

2017

Thursday – Saturday | June 1st – 3rd
Northeastern Illinois University
Chicago, Illinois, USA | Sixth Annual Conference

Peer-Led Team Learning International Society

*Integrating
Research
and
Practice:
PLTL in
Action*





Welcome from President Richard J. Helldobler



On behalf of Northeastern Illinois University, I would like to welcome the Peer-Led Team Learning International Society's Sixth Annual Conference to our University and Chicago. We are proud to be your host during the next few days and hope that you have a productive conference.

Speaking of pride, we are incredibly proud of our city. We could go on about Chicago's great traditions, food, architecture, and people, but our natural Midwestern modesty keeps us from elaborating. However, we are not shy about saying how proud we are of our University. Northeastern Illinois University -- with its 10,000 students -- is recognized as the most diverse public university in the Midwest, and we are known for having graduated the highest percentage of students with the lowest amount of debt.

Northeastern is very pleased to work in partnership with PLTL International Society participants. As an institution whose mission is to provide an exceptional environment for learning, teaching and scholarship, we have a lot in common with PLTLIS, and together we will make progress toward providing educational excellence.

Once again, I want to warmly welcome you to Northeastern Illinois University and wish you a very successful conference.

Sincerely,
Richard J. Helldobler, Ph.D.
Interim President
Northeastern Illinois University





Conference Information



Conference Registration Information

The conference team will be happy to help with any questions you may have. The registration desk is situated within Student Union in the main hall. The desk hours are as follows:

Thursday, June 1st: 8:30 AM – 10:00 AM; 12:30 PM – 3:30 PM

Friday, June 2nd: 8:30 AM – 10:00 AM

Saturday, June 3rd: 8:30 AM – 10:00 AM



At the registration desk you will receive your conference badge. Please ensure that you wear your conference badge at all times. Details of all conference sessions can be found in this handbook.

Session Changes

We will try to keep session changes to a minimum but inevitably there may be some last minute changes. Any information about changes to sessions will be announced and posted at the registration desk.

Session Etiquette

We ask that all participants ensure that any personal electronic device is used with respect for session presenters and fellow participants, by turning devices to vibrate or silent mode. We would also request that participants avoid moving between rooms once a presentation has started.

Internet Access

Complimentary open access Wi-Fi is available throughout the conference site. To access the university Wi-Fi, no password is required. You may use the open access Wi-Fi network named:

NEIU Unsecure Open Access



Conference Information



Peer Leader Discussion with PLTLIS Peer Leader Board Member

On Thursday at 3:45pm, during the Networking Break, Usman Hyder will host a discussion for Peer Leaders, where the Peer Leaders will meet to discuss goals for next year as well as develop a strategy to get Peer Leaders more involved with PLTLIS throughout the year. We will also be electing a second Peer Leader Student Representative to serve a two-year term on the PLTLIS board. The meeting will be held in SU 214.

Feedback

As part of PLTLIS's commitment to our delegates, we look to ensure the highest quality programming and continuous improvement for our events. We would like to express our appreciation in advance for your participation in this process. Not only do we use this feedback for the future design of our annual conference, we also look to this event to identify exceptional themes and talent that will influence the design of our programming throughout the year. Please use the QR Code below to fill out the conference feedback survey once you have completed your experience at the conference.

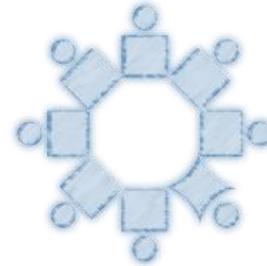


Session Evaluation

For each session, there will be a short session evaluation form available for the delegates to provide informative feedback and suggestions. At the end of the list of Oral Presentations, Workshops, and Poster Presentations there is a QR Code which will take you to the survey form. This list is a separate packet from the main program handbook. In the form, you will choose the session you wish to comment on. Available upon request, a physical copy of the form can be provided. In order to maintain anonymity, we ask that the delegates return the session evaluation forms to the session moderator or to the registration desk. PLTLIS will review the session evaluation results in conjunction with the overall conference feedback. In addition, the results will be compiled into reports, including written comments, and sent to the session speakers and facilitators. Again, thank you for your engagement in this process.



