

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 both participating faculty and their home institutions. It will help instructors improve their teaching skills and document their commitment to teaching. It will help colleges and universities by raising the quality of economics instruction that students receive.

Program Objectives

By participating in TIP, instructors should expect to:

- Understand why and how interactive teaching and learning benefits 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 learning exercises.
- 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.

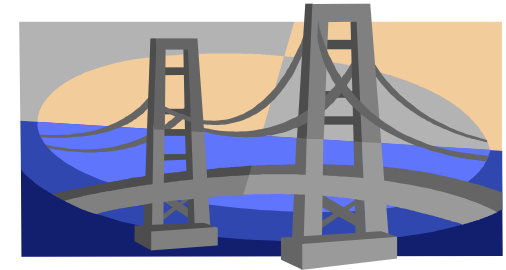
Application Process: To apply, applicants must:

1. Complete and submit the application form that is available at www.vanderbilt.edu/AEA/AEACEE.
2. Attach to the application an electronic copy of the department chair support letter described above.
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 1, 2006. If you withdraw after March 1, you forfeit the fee.

Acceptance: Applications for the Program will be accepted between October 1, 2005 and January 31, 2006. A rolling admissions procedure will be used. Some slots will not be filled until after the 2006 ASSA Meetings.

Teaching Innovations Program Year Two–2006

Workshops for Economics Faculty on Interactive Teaching in Undergraduate Economics



Bridging the Gap Between Current and Best Practice

2006 Workshop Locations

Chicago Marriott Suites O'Hare, Rosemont, Illinois
May 19-21, 2006

Hotel Santa Fe, Santa Fe, New Mexico
June 2-4, 2006

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

ASSA Meetings

Program staff will report on TIP at the 2006 ASSA Meetings in Boston. The session is scheduled for 10:15 on January 7, 2006. Please consult the conference schedule to confirm the time and place.

For More Information and to Complete an Application

Email tipecon@unlnotes.unl.edu or visit the TIP Web Site.

Teaching Innovation Program Particulars

Phase One is participation in a three-day workshop. At the workshop, participants will plan to implement interactive teaching strategies. Each workshop participant will have the opportunity to participate in phases two and three of the project. Although participation in phases two and three is not required, preference is given to applicants who indicate that they intend to participate in phases two and three.

Phase Two is participation in web-based instruction that occurs at the beginning of the following term. Participants complete two modules that help them introduce interactive teaching strategies in a course they are teaching. They will review instructional materials, prepare learning exercises for their own courses, teach using their newly created materials, and complete an assessment designed to help them improve the new materials and their use. During phase two, participants will be in communication with participant teammates and with program experts who introduced the interactive strategy at the workshop. Participants who attend the workshop and complete two follow-on modules will 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. The program Co-PIs will organize sessions at the ASSA meetings and at regional economics meetings devoted to papers on teaching prepared by participants. They will also create opportunities for participants to share ideas and receive feedback about their papers and their teaching strategies.

Acclaim for CEE Programs

Participants at 2005 TIP workshops rated them highly.

- 81 percent of participants rated the workshop a better use of their time than their next best alternative (and 18 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.”
- 93 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 Economic 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.

Workshop Schedule*

Friday

1:00 – 1:45	Workshop Overview
1:45 – 2:30	Team Assignment One
2:30 – 3:00	Break
3:00 – 4:15	Cooperative Learning
4:15 – 5:30	Classroom 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	Writing as Interactive Learning
12:00 - 1:00	Lunch
1:00 - 2:15	Strategies for Large Enrollment Classes
2:15 - 2:45	Break
2:45 - 4:00	Assessment of Learning Outcomes
4:00 - 5:00	Team Assignment Two

Sunday

8:00 - 8:30	Breakfast
8:30 - 9:00	Team Reports
9:00 - 10:15	Phase Two and Blackboard
10:15 - 10:45	Break
10:45 - 11:45	Team Assignment Three
11:45 - 12:00	Workshop Evaluation
12:00 - 1:00	Optional Lunch

*The schedule is indicative of but not identical to the schedule for any specific workshop.

Program Instructors

Denise Hazlett is Associate Professor of Economics at Whitman College in Walla Walla, Washington. She has received NSF funding to design classroom experiments, received Perry Research and Abshire Scholar Awards from Whitman College, and has authored exercises for Aplia, Inc.

Mark Maier is Professor of Economics at Glendale Community College in California. He is co-principle investigator for two NSF grants on economics education and the author of *The Data Game: Controversies in Social Science Statistics* and articles on cooperative learning.

KimMarie McGoldrick is Associate Professor of Economics at the University of Richmond. She is a specialist in co-operative learning strategies and is co-editor with Andrea Ziegert of *Putting the Invisible Hand to Work: Concepts and Models of Service Learning in Economics*.

Michael Salemi, Co-PI, is Bowman and Gordon Gray Professor of Economics at the UNC-Chapel Hill. He is past chair of the CEE. With Lee Hansen, Salemi recently published *Discussing Economics: A Classroom Guide to Preparing Discussion Questions and Leading Discussions*.

William Walstad, Co-PI, is John T. and Mable M. Hay Professor of Economics. He is chair of the CEE and an associate editor of the *Journal of Economic Education*. He is co-editor with Phillip Saunders of *Teaching Undergraduate Economics: A Handbook for Instructors*.

Workshop Experience

Michael Salemi and William Walstad directed the 1992-94 CEE Teacher Training Program funded by the Lilly Foundation and the 1996-98 Active Learning Workshop and the 2000-03 Regional Workshop Program funded by the Calvin K. Kazanjian Economics Foundation. Denise Hazlett co-taught an NSF Chautauqua short course and has organized many conference sessions on classroom experiments. Mark Maier organizes the annual poster session on active learning sponsored by CEE at the ASSA meetings. KimMarie McGoldrick co-directed a 2000 workshop on integrating service-learning in economics courses and co-directs the Teaching Workshop for economists held annually in Wilmington, North Carolina.