

2018

Thursday - Saturday | May 31st - June 2nd
University of Texas at Dallas
Dallas, Texas, USA | Seventh Annual Conference

Peer-Led Team Learning International Society

*Transforming
Education:
Research and
Best Practices
with PLTL
Implementations*



Welcome from President Richard C. Benson



On behalf of The University of Texas at Dallas, I would like to extend greetings to everyone attending the 7th Annual Conference of the Peer-Led Team Learning International Society.

We are proud to host you on our campus during the next few days. This event is intended to immerse instructors, administrators and students in the latest approaches to innovative educational practices.

We like to say that innovation is in our DNA at UT Dallas. You need look no further than our Student Success Center for proof. We provide a full range of programs and resources to give our students a firm academic footing. The more than 27,000 students enrolled here have promising futures because of our focus on their academic achievements. And that dedication is being noticed. Today, we are ranked No. 1 in the United States among universities founded less than 50 years ago, according to *Times Higher Education*.

I invite you to explore our lovely campus. And if your schedule permits, I encourage you to spend some time in Richardson and the larger Dallas-Fort Worth area, with our many cultural, historical and entertainment venues.

Again, I want to warmly welcome you to The University of Texas at Dallas and to wish you a very successful conference.



Sincerely,
Richard C. Benson
President
Eugene McDermott Distinguished University Chair of Leadership




Conference Information



Conference Registration Information

The conference team is happy to help with any questions you may have. The registration desk is situated right outside the main hall at the conference site. The conference site will shift between the University of Texas at Dallas and Embassy Suites: Dallas Park Central.



The Pre-Conference Workshop (Wednesday) and Conference Day 2 (Friday) will be held:

University of Texas at Dallas
800 W Campbell Road
Richardson, Texas 75080

The Conference Day 1 (Thursday) and Conference Day 3 (Saturday) will be held:

Embassy Suites: Dallas Park Central
13131 North Central Expressway
Dallas, Texas 75243

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 between this handbook and the official conference app.

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 at the conference site and posted at the registration desk. All changes will also be announced and updated through the official conference app.



Conference Information



Session Etiquette

We ask that all participants ensure any personal electronic device is used with respect for session presenters and fellow participants, by turning devices to vibrate or silent mode. We 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. WiFi network instructions will be provided at the registration desk.

Peer Leader Discussion with PLTLIS Peer Leader Board Member

On Thursday at 3:30pm, during the Networking Break, Usman Hyder will host a discussion for Peer Leaders, 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 elect a second Peer Leader Student Representative to serve a two-year term on the PLTLIS board. The meeting location will be posted on the official conference app.

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. The conference feedback survey is available through the official conference app.



Conference Information



Session Evaluation

For each session, there will be a short session evaluation form available for the delegates to provide informative feedback and suggestions. Each Oral Presentation, Workshop, and Poster Presentation will have its own feedback form available through the official conference app. On the form, you will choose the session you wish to comment on. A physical copy of the form can be provided upon request. 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. These 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.

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. A moderator will be available to ask questions to prompt your story telling procedure. Conference participants will develop the story of why you are attending, what changed as a result of something you learned, and why it matters. We would encourage you to share your stories and apply what you learned from the conference workshop. These testimonials may be featured on the PLTLIS website.

Conference Site Map


The conference site maps are provided through the official conference app. There are maps available at the registration desk along with helpful people to guide you to where you need to go.



Conference Information



Social Media



We encourage all participants to share their pictures, videos, and tweets through social media. The social media hashtag for the 2018 Peer-Led Team Learning International Society Conference is:

#PLTLIS2018

We encourage use of the hashtag #PLTL throughout the conference. We request that you send any pictures you take during the conference to the conference chair jalberte@fiu.edu. 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

Official Conference App

PLTLIS 2018 Conference will be using Whova as the official conference app provider. The app provides an easy to use, interactive tool to enhance your conference experience. The app will give you the opportunity to schedule the breakout sessions. You will receive alerts to stay informed about conference updates. The app also features the ability to connect with and provide feedback to conference presenters and participants. The conference committee encourages you to explore the app before the conference starts so you can start planning your experience. Here are the accessing instructions:

- Step 1: Download and install the Whova app from App Store (for iPhones) or Google Play (for Android phones).
- Step 2: Sign up in the app using the email address you registered with.
- Step 3: You're all set. Now enjoy!

Note: for walk-in attendees, install the Whova app, search for your event, and use the Invitation Code provided by the organizer to access, if necessary.

Welcome

Welcome to the Seventh Annual Conference, PLTL Practitioners!

