

## Teaching Innovations Program

### Overview

The AEA Committee on Economic Education (CEE) is sponsoring a Teaching Innovations Program (TIP) for college and university economics instructors. TIP seeks to improve undergraduate education in economics by offering instructors an opportunity to expand their teaching skills and participate in the scholarship of teaching and learning. TIP is funded by a five-year grant from the National Science Foundation.

TIP builds on a long history of work by CEE to promote effective teaching of economics including national workshop programs, teaching sessions at the ASSA meetings, support for regional workshops, and publication of *Teaching Undergraduate Economics: A Handbook for Instructors* by Walstad and Saunders.

TIP will benefit participants and their home institutions. It will help instructors improve their teaching skills and document their commitment to teaching. It will help colleges and universities raise the quality of economics instruction.

### Program Objectives

By participating in TIP, instructors should expect to:

- Understand why and how interactive teaching and learning benefit students.
- Translate knowledge about student learning into effective teaching strategies.
- Develop a plan for using interactive learning in their classrooms.
- Adapt teaching strategies presented in the program for use in their own courses.
- Assess student outcomes that result from using interactive learning.
- Prepare effective interactive exercises for student learning.
- Work in teams to enhance the benefits of the program.
- Engage in an on-going dialogue on teaching and learning with participants and program personnel.
- Participate in the scholarship of teaching and learning by preparing and presenting papers related to pedagogy and practice developed during the program.

## Who Should Apply

The program will help novice and experienced instructors introduce interactive teaching and learning into their courses. Preference will be given to applicants who:

- Describe a course in which they intend to implement interactive learning in the term following the workshop.
- Include a letter of support from their department chair indicating that their Department supports the efforts of the applicant and that the applicant is scheduled to teach the course they describe.
- Have not previously participated in a residential teaching workshop sponsored by CEE.
- Express an interest in participating in phases two and three of the program.

**Minority Recruitment:** TIP will actively recruit women and minority economists. Our budget includes funds to provide partial travel support for participants from U.S. DOE Accredited Post-Secondary Minority Institutions.

**Workshop Costs:** Program funds will pay for lodging on Friday and Saturday, meals except Saturday dinner, and for program materials. Participants pay a \$100.00 program fee and provide their own transportation.

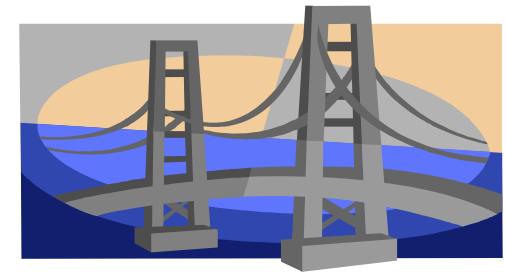
**Application Process:** To apply, applicants must:

1. Complete and submit the application form available at [www.vanderbilt.edu/AEA/AEACEE/TIP.htm](http://www.vanderbilt.edu/AEA/AEACEE/TIP.htm).
2. Send an electronic copy of the department chair support letter described above (separately or with application).
3. Pay a \$100 program fee. (Send a check payable to *the University of Nebraska-Lincoln* to William Walstad, Department of Economics, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, NE 68588-0402.) We treat applications as incomplete until we receive the check. We will refund the fee if we do not accept you or if you withdraw before March 3, 2009. If you withdraw after March 3, you forfeit the fee.

**Acceptance:** Applications for the Program will be accepted between September 2, 2008 and January 16, 2009. A rolling admissions procedure will be used. Some slots will be held open until after the 2009 ASSA Meetings.

## Teaching Innovations Program Fifth and Final Year–2009

**Workshops for Economics Faculty on  
Interactive Teaching in Undergraduate Economics**



*Bridging the Gap between Current and Best Practice*

### 2009 Workshop Locations

Hotel Santa Fe, Santa Fe, New Mexico  
June 5-7, 2009

Chicago Marriott Suites O'Hare, Rosemont, Illinois  
June 12-14, 2009

### Sponsored By

The Committee on Economic Education  
Of the American Economic Association

### Funded By

The National Science Foundation

### TIP Web Site

[www.vanderbilt.edu/AEA/AEACEE/TIP.htm](http://www.vanderbilt.edu/AEA/AEACEE/TIP.htm)

### ASSA Meetings

Program staff will report on TIP at the 2009 ASSA Meetings in San Francisco. Please consult the conference schedule to confirm the time and place.

**For More Information and to Complete an Application**

Email [tipecon@unlnotes.unl.edu](mailto:tipecon@unlnotes.unl.edu) or visit the TIP Web Site.

## Teaching Innovations Program Particulars

**Phase One** is participation in a three-day workshop. At the workshop, participants are introduced to interactive teaching strategies and plan to implement them. Each workshop participant is invited to participate in phases two and three of the project. Although participation in phases two and three is not required, we give preference to applicants who indicate that they intend to participate in phases two and three.

