

## Circuits Virtual Community of Practice

Ken Connor  
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute  
connor@rpi.edu

Lisa Huettel  
Duke University  
lisa.huettel@duke.edu

### Session 1: Introduction to the VCP March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2013



## Agenda

- Welcome ~ 5 mins
- Introductions (Part 1) ~ 10 mins
- Goals of VCP & Project Background ~ 10 mins
- Technology Overview ~ 10 mins
  - ASEE Portal
  - Adobe Connect
- Introductions (Pt. 2) – Breakout room Activity ~ 15 mins
- Q & A ~ 5 mins
- Wrap-up & Plans for Session 2 ~ 5 mins



## Introductions – Part 1



Ken Connor  
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute



Lisa Huettel  
Duke University



Aaron Ohta  
University of Hawaii at Manoa



Adrian Ieta  
SUNY Oswego



Archie Holmes  
University of Virginia



Bharathwaj Muthuswamy  
Milwaukee School of Engineering



Cecilia Townsend  
North Carolina State University



Frank Merat  
Case Western Reserve University



Gloria Kim  
University of Florida



Jack Mottley  
University of Rochester



Jim Becker  
Montana State University



Joe Moening  
Lake Superior State University



John Robertson  
Arizona State University Polytechnic



Keith Holland  
James Madison University



Melinda Holtzman  
Portland State University



Michael Cabral  
Virginia Commonwealth University



Michael Glazos  
St Cloud State University



Miguel Velez-Reyes  
University of Texas at El Paso



Mohammad Habibi  
Minnesota State University, Mankato



Paul M. Furth  
New Mexico State University



Stella A. Quinones  
The University of Texas at El Paso



Vidya Nandikolla  
Philadelphia University



William Hageman  
Kansas State University



Yacoub Astatke  
Morgan State University



Zoulikha Mouffak  
California State University at Fresno



## Session 1: Learning Objectives

- Begin to get to know each other
- Understand the overall structure and goals of the Circuits VCP
- Gain familiarity with the technology



## Virtual Communities of Practice Model: Basic Premises

- Need for advancement in engineering education and effective methods of dissemination
- Current short-term, one-shot, face-to-face faculty workshops are inherently flawed and not scalable
- Learning communities and communities of practice offer an effective alternative
- Virtual approaches provide an effective, economical, and scalable approach without geographic constraints
- Engineering faculty will participate (that's you!)



## Goals of Circuits VCP

Develop a supportive community that works to

- Share knowledge
- Gain a deeper understanding of research-based instructional strategies
- Develop skills needed to implement and evaluate approaches



## VCP Sessions Overview

- Session 1 (March 21<sup>st</sup>): Introduction to the Circuits VCP
- Session 2 (March 28<sup>th</sup>): Research-Based Instructional Approaches
- Session 3 (April 4<sup>th</sup>): Learning Objectives and Bloom's Taxonomy
- Session 4 (April 11<sup>th</sup>): Student Motivation
- Session 5 (April 18<sup>th</sup>): Active Learning Approaches I
- Session 6 (April 25<sup>th</sup>): Active Learning Approaches II
- Session 7 (May 5<sup>th</sup>): Active Learning Approaches III
- Session 8 (May 12<sup>th</sup>): Student Assessment
- Session 9 (May 19<sup>th</sup>): Wrap-up, Reflection, Fall Planning



## Technology Overview: Open Atrium Circuits VCP Portal

- Session materials (readings, slides) will be posted here
- Group work can be shared here



## Technology Overview: Adobe Connect

- Speaking
  - Audio set-up wizard
  - Mute/Unmute button
  - Raising your hand (and other actions)
- Interactive features
  - Chat window
  - Polls
  - Breakout rooms
  - Whiteboard



## Adobe Connect: Breakout rooms

- Useful for small group discussions and activities
- Notes taken in breakout rooms can be shared with full group when breakout ends



## Introductions – Part 2

- You will be randomly assigned to a breakout room
- Once you are in your breakout room:
  - Start the timer for 6 minutes
  - “Recorder” (person listed **first** in the list of attendees) will take notes in the “Team Notes” pod
  - Each individual should take 60-90 seconds to
    - Briefly introduce yourself (e.g., name, institution/location, years teaching Circuits)
    - State your goals for participating in the VCP
- Upon returning to the main group, the Team Notes will be shared with the whole group



## Session 2: Overview of Research-based Instructional Approaches

In preparation for Session 2 (March 28<sup>th</sup>):

- Read and be prepared to discuss HLW Introduction and Conclusion
- Read and be prepared to discuss Chickering & Gamson's Seven Principles for Good Practice in Undergraduate Education

