

Improving grading

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Faculty will get the opportunity today to learn how to develop a grading process that meets the needs of students and faculty.

Faculty Development is sponsoring a workshop entitled "Making grading a more user-friendly activity for teachers and students."

Marilla Svinicki, associate professor of educational psychology at the University of Texas in Austin, will be speaking on the topic of grading. She has assisted faculty members at various institutions with developing grades for 30 years.

"The purpose of the workshop is to enlighten faculty and staff on why faculty members normally disagree with students about their grades," Svinicki said.

Svinicki will discuss the processes and purposes of grading so that instructors can provide the best assessment of student learning.

"The major problem faculty members encounter is that they are unclear

in enlightening the students on reasons for assigning a specific grade to them, thereby fostering lack of communication between both parties," Svinicki said.

The workshop will provide a medium for Svinicki to collaborate the views and opinions of the faculty and students for the purpose of finding the most suitable and convenient method of grading.

Bud Fischer, a member of Eastern's faculty development committee, spoke about the importance of this workshop.

"The workshop allows us to bring an expert to enlighten us on how to engage students in the learning process," Fischer said. "A lot of teachers are looking forward to this due to the difficulties faculty members encounter with grading."

Fischer hopes that participants at the workshop would emerge with new ideas pertaining to grading and making it user-friendly.

The workshop will be today from 1 to 4 p.m. in Lumpkin Hall Room 2020.