

Workshop Announcement
PLTL: A student-faculty partnership for transforming the learning environment

August 23, 2011

9 am – 12 pm, Jennings 040

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Peer-Led Team Learning (PLTL) provides students with opportunities for intellectual and personal development as well as a restructuring of their content knowledge. This approach preserves the lecture and introduces a new structure, a weekly two-hour workshop where students interact to solve problems under the guidance of a trained peer leader. Each weekly PLTL workshop centers around carefully constructed problems and activities selected by the instructor in order to address common misconceptions and develop conceptual understanding. An overview of the PLTL model will be presented with emphasis on leader training and assessment of the impact of PLTL on students and peer leaders. A brief discussion of cyberPLTL (cPLTL) will also be included.

Pratibha Varma-Nelson is Professor of Chemistry and the Executive Director of the Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL) at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI). She received her B.Sc. in Chemistry with first class from the University of Pune, India, in 1970 and a Ph.D. in 1978 from the University of Illinois in Chicago in Organic Chemistry. Since 1995, Dr. Varma-Nelson has been involved in the development, implementation and dissemination of the Peer-Led Team Learning (PLTL) model of teaching. Her research group is currently working on development, implementation, evaluation, and dissemination of cyber-PLTL (cPLTL). Varma-Nelson is co-author of several publications about PLTL and has made numerous presentations in national and international venues. She was the co-recipient of the 2008 James Flack Norris award for her role in developing PLTL Workshop model for teaching chemistry courses.

This workshop is co-sponsored by the Center for Life Sciences Education and the Ohio House of Science and Engineering.

Please contact Judy Ridgway (ridgway.14@osu.edu) to reserve a spot in the workshop.