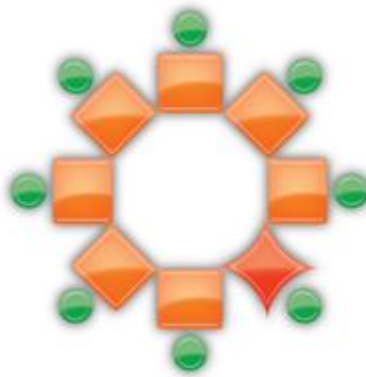


April 2023



PEER-LED TEAM LEARNING
INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY

The Peer Leader

Issue No. 27 Contact: newsletter@pltlis.org

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- **PLTL in the News: Dr. Gina Frey Explains**

Message from the President

Dear members of the PLTLIS community,

It's past Spring break and several deadlines are approaching! Please join Drs. Becvar, Fraiman, and Hickman for a webinar on **April 19th** sponsored by AAAS-IUSE, on enlisting Peer Leaders to augment students' success. The deadline for submission of abstracts for presentations, workshops, and posters for the 11th Annual PLTLIS Conference (hybrid format) has been extended to Wednesday, **April 26th**. Information regarding hotels and travel directions has been posted: book your hotel rooms soon! Bring

your team: faculty, Peer Leaders, administrators, staff, in-person or online. Register now for the Early Bird rates which end **May 15th** (<https://pltlis.org/registration-form/>).

Learn how faculty and administrators across the country are working together to enlist the aid of student leaders to increase student success.

Peer Leaders looking for summer internships may want to check out the opportunity offered by Halliburton (see below). And start working on your paper to submit to the third issue of *Advances in Peer-Led Learning*! Deadline for submission is July 30th.

The Peer-Led Team Learning model demands institutional collaboration to derive its ongoing benefits for students, Peer Leaders, faculty, administrators, and the departments and institutions. This is explained by Dr. Regina Frey in an online paper which discusses peer-to-peer learning programs. Read more, below!

Best regards,

Milka Montes

President, Board of Directors

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AAAS-IUSE Workshop

April 19, 2023 from 2:00 – 3:30 PM ET

Peer-Led Team Learning (PLTL): How Enlisting the Aid of Student Leaders Increases Student Success

Learn how faculty and administrators across the country are working together to enlist the aid of student leaders to increase student success. During this online presentation, three speakers will describe how PLTL programs work, how you can create one at your institution, and what can be accomplished by implementing PLTL.

Dr. Ana Fraiman, Emerita Professor of Chemistry, Northeastern Illinois University, shares how faculty can lead efforts to develop PLTL at their own institutions. This includes how to gain and leverage institutional support to incorporate PLTL, prepare faculty to run these programs, train peer mentors, and collaborate across departments to increase success.

Dr. Kimshi Hickman, Assistant Vice Provost for Retention and Completion, The University of Texas at Arlington, noticed learning losses in gateway math and engineering courses. Students needed support in Pre-Calculus to succeed. Dr. Hickman worked with engineering and math faculty to develop a Pre-Calculus PLTL that led to higher pass rates and positive student feedback. The PLTL program has now expanded to mathematics, chemistry, and engineering courses.

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Dr. James Becvar, Distinguished Teaching Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry, University of Texas at El Paso, pulls from the success of a twenty-two-year PLTL program to show how faculty can nurture strong student leadership and capture the creativity and entrepreneurial value of student leaders to facilitate learning in an environment that values diversity, equity, and inclusion.

To register, click [here](#) or visit www.aaas-iuse.org and look for the Workshop on April 19th on the home page.

Call for Presentations for 11th Annual Conference

Submission Deadline Extended: April 26, 2023

This year's conference theme is *Strengthening Diversity, Equity and Inclusion through Sustainable PLTL Programs*. The Conference will be a hybrid event, in-person and virtual.

Submissions for presentations, workshops, and posters are invited:

- Abstracts from all areas of practice of peer-led learning are welcomed, whether in-person or virtual
- Submissions for oral presentations and workshops are encouraged to be interactive sessions
- All submissions will be peer-reviewed
- Submissions must be original contributions

For more information, <https://pltlis.org/eleventh-annual-pltlis-conference/>. If you have questions, please contact Mitsue Nakamura at nakamuram@uhd.org, Chair, PLTLIS Conference Committee.

Halliburton's Research & Development Internship

Apply Immediately!

We invite you to share an opportunity with Peer Leaders and other undergraduate students who might be interested in a Research and Development (R&D) Internship with Halliburton in Houston, Texas. Students who have hands-on laboratory experience in Chemistry, Chemical Engineering, and/or Petroleum Engineering should apply. Skills in statistics, data analysis, coding, and simulation of any type are a bonus. The R&D internship provides the opportunity to participate in real company projects that could potentially include:

- Formulation and performance testing of polymer-based fracturing fluid systems
- Development of surfactant chemistries for improved oil recovery
- Analysis of field operations data to optimize chemistry selection and usage

- Design of test methods for improved evaluation of chemistry effectiveness
- Development of new corrosion inhibition chemistries for acid stimulation blends

The ideal candidate has knowledge in organic and inorganic chemistry, materials science, formulation science, rheology, surfactants, and/or polymer chemistry. They will also preferably be familiar with oilfield stimulation chemistries and operational treatment methods. Above all, Halliburton is looking for candidates who are innovative and self-driven with a strong work ethic and a positive attitude.