Conference Information



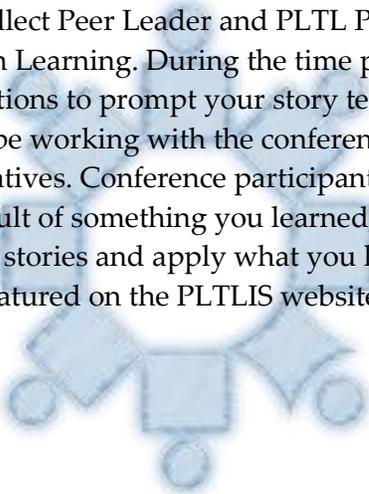
Panel Discussion Question Submission

On Saturday, June 3rd PLTLIS will host a panel discussion entitled: ***Sustaining Your PLTL Program: Four Models for Continued Support***. The featured panelist from across the country will discuss their unique approaches towards sustainability and institutionalization of PLTL programs within different disciplines. We are providing all conference participants the opportunity to submit questions ahead of time. At the end of the panel discussion page of the handbook there is a QR Code and a link which will take you to the question submission form.



Testimonial Booth: Tell Us Your Story

A video testimonial booth will be set-up near the registration table. The purpose of the booth is to collect Peer Leader and PLTL Practitioner's stories about their experience with Peer-Led Team Learning. During the time period noted below a moderator will be available to ask questions to prompt your story telling procedure. Our plenary speaker Marymoore Patterson will be working with the conference participants to help construct and deliver personal narratives. Conference participants will develop the story of why you are here, what changed as a result of something you learned, and why it matters. We would like to encourage you to share your stories and apply what you learned from the plenary workshop. These testimonials may be featured on the PLTLIS website.





Conference Information



Social Media

We encourage all participants to share their pictures, videos, and tweets through social media. The social media hashtag for the 2017 Peer-Led Team Learning International Society Conference is:

#PLTLIS2017

We also encourage you to use the hashtag #PLTL throughout the conference.

We also request that you send any pictures you take after the conference to pltlissocialmedia@outlook.com. PLTLIS would love to post your photos and videos on our website (www.pltlis.com) as well as our other social media accounts.

Follow PLTLIS on our other social media accounts to stay up to date with us throughout the year:

Facebook: PLTLIS Peer Leaders

Twitter: @PLTLIS

Instagram: @PLTLIS

Campus Map

A campus map is provided in your conference packet. There are also maps available at the registration desk along with helpful people to guide you to where you need go. There is also a 3D campus map available on the Northeastern Illinois University website:

<http://www.neiu.edu/brand/graphic-elements/university-maps>

Welcome

Welcome to Chicago, PLTLIS Practitioners!

We are so happy to be here in Chicago with you! I am honored to welcome you to the Peer-Led Team Learning International Society's 6th Annual Conference.



If you are a first-time attendee, you are in for a treat. Our PLTLIS conferences have a relaxed, friendly atmosphere which is conducive to sharing resources and ideas. Whether you are new to our conference or a returning attendee - we hope that you will be inspired in your practice while networking with other PLTL practitioners and enjoying the windy city! Ask our veteran attendees anything, we are here to make you feel comfortable.

This year we are focused on "Integrating Research and Practice: PLTL in Action." The sessions you will enjoy over the next few days are centered in current research, training/evaluation, trends in peer learning, and technology in teaching and learning. You will return home with some new ideas for practice to enhance your PLTL program on your campus and increase student success.

The Conference Committee, headed by José Alberte and Marcelo Sztainberg, Conference Co-chairs, have coordinated three days of programming with something for everyone, whether novice or long-time practitioners. We'll kick off on Thursday with an institute on establishing a PLTL program. On Thursday, you will learn about how Title IX impacts peer learning practices and receive valuable training information. We hope that you will end your day enjoying some of the marvelous food that Chicago has to offer on your Night on the Town. On Friday, you will hear from our keynote speaker, Marymoore Patterson, who will inspire us to *tell our stories!* Don't forget to stop by our *Storytelling* booth to capture yours. You will hear exciting updates on the practice of cyber PLTL. We will conclude the day with our annual Poster Presentation reception. An exciting feature is that a judging committee will review posters and a select group of students will to give a mini presentation on Saturday. You will have the opportunity to learn about our *Working Groups*. There is something for everyone and we hope that all students and professionals will join one of our groups before you leave! We have workshops, oral presentations and poster sessions follow over the next two days.

