Dear colleagues,

A message pops up from a colleague, “Did lunch just get cancelled?”

Welcome to Office 365!! Did someone allude to brighter pastures following dark dreams? Or even greener pastures? Or have we entered a black hole?

Our first TLC lunch conversation did happen and we talked about first classes, ways of getting students to talk to each other, Blackboard, experiments with the invitational syllabus, and more. But some of you may have missed this fruitful conversation because **your Office 365 calendar went into spastic mode**.

Have no fear – I believe I now have this under control. I spoke with a few tech-savvy colleagues, and the best solution seems to be for the TLC group (Elena, Russell, Brenda and myself) to create **invitations to our TLC events**. You can then accept, decline or ignore. If you accept, the event will be added to your calendar; if you decline, the event will disappear; if you ignore (i.e. do nothing), the event will remain in your calendar in a lighter shade than those you accept.

I’d also like to offer my apologies to those of you who would like to attend the lunches but teach on Tuesdays from 12-1:30. We’ll be experimenting with different days/times in the future.

Here is a reminder of our lunch dates (you will receive invitations soon):

***Informal lunch conversations***(in G-102 - bring your lunch): 12-13h15 on Tues., Sept. 27, Oct. 11, Oct. 25, Nov. 8, and Nov. 22.

**Our next lunch is Tuesday 12-13h15 Sept. 27 in G-102** – Everett Robinson (a.k.a. Robbie) and Ann Borel from ARC will be joining us for a **Q&A session about Blackboard**. Please come with your questions, laptops or other devices. The idea is to find ways of making some of the logistical aspects of our teaching more efficient, e.g. using the BB grade center, organizing your courses on BB during a semester and over time.

Also a quick reminder about other dates (you will receive invitations soon):

***Teaching with the Visual History Archive***, workshop organized by Brian Schiff, the Schaeffer Center, 17-18h30 on Wed., Sept. 28 (C-104).

***Mellon Pedagogical Seminars***: 17-18h30 on Wed., Oct. 5 (C-104) and Nov. 9 (C-102)

Theme: *Electronic Devices and the Classroom*

For those of you interested in submitting **an invitational (promising) syllabus for possible inclusion in Marsha and Ken Bain’s new book**, please send me your invitational syllabus by Wed. Sept. 28. More information was included in last week’s *TLC Weekly* (12 September 2016).

Finally, the TLC website still needs some time for development, so in the meantime, **we welcome contributions to the *TLC Weekly*** – stories and ideas about teaching, experiments that worked (or didn’t), student-faculty collaborations, etc. Feel free to send your ideas to me [rrast@aup.edu](mailto:rrast@aup.edu), to Elena [eberg@aup.edu](mailto:eberg@aup.edu) or to Russell [rwilliams@aup.edu](mailto:rwilliams@aup.edu). Beware, send to .edu – we recently discovered that if you send to .fr, your message enters the black hole.

Enjoy the week!

Rebekah