Connecting Teacher-Scholars: Igniting Multi-Institutional Research through a Research Seminar

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Elon Research Seminar

- 2 year/3 summer project

- Sponsored by the Center for Engaged Learning at Elon University (@CEL_Elon)

- Current Topic – Critical Transitions: Writing and the Question of Transfer
Elon Research Seminar

- Institutional research projects
  - and
  - 10 multi-institutional research projects

- 45 participants from 5 countries and 20+ institutions

- Range of institution types → Broader range of contexts
ERS - Structures and Functions

Mini-Presentations
ERS - People and Places

27 Universities
Elon Research Seminar

• Irene will share an example of an Institutional Project.

• Then I’ll briefly showcase ERS Multi-Institutional Projects and some additional early findings.
ERS – Multi-Institutional Research

• What terms best capture transfer practices/theories?

• What types of reflection best support critical transitions?

• How do students transfer writing knowledge between languages?
ERS – Multi-Institutional Research

• How do geographic spaces/classroom spaces impact transfer?

• How do students transfer writing knowledge between academic and self-sponsored writing?

• How do specific curricula (e.g., Writing about Writing) impact transfer?
ERS: Working Principles – High Confidence

• Transfer can be taught if it is done explicitly, but we need to study how to do it well in different contexts.

• Reflective writing promotes preparation for transfer/transfer-focused thinking.

• We need to recognize the importance of individual dispositions and identities in the transfer process.
ERS: Working Principles – High Confidence

• Pedagogy that promotes transfer includes asking students to engage in metacognitive awareness, including asking good questions about writing situations and developing heuristics for analyzing unfamiliar writing situations.

• Pedagogy that promotes transfer includes focusing on rhetorically-based concepts.
ERS: Working Principles – High Confidence

• Pedagogy that promotes transfer includes explicitly modeling transfer-focused thinking and metacognitive awareness.

• Any social context provides affordances and constraints that impact use of prior knowledge, skills, strategies, and dispositions.
Elon Research Seminar Conference

June 25-26, 2013
Elon University

CFP posted at: http://www.elon.edu/e-web/academics/teaching/ers/writing_transfer/conference.xhtml

Proposals due January 6, 2013