

Dear Colleague:

I am writing to invite you to participate in a workshop on the incorporation of active learning exercises into the classroom and laboratory of chemistry courses focusing on instrumental or quantitative analytical methods (e.g. quantitative analysis, instrumental analysis, environmental chemistry, forensics).

We will be offering two workshops in 2017:

Sun. June 11 (starting at 8 am) through Wed., June 14 (ending at noon); Washington University St. Louis.

Mon. July 17 (starting at 8 am) through Thurs., July 20 (ending at noon), Indiana University, Bloomington.

If you do not teach analytical chemistry courses, I would appreciate your help bringing this opportunity to the attention of the faculty members or instructional staff at your institution who do teach those courses. Teams of participants from the same institution are encouraged. A grant from the National Science Foundation will enable us to cover travel (airfare or mileage), the cost of on-site housing, and almost all of the on-site meals. Participants will only need to cover minor expenses associated with items like airport parking, tolls, meals in route, and travel from the airport to the meeting location.

Attendees at one of the national workshops are expected to participate in a smaller regional workshop that will take place in the fall of 2018. In addition, attendees are expected to host one of the workshop facilitators on a campus visit during the 2018-2019 academic year. Funds from our NSF grant will cover the costs of attending the regional workshop and the campus visitor.

This workshop is an outcome of a curriculum development initiative affiliated with the Analytical Sciences Digital Library (<http://www.asdlib.org>). Faculty members from over 20 institutions have been developing active learning materials for use in the classroom and laboratory of undergraduate analytical chemistry courses and making them freely available through the Active Learning section of the ASDL website (<http://community.asdlib.org/activelearningmaterials/>). Included in these materials are questions for assessment of student learning.

Our expectation is that each workshop participant leaves the national workshop with at least one active learning exercise that they will use in the 2017-18 academic year. Exercises can be chosen from those available on the ASDL site or participants can develop new active learning exercises. Exercises available on the ASDL site are written in such a way that they can be tailored to individual instructor's interests through modification or usage of only a portion of the full module. Participants can spend time afforded by the workshop modifying activities they already use in their courses to make them more active in their approach. The workshop will be facilitated by faculty members who use active learning exercises in the classroom and/or laboratory of their courses.

Facilitators will help with the development and modification of active learning exercises.

Another focus of the workshop will be on the role of faculty in the effective use of active learning exercises. Participants and facilitators will share and discuss their experiences, challenges and successes in using active learning.

If you are interested in participating in the workshop, respond to Tom Wenzel (twenzel@bates.edu) by Friday, February 17 with information on the following items. If more than one faculty member from your institution is interested in attending as a team, a joint response may be provided.

1. Indicate your availability for one or both of the sessions.
2. A current CV
3. The analytical chemistry or related courses you regularly teach and their approximate enrollment.
4. A brief description of any prior experience you may have with the use of active learning in the classroom and laboratory (prior experience is not required).
5. Any additional information you wish to provide about why you are interested in participating in the workshop.

Please feel free to contact me about any questions you may have about the workshop.

Sincerely,
Tom Wenzel
Charles A. Dana Professor of Chemistry
Bates College
Lewiston, Maine