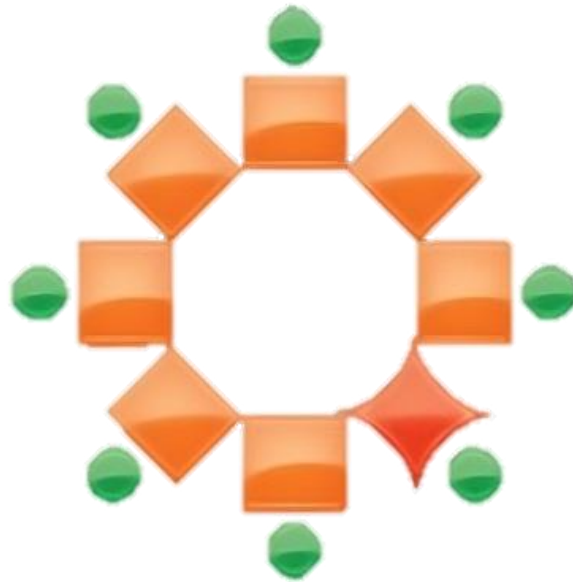


The Peer Leader



PEER-LED TEAM LEARNING
INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY

July 2024

The Peer Leader

Issue No. 35

Contact: newsletter@ptlis.org

- **APLL Notice: Deadline Extended to September 3rd**
- **Save the dates! 13th Annual Conference: May 28-31, 2025**
- **Updated Publications Listing: Now Searchable**
- **Join PLTLIS LinkedIn – Alumni Network**
- **Create a Research Team through CUR**
- **Sharing Practices: PLTL at FIU – newsletter**
- **Recognition Awards: Vicki Roth and Terry Platt**
- **2024 Conference Mementos: Contest Winners, Photos**

Message from the President



Dear members of the PLTLIS community,

Greetings from Texas!

Howdy everyone. I hope my message finds all of you well. I trust that the exciting and inspirational conference that we had at the beginning of the summer has brought new thinking and expanded everyone's practice. While I hope everyone can get some rest and relaxation this summer I realize that you are also in the throes of fall 2024 planning. Make sure that those plans include budgeting for our 2025 PLTLIS Conference hosted by CSU Dominguez Hills (near Los Angeles). I wish you continued success with your PLTL programs and count on PLTLIS to partner with you in 2024-2025.

Warm regards,

Kimshi Hickman, Ed.D.

PLTLIS President, Board of Directors

WWW.PLTLLIS.ORG

APLL Submission Deadline Extended

The deadline for Issue #4 is **Tuesday, September 3rd, 2024**. Send your submission to journal@pltlis.org! For submission guidelines, go to: <https://journal.pltlis.org/index.php/submission-guidelines/>

Only One Month Left to Download 2024 Conference Presentations from Conference Platform

If you attended the 2024 Conference either in person or online, you can download the presentations through Whova for one more month – log in and download your selections now!

The full conference program and oral presentations documents are available on the PLTLIS Conferences page; go to:

<https://pltlis.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/2024-Conference-Program.pdf>

and <https://pltlis.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/PLTLIS-2024-Conference-Presentations-Document.pdf>

Save the Dates for the 2025 PLTLIS Conference!

Wednesday – Saturday, May 28-May 31, 2025



1 - California State University Dominguez Hills

Hosted by California State University Dominguez Hills

Carson, California (Los Angeles)

In-Person or Virtual: Hybrid Format

Plan Now to Bring a Team to the PLTLIS Thirteenth Annual Conference!

We are looking forward to welcoming experienced and novice practitioners at next year's PLTLIS conference.

The Publications List is Now Searchable!

The updated publications page (<https://pltlis.org/publications/>) allows you to find the papers you are looking for that relate to PLTL. The publications list is a compilation of papers published in journals, as well as books and dissertations, and does not include materials published by PLTLIS. With the new search bar, you can filter the publications by keywords, categories, and/or year. The keyword search looks for any matching terms on the page and the category search has common groupings. For example, if you are looking for publications by a specific author, enter their name, and all related papers will be displayed. We hope this new feature enhances your experience and helps you find the papers you're interested in.

Alumni and Current Peer Leaders: Connect on LinkedIn!

We are excited to announce the creation of the PLTLIS Alumni Group LinkedIn page, designed specifically for former peer leaders. This platform will foster a sense of community and maintain professional connections among former peer leaders. Alumni can share career updates, exchange professional advice, and post job opportunities, thus enhancing their network. It will also serve as a valuable resource for current students, allowing them to connect with experienced professionals for mentorship and guidance.

