and support staff throughout Maryland educational institutions. The panel will discuss best practices in teaching and learning in the virtual environment and lessons learned. A Q & A session will follow.



HOMEWORK
Register: thenossmd.org
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Questions: thenossmd@gmail.com

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Register today at
thenossmd.org —> events

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Upcoming Events

Save the date for our fall conference and register today! You can also submit a proposal until this Friday.

JOIN US!



NOSSMD Fall Conference

Journeys: The Student Transition to College

Keynote Speaker: Tiara Booker-Dwyer – Assistant State Superintendent for the Division of Career and College Readiness and Office of Leadership Development and School Improvement at the Maryland State Department of Education

- Date: October 15, 2021
- Information, Registration, or Proposals: thenossmid.org
- Contact: thenossmid@gmail.com

NOSS **MARYLAND CHAPTER**

**Register today at
thenossmid.org → events**

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To contribute to the newsletter,
email Erin at
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