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Kelly Campbell TSSA Spring 2015

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TSSA One-Page REPORT

Name: Kelly Campbell

Department: Department of Psychology and Human Development

Email address: Kelly@csusb.edu

Name of conference attended: Western Psychological Association Terman Teaching Conference

Dates: April 29, 2015

Teaching Skill(s) Studied: The Western Psychological Association Terman Teaching Conference attendees and presenters included faculty members from a variety of universities who study topics related to psychology. Presentations covered topics such as how to flip and blend a classroom, using super heroes to teach psychological principles, implementing flash mobs, and working with partners to learn.

Impact on Current Teaching: I enjoyed the conference and gained information that will help immensely with my teaching. The conference was very applied; the attendees were not just listening to lectures but were implementing the strategies being taught. The activities reminded me that sometimes, it is difficult to be a student. For instance, when one of the presenters taught us about psychological principles in different ways and tested us after each teaching method, I realized that learning style greatly impacts a person's ability to retain information. This simple exercise reinforced the importance of teaching to a variety of styles and affected both the assignments in my courses and the way I teach. I no longer lecture for an entire period, even when I have a lot of information to cover. Instead, I have the students find answers using the information I provide or partner up with a classmate to work together on a problem. I also incorporate more hands on learning into my sessions and have students regularly apply the material. I lecture for 10-15 minutes and then break for applied tasks. So far, my students have reported that they learn better with this method and although I only have 2 courses for comparison thus far, the students' grades appear to be higher with the new method.

Another strategy I learned and am implementing pertains to flipped and blended classrooms. I learned that each course is different and professors need to carefully consider strategies that will work well based on the course goals. One suggestion for these types of classes was to incorporate more audio and visual materials into sessions to complement the coursework. I now search for youtube or Ted Talk clips to complement every major concept in my course (I'm not always successful at finding something but I try!). This helps me teach to a variety of learning styles, break up the content, and it gives students the opportunity to apply material. I'm building a nice inventory of clips and have even created a media for teaching section on my professional association website to help other teachers: <http://www.iarr.org/media-for-teaching/>

Date Submitted: April 22, 2016