Dear colleagues,

If your Office 365 is still in spastic mode, here’s a secret that might calm it down a bit. When you search for e-mails from or to someone, search the person’s e-mail address not the person’s name (go figure).

Technology, alas…

**Our electronic devices (a.k.a. smartphones and laptops) evening** was superb thanks to an outstanding performance by colleagues Russell Williams and Robert Payne. Being the conscientious professors that they are, they assigned homework for the next session. If you were present, you know what the assignment is. If you were absent, well…..

Russell and Robert have kindly offered to share their Powerpoint that contains ideas and links, as well as a summary of some of the research recently published about phones and laptops in the classroom (see attached). They’ve asked us to try one of the ideas with our students and come back next time to tell the story. Even if you missed the first session, you’re welcome to attend the second (no, we won’t shut the door on you). Smartphones, laptops and the classroom, **the next session will be** **Wed. Nov. 9 at 5pm in C-102**.

**During our lunch tomorrow (Tues. Oct. 11, 12:00 in G-102),** Elena Berg will begin a conversation about co-teaching at AUP. As a faculty fellow of the TLC, Elena is interested in **developing and promoting co-teaching initiatives across the curriculum**. Elena writes, “Many of us do our teaching independently of our colleagues – we develop our syllabi, teach our seminars or lectures, and evaluate our students, often without much feedback from others. Some instructors prefer to organize and run their own courses, but many of us have also had wonderful experiences teaching with others. Co-teaching can generate exciting synergies between different disciplines, and it can also teach us a lot about different pedagogical styles and ways of connecting with students”. Elena would like to invite faculty to share their ideas, experiences, and concerns about co-teaching in all its forms. What approaches have worked best? What are the common pitfalls, and how can we avoid them? What are the administrative hurdles (cross-listing, teaching loads, etc.), and are they surmountable? Is FirstBridge the best forum for co-teaching at AUP, or are there ways of promoting co-teaching beyond FirstBridge as well? Please join us for this discussion!

Finally, last but by no means least, we’d like to thank Ann and Robbie for joining us during our last lunch to answer questions about Blackboard. We talked about formatting our BB sites, inserting an inviting banner, setting up private journals and shared blogs, and more. Send a message to arc@aup.edu if you have questions about BB or would like to set up or learn about a feature. **They make Blackboard house/office calls!!**

Have a good week!

Rebekah