

AGRONOMY'S SEMINAR SERIES

FALL
2019

Monday, October 21, 2019

3:30 PM

Lily Hall 2-425

Dr. Joanne Logan

University of Tennessee

Reflections on Student Engagement In and Out of the Classroom

As Dr. Logan approaches the end of her university career, she reflects on the different ways that she has tried to engage and inspire undergraduate students in her varied classes over the years. Like so many professors of her generation, she began her career emulating the teaching styles from when she was in college – mostly lecture format with some labs and field trips thrown in. However, after about 10 years into her time at the University of Tennessee and taking several classes in curriculum and educational theory, she became an advocate for promoting activities that take into account multiple learning styles, emotions, and critical thinking skills. Examples of experiences that she incorporates into her classes include service learning, community outreach, case studies, field trips, real world (“authentic”) applications, and collaborative projects. In the process, she has cultivated a cadre of invaluable community partners such as K-12 schools, 4H, community gardens, nature parks, public gardens, local greenhouses, stormwater offices, local TV stations, Ronald McDonald House, food pantries, the National Weather Service, and environmentally related organizations. Although it may never be known exactly how much these experiences have contributed to student learning, Dr. Logan believes that it is important to take into account student’ learning styles and emotions through these connections to the community and professionals.



Joanne Logan earned her PhD in Horticulture and Forestry from the University of Nebraska and then joined the faculty of the University of Tennessee in 1987. She currently serves as an associate professor in the Department of Biosystems Engineering and Soil Science where she teaches in and directs the undergraduate program in Environmental and Soil Sciences. Although her research area has focused on Agricultural Climatology, her true passion has been in curriculum design and assessment, student engagement, and service learning, which led her to a second masters degree in Curriculum Design and Instruction in 2005.

Seminar host: Dr. Michael Mashtare, Professor of Environmental Soil Science

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