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Paulchris Okpala TSSA Winter 17

Paulchris Okpala

CSUSB, pokpala@csusb.edu

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Faculty Name: Paulchris Okpala, D.HSc, MHA, MPA, RCP, CRT

Name of Conference Attended: Lilly Conference on College and University

Teaching Strategy Studied:

- I. How to integrate effective collaborative learning in my teaching
- II. How to enhance teaching skills and knowledge on how to use student-centered teaching effectively
- III. How to improve teaching skills in creating active learning pedagogies and promoting brain teaching

Impact on/How Applied to Current Teaching:

- I. I used collaborative learning strategies to create and managed interactive group work in my classes. This approach improved the active participation of students in my class.
- II. I developed effective pedagogies that incorporated lifelong and social aspects of learning process that enhanced students' participation, and empowered their cognitive and social tools in my classes

From the evidence based discussions and the shared experiences from renowned educators that attended this conference, I noted that there is a need to merge the learning needs of the students with the emerging technologies. I also noted that educators should ensure that students are conversant with and have access to the adopted technologies. I also noted that improved technology enhanced teaching can be achieved and sustained by adopting strategies that are based on evidenced based research. The conference also discussed the need to enhance communication between educators and students as a means of ensuring that the adopted technology meeting the student learning objectives. This conference also enhanced my understanding and skills regarding the course related challenges that result in the lack of

completion of the curriculum. Through the engagement with other participants, I realized that the instructional approach adopted by educators and course planning approach determines curriculum completion. From the general opinion of most of the presenters, I noted that adequate planning of the course material is not a solution by itself but adherence to the plan is even more important. From the experiences narrated by other presenters, I noticed that educators need to think on their feet in addressing the unexpected challenges, which may disrupt the learning process. I also noted that the adoption of technology such as flipped classroom is important in managing the need to balance the call for curriculum completion and ensuring proper student understanding of the course content.