

NEWS

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Faculty Partners Recognized for Teaching Excellence

New York, June 17, 2003. The Columbia Center for New Media Teaching and Learning (CCNMTL) is proud to have partnered with Nicholas Turro, Lawrence Engel, and Amy Fairchild, three of the five recipients of the Presidential Award for Excellence in Teaching at the 2003 Columbia University Commencement Ceremony. All three were recognized for successfully incorporating new media technologies in their teaching.

Nicholas Turro, the William P. Schweitzer Professor of Chemistry and Professor of Chemical Engineering and Applied Chemistry, has been a long-time partner of CCNMTL. During the award presentation, Columbia University President Lee Bollinger described Turro as “an influential curricular innovator and tireless promoter of the use of new digital technologies to enhance instruction and learning.” In a discussion shortly after receiving his award, Professor Turro credited CCNMTL with “helping me ask questions of students throughout my course to gain feedback.” He further stated that he would like to contribute to a scholarly view of this method as a means “to entice other faculty to embrace new media technologies in their teaching practice.”

Larry Engel, Adjunct Professor in the School of the Arts, and CCNMTL recently completed the creation of a multimedia tool called the *Deconstructor*, which enables students to do a shot-by-shot analysis of film scenes by identifying dozens of elements related to cinematic structure. Professor Engel worked with CCNMTL to conceptualize and develop the *Deconstructor* as an integrated component of his course. “The Web tool gave me what I needed,” he stated, “to improve what my students could learn about the specific structure of film -- it's sequence of shots that essentially convey the meaning, the mood, the actual narrative of the medium.”

Amy Fairchild, Assistant Professor of Sociomedical Sciences, has incorporated many new media technologies into her teaching of history, health, and ethics in urban environments. President Bollinger credited Fairchild by stating, “She combines the best of what teachers have always done in and out of the classroom with the imaginative use of the most advanced computer-based instructional strategies.” She has frequently consulted CCNMTL in the use of the CU Analyzer and the SlideShow Maker in her lectures, tools created and supported by CCNMTL.

CCNMTL is honored to have such exemplary partners willing to explore the use of technology and new media in the classroom. To view the awards presentation visit the URL, http://ccnmtl.columbia.edu/projects/broadcast/ramfiles/2003/teaching_awards.ram

About CCNMTL

CCNMTL (Columbia Center for New Media Teaching and Learning) is a service of Columbia University whose goal is to enhance teaching and learning through the purposeful use of new media. We form partnerships with faculty, providing them with as much support as they need in everything from the construction of course Web sites to the development of more advanced projects. CCNMTL is committed to remaining a leader in its field, engaging with its faculty partners in the reinvention of education for the digital age.