Student Engagement and Learning

Tips from Award Winning Faculty

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To focus on effective practices by:

- Reviewing principles for good practice
- Showing that they are foundational to National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE)
- Focusing on NSSE’s 5 Engagement Indicators
- Offering implementation examples from our colleagues’ classrooms

Session Objective
Did we focus on effective practices?

- Review principles for good practice
- Show that they are foundational to National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE)
- Focus on NSSE’s 5 Engagement Indicators
- Offer implementation examples from colleagues’ classrooms
Principles for Good Practice in Undergraduate Education: F2F* & Online**

- Encourage student-faculty contact
- Encourage cooperation among students
- Encourage active learning
- Give prompt feedback
- Emphasize time on task
- Communicate high expectations
- Respect diverse talents and ways of learning

*Chickering & Gamson (1987)
**Chickering * Ehrmann (1996)
NSSE Engagement Indicators

- Academic challenge
- Learning with peers
- Experiences with faculty
- Supportive campus environment
- High impact practices

http://nsse.iub.edu/nsse-update/
Academic challenges

- Flipping: working genomic problems in class
- Reasoning quantitatively: analyzing real data sets downloaded from research sites
- Meeting accreditation standards
- Online, self-paced homework tutorials
  - Earn partial credit for reworking problems 'til correct
- Course redesigns w/ increased choices
- Responding to questions that puzzled scientists and philosophers hundreds of years ago
How do you challenge students?
Learning with Peers

- LEAD Centers are collaborative
- Civil discussions on controversies (creation science)
- In class debates about newsworthy events
- Group learning with diverse others (goal of cultural competence)
- Discuss clicker question response choices with peers before revealing distribution or answer
- Question your scientific understanding of the world around you
Encourage Peer Interactions
Experiences with Faculty

- Establish “comfort zone” on day one
  - ‘Common quest’ to understand history
  - Long, black shirt (lab coat for history’s *black arts*)
  - Ice breaking survey opens doors to mentoring

- Offer prompt, detailed feedback

- Teach students to self-assess & revise their work before submitting

- Texting questions to prof via internet account

- Interactive lectures
Campus Environment

- Referring students to academic supports on campus
- Connecting to the past (& those different from me) using historical artifacts
- Distribute writing guidelines, study guides unique to course
- Credit for attending relevant campus events
- Requiring use of campus resources (newspapers)
High Impact Practices

- Undergraduate research projects
  - Related projects from a common source (gene families)
- Practicum and internships
- Community-based service or research project
  - URD@Capitol
- Senior Seminar – historical research paper
- Capstone Experience
- Study Abroad