Contribute to the page by providing information to connect with other Peer Leaders. Updates on PLTLIS initiatives and events, engaging content and discussions will be posted regularly to keep our community active and informed.

Join us today and stay connected with your PLTLIS family!

LinkedIn: Peer-Led Team Learning International Society

Council on Undergraduate Research

Want to Teach Your Students the Impact of Undergraduate Research Beyond the Walls of a Classroom?

Submissions are now being accepted for Scholars Transforming Through Research (STR), an advocacy professional development opportunity for faculty/mentors and undergraduate research students.

Why should you apply?

The STR Program is a valuable resource for teaching your undergraduate research students communication tools for translating research into understandable language while also communicating the impact, potential impact, and opportunities this research can have. Participants will serve as CUR Advocacy Ambassadors and learn how to advocate for the impact of research with media contacts, community members, funding agencies, and governmental representatives.

What topics are covered?

The topics covered in STR include: Getting Inspired and Setting Goals, Connecting and Building Relationships with Policymakers, Op-Ed Writing and Pitching, Policy Brief Writing, Media Interviews and Building Relationships with Reporters, and Communicating Your Research on Capitol Hill.

Who can participate?

Participants must apply as institutional teams consisting of a campus representative team lead – faculty or mentor – and up to three undergraduate research students currently enrolled in or who have previously completed an undergraduate research experience. Each team member is involved in all aspects of the training sessions provided. There is no need for each team member to share disciplines; however, each member must choose a discipline they will represent when applying.

When does this program take place?

The STR program will begin with an online orientation and training session on November 16, 2024. Once-a-month online training sessions will continue in December, January, and February. The final mandatory training session will take place on March 2-3, 2025, in the Washington, DC area. This in-person meeting will include meetings with stakeholders and congressional representatives.

Submission window closes September 20, 2024

Have questions? Reach out to CUR@CUR.org or call at (202) 783-4810.

View Leslie de la Luna Cervantes' CUR presentation in 2012

Former Peer Leader at University of Texas at El Paso

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m8zf89cxnRY&list=PLo1rTS3ZesMasqNgATc6NSdHa_dxs1BbR&index=5

Learn More + Submit Today (click me)

2 - [Link](#)

Preparing for the Fall Semester:

Consider the example of a campus PLTL Newsletter

The PLTL Community at FIU:

The Spring 2024 PLTL Bi-weekly Newsletter

Florida International University, in Miami, Florida, has had PLTL workshops in several Biology courses for two decades. A new Coordinator for the program started to write a newsletter that is circulated to faculty, staff, and Peer Leaders. An inspired way for knowing what's going on!

An email sent to introduce the Newsletter to the University:

Dear PLTL Community,

Greetings once again! As we delve deeper into the Spring 2024 semester, I trust that you're all engaging deeply with your studies and finding value in the collaborative spirit of our PLTL sessions. It's my pleasure to present to you the sixth edition of our "PLTL Bi-weekly Beacon", covering the exciting developments and insights from weeks 5 and 6.

Evolving Together!

Our newsletter has always been a reflection of our dynamic PLTL community, and with each edition, we strive to bring you content that is both informative and inspiring. As we continue to adapt and evolve, we aim to make our communication even more engaging and relevant to your needs.

We're Listening to You

Your input is crucial to the continuous improvement of the Biweekly Beacon. We invite you to dive into the latest edition and share your feedback with us. Your suggestions and ideas are what help us make each issue better than the last.

Get Your Latest PLTL Insights

Let's keep pushing forward, sharing our successes, and fostering the unique connections that make our PLTL community so special. Here's to embracing our collective journey with enthusiasm and determination!

[Click here to check out FIU's PLTL Newsletter!](#)

2024 Conference Mementoes

Two pioneers from the University of Rochester who helped develop Peer-Led Team Learning beyond its initial phase of “Workshop Chemistry,” were honored on Friday, May 31. Dean Jeffrey Runner (center of picture) presented Vicki Roth and Terry Platt with certificates recognizing their efforts nurturing and growing the PLTL Workshop Program at the University of Rochester.



Vicki Roth, Learning Specialist, is the first author of the *Peer-Led Team Learning: Handbook for Team Leaders*, published by Prentice Hall (now Pearson) in 2001, which, with her co-authors Ellen Goldstein West and Gretchen Marcus, provided guidance in the preparation of Peer Leaders for the national dissemination of PLTL. Now retired from the University of Rochester, she was the Executive Director of the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, founded in 1995.