Prospective candidates must be eligible to work in the US without sponsorship with a minimum GPA of 3.2 studying Chemistry, Chemical Engineering, or Petroleum Engineering at any level (B.S., M.S., Ph.D.).

To apply, look for the R&D Intern posting on your university career services site. Be aware that the timeline to apply is very near, but there is always the possibility that highly motivated and qualified students would still receive consideration.

For questions and more information on how to apply, contact Dr. Enrique Reyes at enrique.reyes@halliburton.com.

Three Keynote Panels at this Year's Conference

This year's conference features three keynote panels, convened to encompass the theme of sustainable PLTL programs. From current practitioners to alumni to ensuring support from administrators and new faculty, you can look forward to advice from experienced practitioners. Here is a list of the panel titles and descriptions. Prepare your questions!

Friday, June 2, 2023

Securing Administrators' Support to Sustain Your PLTL Program

Convenor: Kimshi Hickman

While many PLTL practitioners started their program with grants, some have been started or grown through Learning Centers with the support of administrators concerned about retention and student success. The panelists will share models that have developed and supported peer-led programs, allowing them to be institutionalized and sustained.

Friday, June 2, 2023

Building Leadership Skills for Career Success: PLTL Alumni in Action

Convenors: Allison McKee, Sofia Delgado, & Azfar Vahidy

The panel of former Peer Leaders from University of Houston Downtown and other campuses will share their experiences and how PLTL has helped them to grow as leaders in their post-graduate careers.

Saturday, June 3, 2023

Finding The Next Generation of Champions to Sustain Your PLTL Program

Convenors: Mitsue Nakamura and Kate Shoemaker

To sustain a successful PLTL program at each institution takes trained peer leaders, interesting workshop materials created by faculty and peer leaders, funding, passionate champions, and supportive administrators. Our panelists will share how the baton has been passed at their institutions to ensure the continuation of their PLTL program; how they have identified and trained the next generations of peer leader coordinators and program managers, and how they kept their administrators' interest and support.

See You in Houston! Information for Your Trip

Thursday – Saturday, June 1 – 3, 2023

Wednesday, May 31: Pre-Conference Workshops

Hosted by the University of Houston Downtown, Houston, Texas

Hybrid format

We are looking forward to welcoming experienced and novice practitioners at this year's PLTLIS conference. Lodging information and travel directions (driving directions, MetroRail, hotels) to and from the campus of the University of Houston Downtown have been posted on the conference website. Book your lodging soon! To secure the group rate, you must book your hotel by **May 3, 2023**. For more information, go to <https://pltlis.org/eleventh-annual-pltlis-conference/>; you can also visit www.pltlis.org and click the link to the Eleventh Annual Conference or look for the Eleventh Annual PLTLIS Conference under the Conferences drop-down menu.

Order Graduation Stoles

We are excited to share a new item coming soon to the PLTLIS shop. Gift your Peer Leaders a graduation stole to wear as they receive their degrees at their commencement ceremonies. Pictured below are the stoles currently used by the University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP) and University of Texas Permian Basin (UTPB) Chemistry Peer Leaders. To customize the discipline shown on the stoles or to be notified when the stoles will be available at www.shop.pltlis.org, contact newsletter@pltlis.org.



1 - UTEP Peer leaders wearing their PLTL stoles.

UTEP Peer leaders wearing their PLTL stoles (designated with a red arrow) at their commencement ceremony.

Preliminary Deadline for Contributions to

Advances in Peer-Led Learning (APL): July 30, 2023

Would you like to contribute to the vistas of peer-led learning and research through a peer-reviewed journal? Submitting a contribution to the third issue of *Advances in Peer-Led Learning*, published by the Peer-Led Team Learning International Society could be the opportunity you're looking for! Read the latest issue and submission guidelines at www.journal.pltlis.org.

PLTL in the News: Dr. Regina Frey Elaborates

Learning "peer-to-peer" works! That is the message of a recent posting by the American Chemical Society which compares peer tutoring, Supplemental Instruction (SI), and Peer-Led Team Learning. Dr. Regina "Gina" Frey, formerly at Washington University in St. Louis and now at the University of Utah, and a former member of the PLTLIS Board of Directors, shares that "'I love it for my own classes. When students work in small groups like this, they're talking to each other, they get confirmation from others who agree with what they're saying, so they feel much more comfortable to speak up in the bigger class. That means you have a bigger diversity of voices in class, and as the teacher, you end up learning too."

To read further, go to <https://www.acs.org/education/policies/acs-approval-program/news/peer-to-peer-learning.html>

Connect on Social Media!

PLTLIS is proud to connect past and present Peer Leaders and all who are interested in Peer-Led Team Learning. What is happening at your campus? What opportunities do you know about where peer

leading would be a valuable attribute? *Follow, like, and link* with us on Instagram, Facebook and LinkedIn:

Instagram: @pl_tl_is

Facebook: Peer-Led Team Learning Society

LinkedIn: Peer-Led Team Learning International Society

Contribute to the Peer Leader!

Do you want to share news with the PLTL community? Send news items, story suggestions, and updates from your campus Peer-Led Team Learning program to newsletter@pltlis.org.