

Columbia Center for Teaching and Learning

University Senate Plenary, November 20, 2015

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Provost Faculty Advisory Committee on Online Learning: Leading Recommendation

Columbia should establish a Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL)

The CTL will provide support for schools, departments, faculty, and graduate students to:

- Improve and advance teaching
- Share best practices
- Promote innovations in pedagogy, curriculum and the use of technology

Peers Benefited from Centralized Support

Institutions with University Level CTLs

Harvard University
Stanford University
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Brown University
California Institute of Technology
Cornell University
Carnegie Mellon University
University of California Berkeley
University of Chicago
University of Michigan Ann Arbor
University of Pennsylvania
New York University
Georgia Institute of Technology
University of Texas Austin
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

All of our peers have established campus-wide CTLs:

- Oldest: U Michigan 50+ years
- Most recent: U Chicago 2013-14

Columbia's previous approach:
Decentralized arrangement of local and heterogeneous school-based units

Columbia University and Affiliates

Columbia Business School
Samberg Institute for Teaching Excellence

Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
Graduate Student Teaching Center

Columbia Center for New Media Teaching and Learning

Teachers College
Office of Teacher Education

The Center for Teaching and Learning was officially launched on September 15th, 2015





COLUMBIA | CTL

Center for Teaching and Learning



Cartesian View of Learning

knowledge as
substance



and pedagogy as knowledge transfer

Brown & Adler, 2008

The Social View of Learning

we participate, therefore we are



understanding is socially constructed

Trends/Forces:

- Specialization
- Globalization
- Technology
- Collaboration



How students experience faculty in our current participatory culture:

The importance of authentic...

- Passion for the subject matter
- Respect for students
- Interest in student development
- Interest in students' epistemology
- Attempts to make disciplinary questions come alive

Kilgo *et al.* (2014)

Most important factors for successful student learning outcomes*

- Higher-order cognitive work including analysis, synthesis, and application
- Diversity experiences
- Co-curricular experiences
- Peer interactions
- Academic challenge
- High-impact practices
- Teaching clarity and organization

CTL



ACTIVATE

Explore student-centered pedagogy



DESIGN

Develop a new project



EXPERIMENT

Analyze new instructional ideas



SHOWCASE

Share best practices



PRODUCE

Use multimedia to enhance online learning



COLLABORATE

Partner with us-
set up a consultation

PROGRAMS for faculty/graduate TAs

- Workshops:
 - blended learning
 - case studies in the sciences
 - teamwork
 - informal early feedback
 - inclusive teaching
 - communication
 - contemplative pedagogy
- Teaching institutes
- Teaching Certificate Programs
- Diversity training
- Mentoring Programs

INDIVIDUAL SERVICES for faculty/graduate TAs

- Teaching observations
- Course evaluation and feedback
- Course and curriculum design
- Innovative projects and assignments
- Communications and presentations
- Documenting teaching effectiveness; teaching statements and portfolios
- Grant writing workshops

The Social View of Learning

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The Core Curriculum

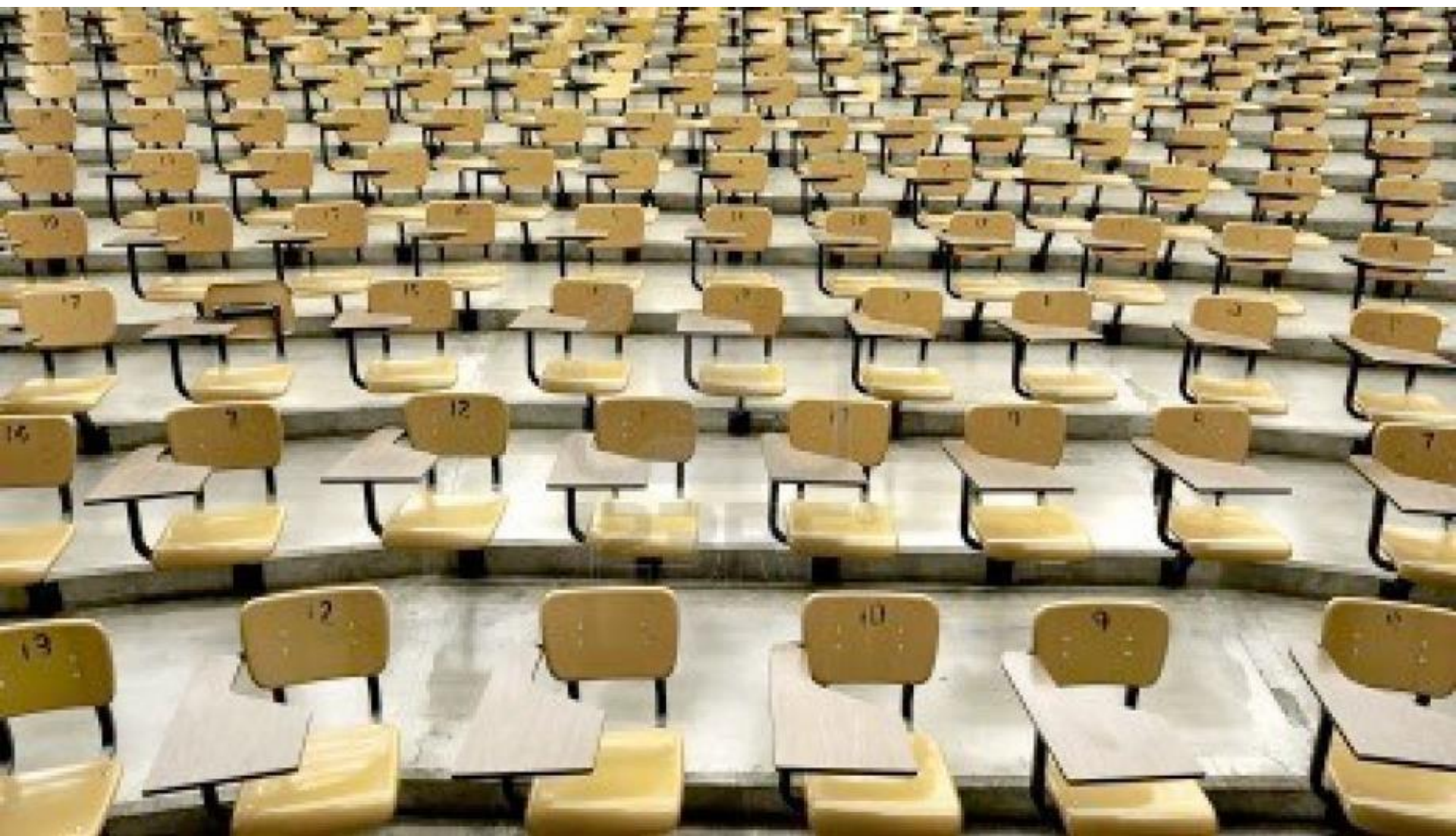
- Communal learning
- Critical dialogue
- Personally transformative
- Human experience

