AAPM 2017 JUL 30-AUG 3

Novel Approaches to Teaching Medical Physics

2017 Education Council Symposium

Vic Montemayor Germantown Academy

For Better or For Worse







- Five Easy Lessons: Strategies for Successful Physics Teaching by Randall D. Knight (Pearson Education, Inc., 2004)
- 1. Keep students actively engaged and provide rapid feedback.
- 2. Focus on phenomena rather than abstractions.
- 3. Deal explicitly with students' alternative conceptions.
- 4. Teach and use explicit problem-solving skills and strategies.
- Write homework and exam problems that go beyond symbol manipulation to engage students in the qualitative and conceptual analysis of physical phenomena.

"During the past decade, data has built up that demonstrates that as physics teachers we fail to make an impact on the way a majority of our students think about the world."

> Edward F. Redish "The Implications of Cognitive Studies for Teaching Physics", AJP, **62** (1994)

Gregor Novak, IUPUI/USAFA Andy Gavrin, IUPUI Evelyn Patterson, USAFA Wolfgang Christian, Davidson College





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•3-question web submission prior to class (2 on subject, one on what was most interesting or confusing)

•Instructor designs classroom activities according to pre-class feedback

• Web components encourage frequent work on physics in short sessions

•In class students work in groups on active learning assignments



The Basics of Peer Instruction

•Students are expected to read material before class

•Class begins with brief overview of topics

•Lecture is broken up with ConcepTests, brief MC questions that focus on the key topics in the lecture

•Answers to ConcepTest questions provide feedback to instructor

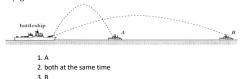
What makes a good CT question?

•Based on common student misconceptions or difficulties

- •Focus on single concept
- •Cannot be solved by simply applying equations
- •Clearly and concisely stated
- •Not too easy, not too hard

Examples

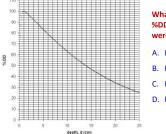
A battleship simultaneously fires two shells at enemy ships. If the shells follow the parabolic trajectories shown, which ship gets hit first?



3. B 4. need more information

Taken from Peer Instruction by E. Mazur (p. 110)

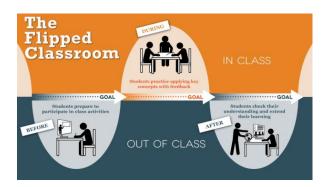
An x-ray beam is incident on tissue surface at 100 cm SSD.



What would happen to the %DD at 15-cm depth if the SSD were increased to 110 cm?

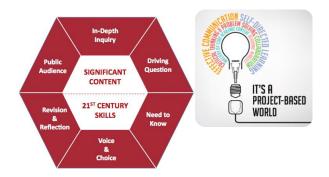
- A. It would increase.
- B. It would decrease.
- C. It would stay the same.
- D. It depends on the x-ray energy.





Project/Problem/Practice-Based Learning (PBL)













PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Objectives: This workshop is designed to help medical physicists become better teachers of physicians, graduate students and technologists. In addition to featuring a number of keynote and plenary speakers, participants will engage in several work sessions designed to learn from one another. The objective of the workshop is that each participant will leave with an action plan he or she has designed to be a better teacher.





hare experiences and learn from one another. Each participant will leave with an action plan he or she has designed a a batter tracher. There will be plenty of opportunity to interact with the Summer School Soulby, who have been room for their traching expertise. The Summer School will take place on the historic and scenic University of entroplyania campus.





MPESC Wiki

wikifull.aapm.org/index.php/MPESC

Monday, 1:45 PM, Room 201 Innovation in Medical Physics Education Session