We are delighted to welcome you to this year's annual meeting of the Peer-Led Team Learning International Society. If this is your first PLTLIS meeting, have fun and walk up to someone you do not know and introduce yourself! Then do it again several times during the meeting. Please meet Faculty and Leaders from other campuses. If you have attended previous conferences, welcome back!

Peer Leaders, I have a special challenge for you: I constantly ask the Leaders at the University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP): "What will be your contribution to the literature on learning?" I ask each of you the same question.

- Have you created an activity to help students learn that is not widely used? Tell us about it.
- Have you produced a "wrinkle" on an otherwise well-known learning activity that you use in workshop that others could also use?
- Can you and one or two of your new or old friends design a skit that exemplifies an activity for learning or describes the grit and mindset of a Leader? If so, Mitsue Nakamura (she'll be wearing a purple-pink PLTLIS logo on her nametag) has a group of Peer Leaders looking for you. Find her and make your skit come to fruition.
- If you are already an experienced Peer Leader, maybe you recall an activity or action in a workshop where the Peer Leader or someone else did something not-conducive to learning, personally upsetting, or otherwise inappropriate. Maybe your contribution will be to design an activity or skit capturing the essence of this problem and designing a way to avoid the negative consequences of the situation. If so, please see Andrea McWilliams and tell her about it. She will be wearing a green PLTLIS logo on her nametag.

Our PLTLIS conferences have a relaxed, friendly atmosphere which are 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 enjoy this opportunity to learn and grow! The Conference Committee, headed by José Alberte and Ne'Shaun Jones, Conference Co-chairs, have coordinated three days of programming with something for everyone. Ask our veteran attendees anything, we are here to make you feel comfortable. This conference is entitled: "Transforming Education: Research and Best Practices with Peer-Led Team Learning Implementations." 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.

Enjoy the next few days and thank you so much for being a part of PLTLIS. I'll be wearing a blue logo. Stop me and introduce yourself!

Jim Becvar, PLTLIS President



Program Overview

Day One

▪ THURSDAY ▪ MAY 31, 2018 ▪ Embassy Suites		Location
8:30 AM – 9:30 AM	Registration	Richardson/Plano
9:15 AM – 9:45 AM	▪ Welcoming Remarks ▪ James Becvar, President, PLTLIS, UTEP Ne'Shaun Jones, Conference Host, UTD Jose Alberte, Conference Chair, PLTLIS, FIU	Richardson/Plano
9:45 AM – 10:45 AM	▪ Plenary Workshop ▪ <i>Transforming Education Through Leadership</i> Trillion Small	Richardson/Plano
10:45 AM	Break	Atrium A
11:00 AM – 12:30 PM	▪ Oral Presentation & Workshop Session I ▪	Lewisville and Carrolton
12:30 PM – 1:45 PM	Lunch	Atrium A
1:45 PM – 3:00 PM	▪ Discussion Session I ▪ Peer Leader Certification, Standards, Practice, & Training & Research on PLTL	Richardson/Plano
3:00 PM – 3:30 PM	▪ Networking Break ▪	Atrium A
3:30 PM – 5:00 PM	▪ Oral Presentation & Workshop Session II ▪	Lewisville and Carrolton

Program Overview

Day Two

▪ FRIDAY ▪ JUNE 1, 2018 ▪ University of Texas at Dallas		Location
9:00 AM – 9:30 AM	Light Refreshments & Registration	Student Union Building: Dining Hall A & B
9:30 AM – 9:45 AM	▪ Day 2 Opening Remarks ▪ James Becvar, President, PLTLIS, UTEP	Student Union Building: Dining Hall A & B
9:45 AM – 12:30 PM	▪ Plenary Workshop ▪ <i>Realize Planet 50/50 in Your Team Learning</i> Bonita Banducci	Student Union Building: Dining Hall A & B
12:30 PM – 2:15 PM	▪ Poster Presentations & Lunch ▪ ▪ Remarks ▪ Inga Musselman, Provost, UTD	Student Union Building: Dining Hall A & B
2:15 PM – 3:15 PM	▪ Oral Presentation & Workshop Session III ▪	3.610 & 3.612
3:15 PM – 3:30 PM	Break	-
3:30 PM – 5:00 PM	▪ Oral Presentations & Workshops IV ▪	3.610 & 3.612
5:00 PM	Tour of UT-Dallas Student Success Center	-

