

The Interactive Classroom: Collaboration and Learning in Higher Education

The College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, Massachusetts

8:30-4:30 p.m., Friday, November 15, 2013



The keynote speaker for our conference is Dr. Eric Mazur (Balkanski Professor of Physics and Applied Physics at Harvard University and Area Dean of Applied Physics) who will discuss his Peer Instruction method for teaching large lecture classes interactively. Dr. Mazur's teaching method has developed a large following, both nationally and internationally, and has been adopted across many science disciplines.

The NEFDC welcomes proposals for interactive workshops, teaching tips and poster sessions related to effective programming that reflects how we are designing pedagogy and documenting our approaches to successful learning outcomes for engaged learning.

Topics might include:

- peer instruction
- collaborative, interdisciplinary and/or engaged learning
- learning in the disciplines as well as approaches to general education
- blended and online learning
- transfer and continuation options from high school to higher education (as well as from two- to four-year institutions)
- documenting student outcomes inside and outside the classroom

Guidelines for Session Proposals

When writing a proposal for a session at the NEFDC conference, please keep the following criteria in mind. These criteria will be used by the Conference Committee to select sessions for the conference, and you will receive feedback on your proposal based on these criteria.

- 1. Models Effective Teaching:** As much as possible, we prefer sessions that model effective teaching. If you are advising people to use technology, use that technology to show us. If you are advising the use of active learning, be sure to tell us how you will use it in your session.
- 2. Achieves Stated Outcomes:** In line with our interest in modeling effective teaching, we also want to model achievable learning outcomes. Please be realistic about what your participants and you will achieve in your session.

- 3. Demonstrates Scholarly Teaching:** Where possible, include references to scholarship that you believe supports the topic of the proposed session. Sometimes all you will have (and need) is your own experience, but if you can provide bolstering references, please do.
- 4. Enlarges upon Conference Theme:** When developing a session, keep the conference theme in mind and work to connect the session to it in some way. Sessions that significantly enlarge upon or illustrate the conference theme will be more appealing to the Conference Committee.
- 5. Provides Value:** Always keep in mind the value of your session to the participants. What will they take away from the session? What will they be able to use in their own practice?
- 6. Adheres to Word Count:** In order to judge proposals fairly, we ask that you stay under the requested word count. Proposals that go over the requested number of words may be returned to the submitter for revision.

Please submit your proposal via this [SurveyMonkey form](#) by August 30, 2013. Incomplete proposals will not be reviewed. If you have any questions, please email Dakin Burdick at teaching@endicott.edu

What You'll Need to Enter

Below is a listing of the areas of the online form that you will need to complete. We recommend that you write your initial document in this format before going online, as it will save you time and avoid errors. You will need to submit:

Lead Presenter's First Name
Lead Presenter's Last Name
Lead Presenter's Institutional Affiliation
Lead Presenter's Email Address

First Co-Presenter's First Name
First Co-Presenter's Last Name
First Co-Presenter's Institutional Affiliation
First Co-Presenter's Email Address

Second Co-Presenter's First Name
Second Co-Presenter's Last Name
Second Co-Presenter's Institutional Affiliation
Second Co-Presenter's Email Address

Third Co-Presenter's First Name
Third Co-Presenter's Last Name
Third Co-Presenter's Institutional Affiliation
Third Co-Presenter's Email Address

Note: If you have more than three co-presenters, please list them at the end of this form under "Additional Information for Conference Committee."

Type of Session: Please indicate the type of session you are proposing. You can only choose one type of session. The review panel will contact you if they feel that an alternative session type would be a better fit for the conference.

- **Interactive** – 50 minutes. Presenters provide context, strategy, and outcomes. Participants are engaged in an activity or discussion. These sessions are NOT lectures or readings. Presenters often provide handouts containing resources and contact information.
- **“Teaching Tip”** – 25 minutes. These sessions feature a teaching strategy or tool. Participants are engaged in an activity or discussion. These sessions are NOT lectures or readings. Presenters often provide handouts containing resources and contact information.
- **Interactive Poster** – presented during reception. Posters are displayed during an end-of-the-day reception. Presenters interact with conference attendees.

Proposal Title: Please limit to 60 characters.

Outcomes: Please describe the take-aways or learning outcomes of your session. What will participants be able to do in their classes or at their institutions as a result of your session? Please limit your response to 600 characters.

Abstract: Please describe your session, its relevance to the conference theme, and its value to the participants. Please limit your abstract to 600 characters.

Session Plan: Please describe your plan for running the session. What activities and/or technologies will you be modeling? How much time are you allotting to the various elements of the session? NEFDC participants prefer interactive sessions that include discussion, hands-on activities and opportunities to ask questions. Please limit your descriptions to 2000 characters.

Bibliography: What is the scholarship on which your session is based? Please list the most relevant literature that supports or informs your instructional method. Please limit to 1000 characters.

Additional Information for Conference Committee: Please add any additional information such as co-presenter information, accommodation requests or further information on proposed session here. This information will not be considered in the proposal review process, but will be considered if the proposal is accepted.

Again, if you have any questions, please email Dakin Burdick at teaching@endicott.edu

Thank you!