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2015-16 TSSA Grant Final Report

Prof. Beth A. Steffel

Name of Conference Attended: **AIGA Design Educators Conference**

Teaching Strategy Studied: **“Designing Assessments for 21st Century Teaching and Learning”**

Impact on/How Applied to Current Teaching: **In design, we’ve been using problem-based learning, case studies, and active learning since long before I was a student. However, it’s always been a challenge on how to assess this work. Since each student takes a different path on solving the design problem, often only the final work is considered in assessment. However, how do you assess one student who has taken on a more ambitious project and the final result is not as polished versus another student who took on a conservative, modest project and the final result lacks innovative and vision?**

At the conference, I studied how to develop more holistic assessment methods and integrate various ways student learning is demonstrated throughout projects and in collaboration with other students. In my classes, I’ve integrated several levels of in-progress critiques, rather than only looking at final work. We also spend more time in the initial stages of the project in research, problem identification, and planning. Now we evaluate through the entire design process and not just the final result.