Program Overview

Day Three

▪ SATURDAY ▪ JUNE 2, 2018 ▪ Embassy Suites		Location
9:00 AM – 9:30 AM	Light Refreshments & Registration	Allen
▪ Plenary Presentation ▪		
9:30 AM – 10:00 AM	<i>Current Directions in PLTL Research and Practice: Steps Towards Sustainability</i> A.E. Dreyfuss	Allen
▪ Discussion Session II ▪		
10:00 AM – 11:00 AM	Implementation of a Digital Career Advancement Network for Peer Leaders & Sustaining PLTL Programs by Publishing Course Workbooks	Allen
11:00 AM – 11:15 AM	Break	Allen
▪ Working Session & Consultation ▪		
11:15 AM – 12:15 PM		Allen
▪ Closing Remarks ▪		
12:15 PM – 12:30 PM	James Becvar, President, PLTLIS, UTEP	Allen
12:30 PM – 1:30 PM	Lunch	Allen
1:30 PM – 5:30PM	Meeting of the Peer-Led Team Learning International Society Board of Directors	Allen

Plenary Speaker

▪ *Transforming Education Through Leadership* ▪

There is no “I” in Team...but there is one in Leadership. Effectively leading others begins with effectively leading yourself. Self-leadership is the key to completely transforming the life of your team, organization, and school from the inside-out. As education continues to transform, so will the need for your style and structure of leadership. The depth of the needs of your students are changing as well, so is your leadership and the overall leadership of your school sufficient to meet these demands? Join this discussion to learn just how significant, imperative, and valuable YOU are to your students and school.

Trillion Small is a Lecturer at The University of Texas at Dallas in the Behavioral & Brain Sciences Department. She also practices mental health counseling and is a certified John Maxwell coach and speaker. Additionally, she is a Doctoral Candidate (PhD) in Clinical Counseling at Trevecca Nazarene University. Trillion is the



author of *Internal Navigator: Basic Steps to Get You from Point A to Point B in Your Life*, *The Caged in Heart: How Your Childhood Wounds are Affecting Your Adult Life*, *Owning Possible: Your Guide to Making the Impossible Possible!*, and *She's Possible: Find Your Irresistible You*. Trillion was honored and recognized as Nashville's Black 40 under 40 in 2016. She has also been seen on national and international television and heard on several local news and nationally syndicated talk show radio stations such as CBS, NBC, Christian Television Network, Total Living Network, The Word Network, Atlanta Live, and American Family Radio.

Plenary Speaker

▪ *Realize Planet 50/50 in Your Team Learning* ▪

Introducing Gender Competence®, the understanding and skills to work effectively with different mindsets, communication and competencies of men, women and people of all gender identities, as a catalyst for dynamic partnership, collaboration and innovation—for the greater good of all. UN Women have declared Planet 50/50: 50% representation of men and women at every decision making table, as the determining factor to reach the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030. Learning to “adapt and adopt” complimentary competencies like “fire preventer” and “fire fighter,” “devil’s advocate” and “angel’s advocate,” to realize 50/50, will be an important source of your own and group accomplishments in your school, community, organization and world, increasing your promotability and promotability of those who work effectively with you. Included in your fire prevention skills will be a new capacity to prevent gender-linked miss-communication, often the source of harassment complaints, by turning difficult situations into teachable moments.

Bonita Banducci developed her curiosity about the difference she brought to business from her own experience as an entrepreneur. She researched what we don’t know about the contribution women in Silicon Valley workplaces. Her consulting work, unmasking the gender effect, in global companies, government, academic, and non-profit organizations developed her framework of gender competence. She teaches Gender and Engineering in the Santa Clara University Graduate School of Engineering. In 2014 she was named Silicon Valley Woman of Influence. She is inspired by the UN Sustainable Development Goals and gave a workshop at the 2017 Commission on the Status of Women NGO Forum, “Realize Planet 50/50: Brilliant Women and Great Men in Partnership at Work.”



Acknowledgements

2018 Conference Planning Committee

Jose Luis Alberte, Chair and PLTLIS Board Member
Ne'Shaun Jones, Host and PLTLIS Board Member

AE Dreyfuss, PLTLIS Past President
James Becvar, PLTLIS President
Mitsue Nakamura, PLTLIS Board Member
Jeremy Sanchez, Webmaster

Geoffrey Saupe, Abstract Reviewer, PLTLIS Board Member
Mohsen Beheshti, Abstract Reviewer, PLTLIS Board Member

University of Texas at Dallas

Host Committee Members:

Jessica Murphy
Julie Murphy
Lynn Butler
Marie Schier
Annie Benjamin
Serena Hodge
Monica Franco
Mike Saenz
Mallory Matyk
Kelli Welborn
Sheri Dillard
LaShanda Philips

Peer Leaders:

Usman Hyder
Vartika Varshney
Kaivalya Gudooru
Andrew Mohammed
Laila Alkassar
Carmen Vaz
Abbas Raza
Aniruth Srinivasaraghavan
Kenny Nguyen
Samantha Alleman
Quynh Hoang

Richard C. Benson, President
Inga Musselman, Provost

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2017-2018



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