

## SEEQ TIPS: ENTHUSIASM



### *Instructor enhanced presentations with the use of humour.*

According to the **S**tudent **E**valuation of **E**ducational **Q**uality, humour makes a positive contribution to student satisfaction of the course and presumably to learning. UTS has several new library books which provide information that can assist you to excel at using humour in your teaching.

#### **DO I HAVE TO USE HUMOUR??**

In Mary Kay Morrison's book *Using Humor to Maximize Learning: The Links between Positive Emotions and Education* she identifies 6 research-based educational benefits of humour. Humour:

1. contributes to a healthy mind/body balance
2. maximizes brain power
3. enhances creativity
4. facilitates communication
5. creates optimal learning environment and
6. supports the change process (Morrison, 2008, p. 10).

#### **HOW DO I USE HUMOUR??**

Doni Tamblyn provides 95 ways to use humor for more effective teaching in her book *Laugh and Learn*. She describes Five Rules for using humor naturally, successfully, and without fear (Tamblyn, 2003, p. 47-80).

**Rule #1:** Cut yourself-and others-some gosh-darned slack

**Rule #2:** Don't be Original

**Rule #3:** Make Positive Choices

**Rule #4:** Focus Out not In

**Rule #5:** Always Acknowledge the Bomb

This book describes how humour can create brain-compatible learning. It provides many examples and practice exercises to help develop humour.

Another great collection of ideas to infuse the classroom with humour can be found in Elaine Lundberg and Cheryl Miller Thurston's book, *If they're Laughing they just might be Listening: Ideas for using HUMOR effectively in the classroom-even if you're NOT funny yourself*.

#### **Examples:**

- Encourage creativity by assigning an outrageous task (Lundberg & Thurston, 2002, p. 55)
- Use exaggeration for humour and effect (Lundberg & Thurston, 2002, p. 59)
- Demonstrate what not to do (Lundberg & Thurston, 2002, p. 85)

These books are available for borrowing from the UTS library. They can be signed out on our website at [http://intranet.umanitoba.ca/academic\\_support/uts/resources/library.html](http://intranet.umanitoba.ca/academic_support/uts/resources/library.html) The book can be picked up or delivered by interdepartmental mail. Happy reading!