Thank you so much to the Executive Board and Conference Committee members who have put in countless hours over the past twelve months to create an exciting, informative, inspiring conference for you. My wish is that you will leave Chicago with a new perspective, ready to integrate into practice lessons learned to refresh your PLTL program or that you will be inspired to establish PLTL on your campus. Most of all, we hope that you leave with some new friends.

Enjoy the next few days and thank you so much for being a part of PLTLIS.

Kimshi Hickman
PLTLIS President



Program Overview

Day One

▪ THURSDAY ▪ JUNE 1, 2017 ▪		Location
8:30 AM – 9:00 AM	Breakfast	Alumni Hall North
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM	▪ Workshop ▪ <i>Introduction to PLTL</i> AE Dreyfuss & Mitsue Nakamura	Alumni Hall North
12:00 PM – 1:00 PM	Lunch	Alumni Hall North
▪ Welcoming Remarks ▪		
1:00 PM – 1:30 PM	Kimshi Hickman, President, PLTLIS Marcelo Sztainberg, Conference Host, NEIU Richard J. Helldobler, President, NEIU Jose Alberte, Conference Chair, PLTLIS	Alumni Hall North
▪ Workshop ▪		
1:30 PM – 2:30 PM	<i>Title IX and Peer Leaders</i> Brandy Davis	Alumni Hall South
2:30 PM – 2:45 PM	Break	-
2:45 PM – 3:45 PM	▪ Oral Presentations & Workshops I ▪	SU 214, SU 003
3:45 PM – 4:15 PM	▪ Networking Break ▪	-
▪ Workshops ▪		
4:15 PM – 5:30 PM	I. <i>Quiet Participation: Techniques of Engagement</i> AE Dreyfuss	I: SU 214
	II. <i>How to Effectively Observe a Workshop: A Scaffolded Training Module for Peer Leaders</i> Jose Alberte	II: SU 003



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Program Overview

Day Two

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▪ FRIDAY ▪ JUNE 2, 2017 ▪		Location
8:30 AM – 9:00 AM	Breakfast	Alumni Hall South
▪ Welcoming Remarks ▪		
9:00 AM – 9:30 AM	Kimshi Hickman, President, PLTLIS Victoria Roman-Lagunas, Provost, NEIU	Alumni Hall South
▪ Featured Plenary Workshop ▪		
9:30 AM – 12:15 PM	<i>Lead with a Story</i> Marymoore Patterson	Alumni Hall North
12:30 PM – 1:15 PM	Lunch	Alumni Hall North
▪ Featured Workshop ▪		
1:15 PM – 2:30 PM	<i>How do we know if PLTL worked anyway?</i> Grant Fore & Anthony Chase	Alumni Hall North
2:30 PM – 2:45 PM	Break	-
▪ Oral Presentations & Workshops II ▪		
2:45 PM – 3:45 PM		SU 214, SU 003
3:45 PM – 4:00 PM	Break	-
▪ Featured Workshop ▪		
4:00 PM – 5:15 PM	<i>Replicating Peer-Led Team Learning in Cyberspace: Research, Opportunities, and Challenges</i> Pratibha Varma-Nelson	Alumni Hall North
▪ Poster Presentations & Reception ▪		
5:30 PM – 7:30 PM		Alumni Hall South

Program Overview

Day Three

▪ SATURDAY ▪ JUNE 3, 2017 ▪		Location
8:30 AM – 9:00 AM	Breakfast	Student Union Cafeteria
▪ Panel Discussion ▪		
9:00 AM – 10:00 AM	<i>Sustaining Your PLTL Program: Four Models for Continued Support</i> Jose Alberte, Florida International University, Miami, Florida Jim Becvar, University of Texas at El Paso, El Paso, Texas Kimshi Hickman, University of Texas at Dallas, Richardson, Texas Mitsue Nakamura, University of Houston, Downtown, Houston, Texas	Student Union Cafeteria
10:00 AM – 10:15 AM	Break	-
10:15 AM – 11:30 AM	▪ Oral Presentations & Workshops II ▪	SU 0003, FA 107
11:30 AM – 12:15 PM	▪ PLTLIS Working Groups ▪	Student Union Cafeteria, SU 003
12:15 PM – 12:45 PM	▪ Peer Leader Mini-Presentations ▪	SU 003
12:45 PM – 1:30 PM	Conference Closing Remarks Kimshi Hickman Lunch	Student Union Cafeteria
1:30 PM – 6:00PM	Meeting of the Peer-Led Team Learning International Society Board of Directors	CBM 162 A/B

