



REGISTER TODAY FOR THE
2017 MTA Connections Conference
Muskegon Community College | Muskegon, MI
Friday, November 3rd

Spend the day learning new skills at the 2017 MTA Connections Conference. The keynote speaker will be Dr. Janet Zadina. Her address will be *Using Brain Research to Enhance and Energize Learning: Science and Strategies*. Dr. Zadina bridges the fields of education and neuroscience through her visionary work and the magic of her presentations. Her years of research, writing, and teaching enable her to speak out and educate others with science and strategies to transform education. As founder and CEO of Brain Research and Instruction, she teaches and models best practices in educational neuroscience when presenting keynote speeches and workshops worldwide. She is the author of reading and learning textbooks for students as well as professional development books for teachers, including Multiple Pathways to the Student Brain. Check out her accomplishments and research on her website:

www.brainresearch.us



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EVENT
REGISTRATION

Submit a Proposal for the 2017 MTA Conference!

The 2017 MTA Connections Conference Planning Committee is now accepting program proposals. Please consider sharing your knowledge with others! Preferred submission is September 28th

michigan-tutors.org/proposal



Tech Corner

Ideas for how to increase student outreach through technology.



Poll Everywhere is an online service that allows teachers, tutors, or group facilitators to ask their participants a question. The participants answer the question using their mobile phones, Twitter, or web browsers. Both the question and the participants' responses are displayed live in Keynote, PowerPoint, and/or on the web.

Poll everywhere works well for large groups, groups where students are shy, or to discuss sensitive topics.

Poll Everywhere offers free and paid subscriptions depending on the number of desired participants.

Retrieved from <https://www.polleverywhere.com/blog/great-ways-to-use-poll-everywhere-in-the-classroom/>

Collaborative Learning Strategies

Try these techniques in your next tutoring session or training.

Stump your partner

- Students take a minute to create a challenging question based on the lecture content up to that point.
- Students pose the question to the person sitting next to them.
- To take this activity a step further, ask students to write down their questions and hand them in. These questions can be used to create tests or exams. They can also be reviewed to gauge student understanding.

Think-pair-share/ Write-pair-share

- The instructor poses a question that demands analysis, evaluation, or synthesis.
- Students take a few minutes to think through an appropriate response.
- Students turn to a partner (or small groups) and share their responses. Take this a step further by asking students to find someone who arrived at an answer different from their own and convince their partner to change their mind.
- Student responses are shared within larger teams or with the entire class during a follow-up discussion.

Group problem solving

There are many instructional strategies that involve students working together to solve a problem, including inquiry based learning, authentic learning, and discovery learning. While they each have their own unique characteristics, they all fundamentally involve:

- Presenting students with a problem.
- Providing some structure or guidance toward solving the problem. Note, however, that they are all student-centered activities in which the instructor may have a very minimal role.
- Reaching a final outcome or solution.

Retrieved from <https://www.cte.cornell.edu/teaching-ideas/engaging-students/>

Book Club

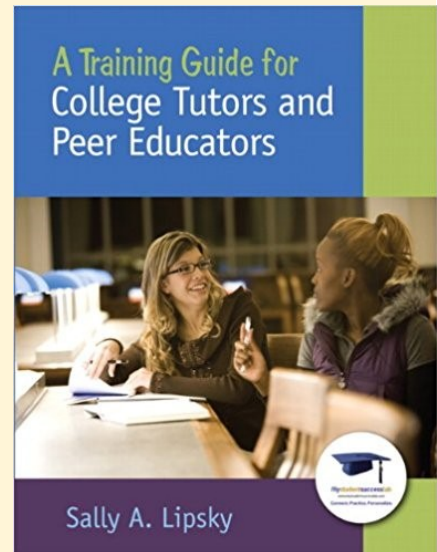
Looking to expand your library or add to your reading list? Check out our recommended title:

A Training Guide for College Tutors and Peer Educators

By: Sally A. Lipsky

A Training Guide for College Tutors and Peer Educators presents relevant and research-based methods for successful academic support sessions for tutors and peer educator trainees in an adaptable, user-friendly, and interactive format.

By mirroring appropriate methods for organizing and presenting material in an academic support session, it allows the reader to experience for themselves the practices and strategies they will apply as future tutors and peer educators. Based on solid learning theory, the activities, assessments, examples and features included in this flexible and engaging text simulate recommended peer educator practices and emphasize guiding college students to become active, self-monitoring and independent learners.



Do You Know an Outstanding Tutor?

Nominate him/ her for the 2017 Tutor of the Year Award! Every year the highlight of the Connections Conference is the presentation of the Tutor of the Year Award by the President to the membership's most outstanding tutor. The winner of the award receives a monetary prize, a plaque, and is honored at the annual MTA Connections Conference.

Please take the time to think about your tutors, decide which one consistently exceeds your expectations in his or her efforts to assist others in the process of learning, and then fill out the enclosed nomination form. Self-nominations are also welcome. ***Please remember that only current MTA members can submit nominations. See page 4 on how to become a member.***

This year, the winner of the Tutor of the Year Award will be presented on November 3, 2017 at the 35th Annual Connection Conference in Muskegon, Michigan. Deadline for nominations for is October 19th, 2017.

[2017 Tutor of the Year Nomination Form](#)



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Kathryn Schrader
Founding Member
Muskegon Community College



When you become a member you don't belong to MTA— MTA belongs to you. We encourage you to participate in the annual conference planning activities, to present at the annual conference, and to contribute articles to the association newsletter. Through your membership, these possibilities are yours whether you are a student tutor, professional tutor, faculty member, or tutoring administrator. Print out the [application](#) and become a member today!



Visit Us Online

<http://www.michigan-tutors.org/>

The Beginning

The genesis of our organization was the first Connections Tutorial Conference which was held in 1983 at Lansing Community College, under the leadership of Jean Morciglio who was the tutorial coordinator at Lansing C.C. at the time. Three more conferences followed, and then, in 1986, the first active steps to create a tutorial association began. The Connections V Conference at Delta College in 1987 was the site of a preliminary meeting to create a state tutorial association. That meeting produced objectives and initiatives to formally launch our Michigan Tutorial Association. The [Constitution](#) and By-Laws were approved at a planning committee meeting on 23 August, 1988; they have been revised in 1992, 1997, 2009, and 2012.

This association was designed as the sole professional organization in Michigan serving the needs of those interested and actively involved in tutoring in post secondary education. MTA was dedicated to providing Michigan tutorial personnel a network for sharing, growth and learning opportunities. With this in mind, the main goal of MTA each year has been to organize and host an annual tutoring conference. In Spring 1990, MTA also began publishing a newsletter, under Walter Foote at Grand Valley State University; the newsletter became a regular, tri-annual mailing of MTA beginning in Spring 1994. Another contribution which MTA made to tutoring personnel was to publish a directory of tutorial departments and contact people around the state; this was published in 1996. Finally, in-services for professionals have been scheduled on a bi-annual basis since 1996.

Bounce Back Your Thoughts

As the Michigan Tutorial Association membership grows, we'd like to hear from you. This issue's topic is:

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

What professional development topics would you like to see presented from MTA? Start by taking a look at our "Resources" page:

<http://www.michigan-tutors.org/tutoring-resources-2/>

What would you add? Tutor and professional staff thoughts are appreciated. Leave your feedback at our [anonymous survey](#).