Terry Platt, Professor Emeritus, Biology, Biochemistry and Biophysics, was a co-director for the Center for Workshop Education, with Vicki Roth, and helped disseminate the PLTL Workshop program to faculty in disciplines beyond chemistry at the University of Rochester.

A 2011 article detailing the efforts to support the Rochester program can be found at https://www.rochester.edu/pr/Review/V73N5/0401_teaching.html

The certificates were signed by David Figlio, Ph.D., Provost, and Jeffrey Runner, Ph.D., Dean of College for Undergraduate Education. Roth and Platt were recognized for their “dedicated work [that] has touched the lives of so many students and will continue to do so in Workshops across our campus.”

Contest Winners from the 12th Annual Conference

Thank you all for a wonderful hybrid conference. Although it is the third year we attempted to connect our global community both in-person and through the Whova app, this was the first year we had 96% of

our participants download the Whova app, a record high and one we hope to surpass next year! For those participants who were able to download the app, they were also able to participate in our two contests: the Community Leaderboard and the Photo Contest. There were three grand prizes for each contest, third place received a University of Rochester swag bag full of UR goodies, second place received a tea sampler from a local tea shop in Rochester, and the grand prize of 10,000 pennies was reserved for first place. Hearty congratulations to the winners!

Community Leaderboard

All conference participants had the chance to end up on the Whova App's Community Leaderboard, which awarded points for interacting with participants through the community board. From asking discussion questions to sharing jokes and even sharing other conferences of interest, every interaction allowed for a very close race! In the end, three of our participants were able to collect more points than anyone else. Congratulations to all the winners!



3 - *Maveline Nguyen*

Third place went to **Maveline Nguyen** from the University of Rochester, collecting a total of 16,700 points.



4 - *Ava Cash*

Ava Cash secured second place by joining us virtually from Washington University in St. Louis (St. Louis, Missouri) and collecting 28,100 points.



5 - Taylor Newton

The grand prize in the Community Leaderboard went to **Taylor Newton**, who joined us in-person from the University of Houston-Downtown (Houston, Texas) and collected a grand total of 35,400 points.

Photo Contest

There were many memories made at this year's conference, and thanks to you all, we were able to capture 52 of them in pictures on the Whova App. Much like in social media, the popularity of these photos was measured by the number of likes each received, and our winners were skilled in sharing the best memories of our conference. Congratulations to all the winners!



There was a lot of team bonding and exploring happening at the conference, including an elevator adventure captured by **Samantha Zepeda** from the University of Texas at El Paso (El Paso, Texas) where she and fellow Peer Leaders made their way to one of our many conference sessions.

Hosting a hybrid conference meant encountering technical issues at one point or another, but we had our hard working and talented Tech Team to thank for everything running smoothly! **Sophia Borrego** from the University of Texas at El Paso (El Paso, Texas) captured one of the moments in which the Tech Team was hard at work helping set up a presentation in the main meeting room and captioned it: "How many PLS does it take to put in a flash drive? 8." Sometimes it takes a village to ensure proper tech setup.

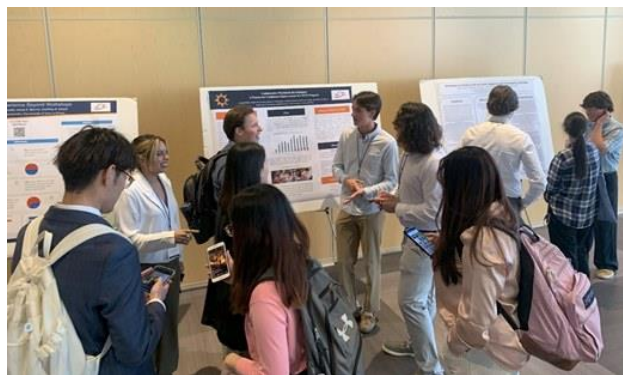


The grand prize for the Photo contest went to **Megan Daschback** from Washington University in St. Louis (St. Louis, Missouri) for sharing with us a picture of Wash U. Peer Leaders exploring the University of Rochester campus and finding a statue of a head with gears inside. What a great find in the beautiful campus that hosted our conference this year!



Thank you to all the participants! It was great to be able to see everyone learning, sharing knowledge, and having a blast. See you all again next year in Carson, California!

From the 2024 Conference at the University of Rochester



6 - Posters! Discussion!



7 - Posters! Discussion!



8 - Friday, May 31



9 - Saturday, June 1

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.