Plenary Speaker

▪ *Workshop: Lead with a Story* ▪

Becoming a leader begins with understanding your own story. In accessing the unique experiences from your life that shaped your dreams and values, you breathe life into your teaching and leading, and inspire others with hope and transformation. In this workshop, Marymoore Patterson, MA, MBA, will coach you through developing the content, structure, and delivery of a story from your life that shaped who you are as a learner, peer leader, or peer leader mentor or colleague. You will develop the story of why you are here, what changed as a result of something you learned, and why it matters. This tool is one critical bridge between research and practice that you can take to all of your other work. In the workshop, you will be invited to craft and tell the story of a turning point moment when you blossomed as a learner, peer leader, or mentor or colleague of a peer leader.

Marymoore Patterson is an innovation strategist, design researcher, ethnographer, and storyteller, with 25 years of experience in keeping high tech human.



She's a big fan of emerging technology, human-centered design, and solving problems that matter. She believes that innovation is essentially about telling new stories, and that the best innovations and stories create hope and transformation. She also believes that everyone has a powerful story to tell and that everyone's story matters. Marymoore holds an MA and MBA and has spent a lot of her life in China and Japan (and speaks and translates from both languages). In her spare moments, she hangs with her husband and three daughters, practices creative writing, and rocks out with her band the Party Ants.

Featured Workshop

▪ *How do we Know if PLTL Worked Anyway?* ▪

This workshop is designed to help educators implementing PLTL programming consider best practices for program evaluation and assessment. Evaluation and assessment are concerned with the process of determining whether student learning objectives and/or desired course outcomes are met. We will address the following questions:

- How do you develop an evaluation plan?
- What is formative versus summative evaluation?
- What are common data collection techniques?
- What are acceptable data analysis procedures?
- How can you ensure that your results are reliable?
- What should you do with your findings?

Evaluation of PLTL will further be explored in terms of the critical components highlighted by Gafney and Varma-Nelson (2008). We will provide at least a quarter of the time for question and answer.



Anthony Chase is an Evaluation Specialist in the STEM Education Innovation and Research Institute (SEIRI) at IUPUI. His expertise is in Research Methodology and Assessment. He studied Chemical Education during his bachelor's program at the University of Nebraska as well as his master's program at Purdue University. His Ph.D. is in Educational Psychology and Research Methodology. His published work has been focused around chemistry laboratory assessment.

Grant A. Fore is a Research Associate in the STEM Education Innovation & Research Institute at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis. He is also a doctoral candidate at the University of Cape Town in South Africa, where he received his MA in Social Anthropology in 2012. His current research focuses on processes of ethical becoming amongst students participating in engineering courses that utilize community-engaged pedagogical methods.



Featured Workshop

- *Replicating Peer-Led Team Learning in Cyberspace: Research, Opportunities, and Challenges* ▪

Peer-Led Team Learning (PLTL) is a pedagogy that encourages students taking STEM classes to be more active in their own learning, thus improving their problem-solving skills, ability to work in teams, and success in introductory science courses. This talk will present a brief overview of the PLTL research before describing the development and evaluation of cPLTL, the online adaptation of PLTL. The presentation will conclude with the description of the mixed methods study that examined the transfer of a PLTL to an online workshop environment in a general chemistry course at a research university in the Midwest. The null hypothesis guiding the study was that no substantive differences would emerge between the two workshop settings. The final exam scores and discourse analysis support the null hypothesis and use of both face-to-face and synchronous online peer-led workshops in early science courses. More information about PLTL and cPLTL can be found at <http://cpltl.iupui.edu/>.

Pratibha Varma-Nelson is Professor of Chemistry and the founding executive director of the STEM Education Innovation and Research Institute at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI). She is well known in the STEM community for her pioneering work in the development, implementation and dissemination of the Peer-Led Team Learning (PLTL) model of teaching. She has been a Co-PI of three NSF funded National Dissemination Grants. In addition she was a founding Co-PI of the Center for Authentic Science Practice in Education, (CASPiE). Her research group is currently working on the development, implementation, evaluation, and dissemination of cyber-PLTL (cPLTL). This work broadly informs the understanding of how students learn chemistry (general and organic) in online environments as well as in face-to-face environments. She has received several national and local awards for her work.



