

Highlights Report

IUPUI Center for Teaching and Learning wwwctl.iupui.edu

During 2010-2011, the Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL) worked to extend its offerings to a larger group of faculty and to form new partnerships and strengthen existing ones.

Teaching and Learning

- The Center for Teaching and Learning brought to campus several nationally and internationally recognized speakers. In November 2010, 1996 Nobel Prize Laureate in Chemistry, Sir Harry Kroto spoke with IUPUI faculty and the central Indiana community about science and society in the 21st century. In March 2011, the CTL and Herron School of Art and Design welcomed James Cuno, Ph.D., then president and Eloise W. Martin Director of the Art Institute of Chicago as part of its Winter Lecture Series in which Cuno argued against the prevailing academic critique of museums as instruments of the state and forces for the propagation of the hegemony of the financial and political elite. Finally, James E. Zull, professor of biology and founding director of the University Center for Innovation in Teaching and Education (UCITE) at Case Western Reserve University, was the keynote speaker for the Edward C. Moore Symposium on Excellence in Teaching.
<http://ctl.iupui.edu/winterSeries/2011/>
<http://ctl.iupui.edu/ecmoore/>
- Recipients of the first round of CTL's Curriculum Enhancement Grant (CEG) initiative wrapped up projects in spring 2011 and will present their findings in October 2011 at the inaugural CEG Symposium. In the first round of grants, 15 projects were awarded nearly \$99,000 and involved over 40 faculty members from 10 schools. Awards for the second round of grants were announced in spring 2011 and funded 11 projects for a total of \$84,000. The second round projects involved over 25 faculty members representing nine schools. All CEG funds awarded by CTL were matched by the faculty members' school or department. <http://ctl.iupui.edu/programs/CEG.asp>
- Through the awarding of Learning Environments Grants, the CTL supported the creation of innovative, engaging formal and informal learning environments that meet the needs of both faculty and students. During the 2010-2011 year \$135,462 was awarded to six projects. These projects included: furniture for two general use classrooms, a student learning research facilitation lab within the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences; School of Education classroom redesign and technology upgrade; enhanced learning spaces within the Center for Service Learning; and an environment for global and civically engaged learning located in Cavanaugh Hall.
<http://ctl.iupui.edu/programs/lec.asp>
- In conjunction with University Information Technology Services and the IU School of Medicine, the CTL facilitated two iPad Faculty Learning Communities (FLC). Seventeen faculty members, who responded to a call for proposals, were selected. One FLC was composed of faculty from non-health science fields while the other consisted of faculty engaged in health science education. Both FLCs were charged with investigating the efficacy of using iPads within their instructional contexts and met regularly to share ideas and discuss challenges. As of June 2011, FLC members have given more than 16 invited or peer reviewed presentations regarding their findings. They also generated mid-term and final reports detailing their work.

Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity

- Pratibha Varma-Nelson, Ph.D., executive director of the Center for Teaching and Learning, is the principal investigator on three externally funded projects.
 - *The Role of Centers for Teaching and Learning in the Improvement of Undergraduate Engineering Education*, Award Number: DUE-0958168, \$97,989, was funded by the National Science Foundation, Course Curriculum and Laboratory Improvement program to host a two-day national workshop in Arlington, VA, on the role of teaching centers in improving undergraduate engineering education. <http://ctl.iupui.edu/projects/NSF/>
 - *Cyber PLTL (cPLTL): Development, Implementation, and Evaluation*, Award Number: DUE-0941978, \$200,000, was funded by the National Science Foundation, Course Curriculum and Laboratory Improvement program to produce and study the conditions and tools required for cyberlearning through peer-led team learning.
 - *Cyber Peer-Led Team Learning: Using Communications Technologies to Support Learning and Persistence*. From a pool of more than 600 applicants, the Center for Teaching and Learning, with partners from Purdue University and Florida International University, was one of 29 projects awarded a \$250,000 Next Generation in Learning Challenges grant. The grant will be used to test the transportability of cyber Peer-Led Team Learning. Next Generation Learning Challenges is administered by EDUCAUSE in partnership with the League for Innovation in the Community College, the International Association for K-12 Online Learning (iNACOL), and the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO). Funding is being provided by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation. <http://nextgenlearning.org>
- Publications by CTL staff members included:
 - Stanger-Hall, K.F., **Lang, S.A.**, & Maas, M.M. (2010). Facilitating learning in large lecture classes: Testing the "Teaching Team" approach to peer learning. *CBE Life Sciences Education*, 9(4), 489-503.
 - **Varma-Nelson, P.**, Hundley, S.P., & **Tarr, T.** (2011). The role of centers for teaching and learning in improvement of undergraduate engineering education, *Proceedings of the American Society for Engineering Education Conference*. Washington, DC: American Society for Engineering Education.

External Awards and Appointments

- Professor of Chemistry and Executive Director of the Center for Teaching and Learning, Pratibha Varma-Nelson was awarded the Stanley C. Israel Award for Advancing Diversity in the Chemical Sciences from the American Chemical Society. The award recognizes individuals and/or institutions who have advanced diversity in the chemical sciences and significantly stimulated or fostered activities that promote inclusiveness within the region.
http://portal.acs.org/portal/acs/corg/content?_nfpb=true&_pageLabel=PP_ARTICLEMAIN&node_id=1367&content_id=CNBP_021700&use_sec=true&sec_url_var=region1&_uuiid=6da78e15-3108-4f99-ae58-9d5b86cfec5a