**Phase Two** is participation in web-based instruction that occurs in the following academic year. Participants complete two modules that help them introduce interactive teaching strategies in a course they are teaching. They review instructional materials, prepare learning exercises for their courses, use their newly created materials in teaching, and complete an assessment designed to help them improve the new materials and their use. During phase two, participants communicate with teammates and program experts. Participants who attend the workshop and complete two follow-on modules receive from the Committee on Economic Education a Certificate of Achievement that they can use as tangible evidence of their dedication to teaching.

**Phase Three** is participation in the scholarship of teaching and learning. TIP organizes sessions at ASSA and regional association meetings devoted to papers on teaching prepared by program participants. TIP also creates opportunities for participants to share ideas and receive feedback about their papers and teaching strategies.

### Acclaim for TIP

Participants at eight earlier workshops rated them highly.

- Seventy-nine percent of participants rated the workshop a better use of their time than their next best alternative (and nineteen percent said it was at least as good a use of their time).
- One participant said that the workshop “was one of the TOP experiences that I have had in a conference in my professional career...a super learning environment.”
- Another said “I believe my time spent in these last two days was the best time invested in my teaching career.”
- Ninety-three percent of participants indicated that as a result of the TIP workshop, they were highly likely to participate in phase two of the program.

## Support from Economics Department Chairs

Department chairs believe that TIP and its Certificate of Achievement have high value.

- Sixty-eight percent said that receipt of the certificate would strengthen a candidate’s case for promotion and tenure.
- Eighty percent said they would recommend that young faculty participate in the workshop and follow through to earn a certificate of achievement.

## Typical Workshop Schedule

### Friday

1:00 – 1:45	Workshop Overview
1:45 – 2:30	Team Assignment
2:30 – 3:00	Break
3:00 – 4:15	Outcome Assessment
4:15 – 5:30	Experiments
5:30 – 6:30	Social Hour
6:30	Dinner

### Saturday

8:00 – 8:30	Breakfast
8:30 – 9:00	Team Reports
9:00 – 10:15	Interpretive Questions and Discussion
10:15 – 10:45	Break
10:45 – 12:00	Cooperative Learning
12:00 – 1:00	Lunch
1:00 – 2:15	Context Rich Problems <sup>Chicago</sup>
	Or
	Interactive Learning in Large Classes <sup>SFe</sup>
2:15 – 2:45	Break
2:45 – 4:00	Case Studies <sup>Chicago</sup>
	Or
	Teaching with Clickers <sup>Santa Fe</sup>

### Sunday

8:00 – 8:30	Breakfast
8:30 – 9:30	Phase Two and Blackboard
9:30 – 10:15	Participant Teaching Ideas
10:15 – 10:45	Break
10:45 – 11:45	Team Assignment
11:45 – 12:00	Workshop Evaluation
12:00 – 1:00	Optional Lunch

## Program Instructors

**Patrick Conway** is Bowman and Gordon Gray Professor of Economics and Director of the Center for Faculty Excellence at UNC-Chapel Hill. He is the TIP expert on case use.

**Tisha Emerson** is Associate Professor of Economics at Baylor University. She is a TIP expert on classroom games and participated in the 2007 TIP workshop in Santa Barbara.

**Denise Hazlett** is Professor of Economics at Whitman College. She is a TIP expert on classroom games and has received NSF funding to design classroom experiments.

**Gail Hoyt** is Professor of Economics at the University of Kentucky. She is a specialist in using interactive learning techniques in large lecture settings.

**Kirsten Madden** is Associate Professor of Economics at Millersville University. She is a TIP expert on discussion and participated in the 2006 TIP Workshop in Santa Fe.

**Mark Maier** is Professor of Economics at Glendale Community College. He is a TIP expert on context rich problems and author of *The Data Game*.

**KimMarie McGoldrick** is Professor of Economics at the University of Richmond, TIP expert on cooperative learning and recipient of the Virginia Outstanding Faculty Award.

**Robert Rebelein** is Assistant Professor of Economics at Vassar. He is a TIP expert on classroom games and participated in the 2005 TIP Workshop at Georgetown.

**Michael Salemi, TIP Co-PI**, is Bowman and Gordon Gray Professor of Economics at UNC-Chapel Hill and co-author of *Discussing Economics: A Classroom Guide*.

**William Walstad, TIP PI**, is Hay Professor of Economics at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and co-editor, *Teaching Undergraduate Economics: A Handbook for Instructors*.

### Workshop Experience

All workshop staff have organized and presented at a wide variety of educational programs and conferences. Since 1990, Salemi and Walstad have directed Programs funded by the Lilly Foundation and the Calvin K. Kazanjian Economics Foundation, Inc.