



Improving Your Teaching

Visiting Regional Teaching
Academy Fellow

Dr. Andrew West, PhD

*Director of the Academy for Teaching and Learning in the College of Veterinary Medicine and
Biomedical Sciences at Colorado State University*

April 11, 2018





Invited Guest Speaker - Dr. Andrew West

Improving Your Teaching

Schedule:

12:10 pm –Seminar: *“Strategies for a More Effective Lecture”*

Description: Giving lectures can be one of the most difficult things that we do as teachers, in part, because the context is typically one of passive learning and limited interaction. How do we change this paradigm without having to completely rewrite all of our lectures? In this session, