

# Hablando de la Formación de Profesores de Ciencias

**New Trends in the Formation  
of Physics Teachers**

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# Teacher Preparation

- Recruitment
- Preparation
- Retention
- Other trends in the preparation of science teachers



# Recruitment of Candidates

- Pipeline Project (Illinois Section AAPT)
  - Guidelines for teachers
  - Brochure for students
- Recruitment Workshop (Arizona State U)
- Learning Assistants (U of Colorado)
- Free Introductory Courses (U of Texas)

# National Standards

- National Research Council:
  - *National Science Education Standards*
  - *Inquiry and the NSES*
  - *How Students Learn*
- Project 2061:
  - *Science for All Americans*
  - *Benchmarks for Science Literacy*
- National Science Teachers Association:
  - *2004 Teacher Preparation Standards*

# Knowledge Base

- Content knowledge of physics
  - Subject matter
  - Process skills
- Pedagogical knowledge
  - How students learn
  - How to match teaching and learning
- Pedagogical content knowledge

# Authentic Best Practices

- Addressing preconceptions
  - Subject matter preconceptions
  - Epistemological preconceptions
- Teaching for understanding
  - Employing the “Inquiry Spectrum”
  - Applying learning to real-world phenomena
- Promoting metacognition/self-regulation
- Establishing a proper class atmosphere

# Student-centered Classroom Atmosphere

- A classroom will be **student centered** to the extent that the teacher builds on knowledge students bring to the learning situations.

# Knowledge-centered Classroom Atmosphere

- The classroom will be **knowledge centered** to the extent that the teacher helps students develop an organized understanding of important concepts in the physics teaching discipline.



# Assessment-centered Classroom Atmosphere

- The classroom will be **assessment centered** to the extent that the teacher makes students' thinking visible so that ideas can be presented and verified.

# Community-centered Classroom Atmosphere

- The classroom will be **community centered** to the extent that the teacher establishes classroom norms that learning with understanding is valued and that all students feel free to explore what they do not understand.

# Physics Teacher Education Program



# Required PTE courses

- PHY 209 - Introduction to Teaching
- PHY 302 - Computer Applications
- PHY 310 - Readings for HS Teaching
- PHY 311 - Teaching HS Physics
- PHY 312 - Teaching by Inquiry
- PHY 353 - Student Teaching Seminar
- STT 399 - Student Teaching in Physics

# Special PTE Projects

- Inquiry-oriented Labs (110, 111, 112)
- Service Learning Project (209)
- Discussion Leadership (310)
- Lesson Study, Role Playing, Capstone (311)
- Student Performance Tasks (312)
- Social Context Project (353)
- STT Effectiveness Reporting Sys (399)

# Other Trends 1

- Learning theories and learning styles
- Learning cycles
- Inquiry teaching
- Active learning
- Chunking behaviors
- Authentic problem solving

## Other Trends 2

- Conceptual understanding and intuition
- Alternative assessments
- Novice versus expert understanding
- Deep versus surface learning
- Mental models
- Critical thinking tasks

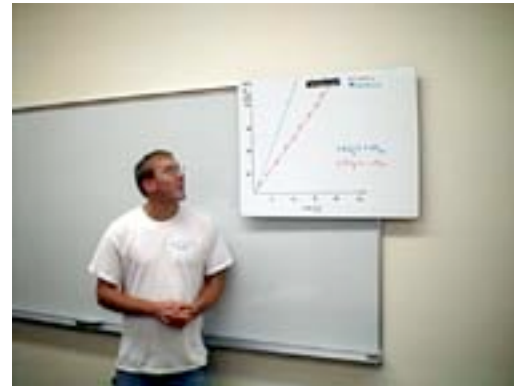
# Other Trends 3

- Curriculum projects and management
- Diagnostic and study skills
- Cooperative learning
- Inclusion
- New strategies (PBL, peer instruction, structured problem solving, case study method, inquiry demonstrations & labs)



# Classroom Technology

- Whiteboards
  - Peer instruction
  - Socratic dialogues
- Classroom response systems “clickers”
- Interactive computer simulations
- CBL- and MBL-based inquiry labs



# Teachers in Residence

- Teaching/co-teaching courses
- A “reality check” for universities
- Liaison with schools & teachers
- Recruiting teaching candidates
- Mentoring candidates & new teachers
- Supervision of student teachers
- Managing learning assistant program

# Current National Initiatives

- **PTEC** and **PhysTEC** – two coalitions dedicated to improving physics teacher preparation
- **comPADRE** – a website with resources for teacher educators
- **UTeach** – an NSF-funded initiative involving fewer than 10 universities

# Current ISU Initiatives

- Levels of Inquiry
- Learning Sequences
- National Institutes for Physics Teacher Educators (NIPTE)