One of the primary reasons students leave STEM is because of their experiences in large, introductory courses

National attrition rates*

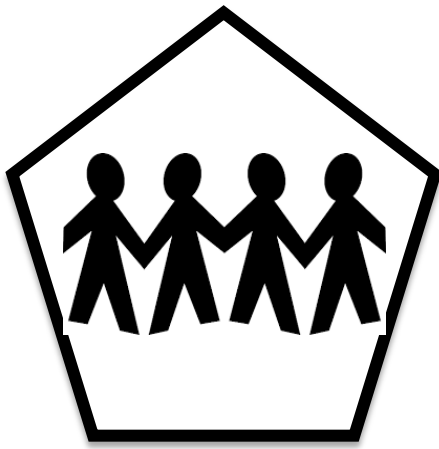
- All students: 60%
- Underrepresented minorities: 80%

*2013 data from Higher Education Research Institute as reported by HHMI.

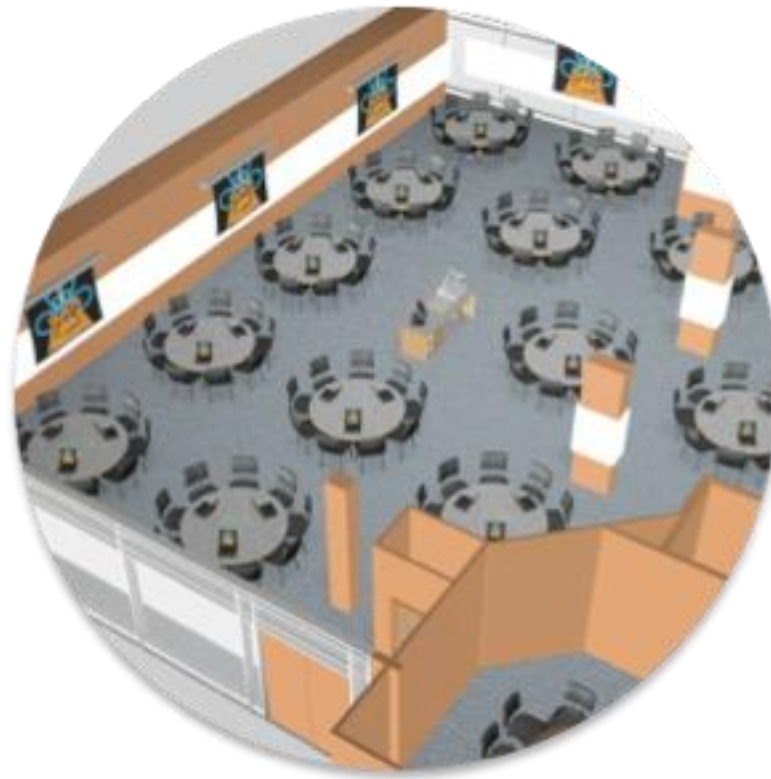


Active, collaborative learning environments





Communication, collaborative learning



Future partnerships with undergraduate students

- Students as collaborators in course redesign
- Learn to learn workshops
- Peer learning
- Digital literacy
- Communication and presentation workshops
- Teamwork workshops
- Facilitator training

<http://ctl.columbia.edu/>