Greetings from the BioQUEST Team!

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P.S. If you’re coming across this newsletter on the QUBES website or on social media, you can subscribe here to keep in touch!

2023 Working Group September Updates
Podcasting in STEM Education

Group members: Sarah Straud, Margaret Goodman, Michael Sitvarin, Katie Sandlin, Christin Monroe, Carlos Goller

September Summary

- We are working as a hybrid Working Group and FMN. We have established some topics that some folks will be developing resources to support and others looking to use podcasts in their courses.
- We are focusing on working together to support development of a resource, development of a podcast, or using a podcast with resource in an existing course.
- We have established our biweekly meeting time and are moving forward with that.

Working Group Connections
We are not working with any other groups, but if there ideas or activities we could support with a podcast episode, poles let us know!

Reach out to Phil Gibson to learn more!

Assessing Collaboration and Leadership Skills with Project Leadership

Group members: Bharti Kaushik, Ashley Poole, Carlos Goller, Heather Rissler, John Starnes, Mary Mulcahy, Pankaj Mehrotra, Sheela Vemu, Stacey Kiser, Usha Sankar, Cora Varas-Nelson, Davida Smyth, Justin Pruneski, Laurel Lorenz

September Summary

- We’ve talked about strategies to receive and provide feedback. Some of us listened to related podcasts from Hidden Brain. The episode Learning For Your Mistakes discusses research that shows that feedback hurts less when we separate feedback from our ego. The episode The Truth About Honesty discusses how providing constructive feedback is essential for helping people grow.
- Recently, Pankaj shared with us an assessment tool that helps students provide constructive feedback to one another. The tool is called Kritik. We share it here in case anyone else finds it useful.
When it comes to group work in our courses, some of us are rethinking how to bring more meaning to our group work. Mary shared a valuable resource from Iowa State about when to use group work.

As members of our working group establish how to use Project Leadership in our courses, we are experimenting with using Project Leadership to help with our own professional development. We are working out different roles and responsibilities for members of our team to take on each week. We will then explore what it is like to provide feedback to one another. We hope to use it to bring awareness to our own leadership development and to gain experience into our student’s perspective of using Project Leadership.

Working Group Connections
There is potential intersections between thinking about how AI can help people either write feedback or analyze feedback

Wanted Ads
As a group, we are thinking about faculty development by implementing Project Leadership with faculty teams such as our Biomes working groups. We're working on writing role descriptions with the goal of distributing the responsibilities amongst all of our team members. If you have ideas that would be helpful for your Biome or other faculty teams, please share with Laurel Lorenz (llorenz@princeton.edu).

Reach out to Laurel Lorenz for more information!

Revealing Hidden Figures in Natural History Collections

Group members:

- Implementation: Molly Phillips, Mary Mulcahy, Pankaj Mehrotra, Shawn Krosnick
- Finishing module WIPs (Works in Progress): Makenzie Mabry, Siobhan Leachman, Jennifer Girón, Bunmi Aina
- Storytelling module: Adania Flemming, Karina Sanchez, Jennifer C. Girón Duque, Jen Kovacs

What have we worked on so far?

- Implementation: We have discussed group members plans for implementing this semester, started assessment questions, and brainstormed another activity linking the introduction module to Scientist Spotlights.
- Storytelling: Brainstormed learning objectives and discussed various sources of information about underrepresented scientists including Scientist Spotlights, BioGraphI, Black in Natural History Museums, and Biodiversify. Karina Sanchez shared resources she has developed on science identity as well!
- Finishing module WIPs: The group has a rough draft of the Activity and Background information for the Bionomia module and is seeking feedback on it from the other members of the hidden figures group.

What are our plans going forward?

- Implementation: Implement one or more modules from the Hidden Figures CURE this semester, and possibly create an extension, or contribute to the storytelling module.
- Storytelling: Create a module draft to share with the wider hidden figures group by the end of the semester.
- Finishing module WIPs: Working to complete the instructor guide for the Bionomia module and starting the Wikidata module.

Working Group Connections
Review the list of working groups.

- Are there intersections between the work you are doing and other groups?
We do not have any formal connections, but there may be possible intersections with the Curriculum Resource for Social Justice and Climate Justice and the DEI and SJ in STEM groups.

**Wanted Ads**

Storytelling modules! Anyone already use Scientist Spotlight in their classroom?

Reach out to [Molly Phillips](mailto:molly.phillips@stem.org) to learn more!

**Inclusive STEM Teaching Project MOOC and Learning Community**

**Group members:** Tamara Basham, Kristen Butela, Brittany Cavazos, Melissa Haswell, Sharon Homer-Drummond, Jennifer Katcher, Melanie Lenahan, Sondra LoRe, Laurel Lorenz, Michelle McWhorter, Ann Showalter, Cora Varas-Nelson, Shawn Zeringue-Krosnick

**September Summary**

- The course had a September kick-off so at this time, there are no updates to share out.

Dept and Sarah are happy to answer questions and a little more information can be found on our group page.

**Using and Abusing AI**

**Group members:** Cora Varas-Nelson, Jen Kovacs, Michael Sitvarin, Rhonda Hughes-Seefeldt, Tamara Basham, Derek Sollberger

**What have we worked on so far?**

- Derek: introduction of tech terms and motivation
- Jen: literature review lesson plans and AI resources

**What are our plans going forward?**

- Tamara: AI tools to aid teacher tasks
- Michael: syllabi statements and concerns
- (and other topics)

**Wanted Ads**

We have a voracious appetite for information about how artificial intelligence may be changing the academic landscape.

- feel free to discuss more back in [our BIOME23 discussion board](#)
- add links to [our links collection](#)
- add files to [our files collection](#)

Reach out to [Derek Sollberger](mailto:derek.sollberger@stem.org) with any questions!

**Blueprint for Accelerating Change in Social Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion in STEM Curricula**

Below are the multiple working groups that were working out of the Blueprint Project:

- [Environmental, Climate, and Social Justice](#)
  - Please visit their site for more details or reach out to the group’s facilitator [Pat Marsteller](mailto:pmars@emory.edu)

- [DEI and SJ in STEM Teaching Resource Guide](#)
  - Check out the project’s page, or reach out to the group’s facilitator [Pat Marsteller](mailto:pmars@emory.edu) with any questions!

- [Resources for Medicine and medical education](#)
  - Contact: Pat Marsteller [pmars@emory.edu](mailto:pmars@emory.edu)
Social Justice Theory
- Check out the project’s page, or reach out to the group’s facilitator Pat Marsteller with any questions!

QUBES Corner
Have you updated your profile yet? Check out this knowledge-based article on "Updating my Profile" that walks through steps for how to make changes to your email, password, profile picture, affiliation, interest, and more! Completed profiles help others on QUBES learn about you, find out more about your interests, and how to get connected with you. All to help us build our BQ community!

Have any questions? Come visit us during office hours, or email info@bioquest.org!

Connect With Us
Have questions about BIOME or beyond? Join us for BioQUEST’s open office hours Wednesdays at 12:00 PM ET & Thursdays at 2:00 PM ET. Visit this page for Zoom and other info!