Training Workshops

Title IX and Peer Leaders

Brandy Davis

This workshop will include an overview of current state of Title IX law with an emphasis on the legal requirements and unique challenges relevant to peer-led learning programs. Attendees will learn best practices for maintaining learning and working environments free from sex-based harassment and discrimination.



Quiet Participation: Techniques of engagement

AE Dreyfuss

Facilitation of a workshop group is a challenging skill, especially when group members prefer not to participate. Working with ideas suggested by Stephen Brookfield (2017), participants in this workshop will be introduced to and practice approaches that deal constructively with silence, drawing the quiet and reluctant students into engagement through visual and stimulating techniques.



How to Effectively Observe a Workshop: A Scaffolded Training Module for Leaders

Jose Alberte, Daniel Flores, Isamar Camarena

This training module was developed to bridge the gap of understanding the concept of effective peer leading between faculty, learning specialists, and peer leaders. This workshop will help build PLTL supervisor's observational skills. By enhancing these skills a supervisor can learn to properly record observations in a way that would be valuable during program evaluation.



Panel Discussion

▪ *Sustaining Your PLTL Program: Four Models for Continued Support* ▪

Each panelist will provide key points of their PLTL organizational model, which include a centralized staff embedded in a department, support from the sale of publications, working through a student learning center, and participation in a Scholars Academy. Strategies developed over more than a decade, and current challenges will be shared and compared. Participants will be able to draw from aspects of each model to develop their own sustainable program, independently and through the Peer-Led Team Learning International Society's efforts.

Panelists:

Jose Alberte, Florida International University, Miami, Florida
Jim Becvar, University of Texas at El Paso, El Paso, Texas
Kimshi Hickman, University of Texas at Dallas, Richardson, Texas
Mitsue Nakamura, University of Houston, Downtown, Houston, Texas

Moderator:

Marcelo Sztainberg, Northeastern Illinois University, Chicago, Illinois



Oral Presentations & Workshops

ORAL PRESENTATIONS & WORKSHOPS I		Thursday, June 1, 2017
	Room: SU 214	Room: SU 003
2:45 PM	Resume Writing and Interviewing 101: Highlighting your PLTL Experience* University of Texas at Dallas	Effectiveness of Peer Leaders Guiding Service Learning Projects in Freshman Seminar Course University of Houston: Downtown
3:15 PM		Using Peer Leaders to Support Research Modules in Introductory STEM Courses Northeastern Illinois University
ORAL PRESENTATIONS & WORKSHOPS II		Friday, June 2, 2017
	Room: SU 214	Room: SU 003
2:45 PM	UTDallas-PLTL: Leveraging Spoken Language Technology for Assessment of Communication based Learning Behavior in Peer-Led Team Learning University of Texas at Dallas	The Implementation of Programming in Peer-Led Mathematics Workshops New York City College of Technology
3:15 PM	Progression of a PLTL Mentor Program: A New Way to Train Leaders University of Texas at Dallas	Using Peer-Led Team Learning as a Means to the Same End: A Tale of Student Success in Chemistry and Speech Communication Miami-Dade College
ORAL PRESENTATIONS & WORKSHOPS III		Saturday, June 3, 2017
	Room: FA 107	Room: SU 003
10:15 AM	The Effects of PLTL on Pass Rates, Academic Performance, and Retention of URM Students in STEM Courses University of Texas at Dallas	The Peer Leadership STEM Manual New York City College of Technology
10:45AM	Incorporating Video into Process Evaluation: An Approach to Improve the Implementation of Student-Led Academic Support Programs* State University of New York at Cortland	New Mexico State University Peer Leadership in Biology- and a case study* New Mexico State University

**These sessions are 45 minute workshops*



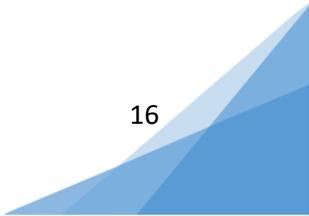
Acknowledgements

2017 Conference Planning Committee

Jose Luis Alberte, Chair and PLTLIS Board Member
Marcelo Sztainberg, Host and PLTLIS Board Member

AE Dreyfuss, PLTLIS Past President
Kimshi Hickman, PLTLIS President-Elect
James Becvar, PLTLIS Treasurer
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Heather Patay, Coordinator MSTQE program
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Peer-Led Team Learning International Society

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