

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING AND THE QUALITY ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

A RESEARCH PRESENTATION

Nasrin Mirsaleh-Kohan, Texas Woman's University

ABSTRACT

Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn. As Benjamin Franklin stated it nicely, learning heavily depends on getting involved. At Texas Woman's University (TWU), the Quality Enhancement Program (QEP) was developed to integrate experiential education in curriculum. Experiential learning at TWU may include internships, service learning projects, civic engagement, scholarship, and creative activities. In this presentation, we will discuss various class and individual experiential learning projects incorporated at TWU, especially in the Physics courses. For instance, the physics photobook project is a project designed in alignment with the QEP objectives. With the photobook project students are asked to capture physics principles in pictures. This project was designed to give students a chance to independently think about what they have learned in class and look around for examples of the concepts in their everyday lives. In another project, students were asked to make videos that represent physics principles. Additionally, various individual projects have been implemented with my students at TWU such as the introduction of complementary media in physics lectures, integrating computer-based experiments into the physics laboratories and understanding the reason TWU students choose to leave STEM fields. In this presentation, details of these projects, their challenges and benefits and overall learning outcomes will be discussed.

For further information, contact the lead presenter:

Nasrin Mirsaleh-Kohan

Assistant Professor

Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry

Texas Woman's University

Denton, TX 76204

Phone: (940) 898-2035

E-Mail: nmirsalehkohan@twu.edu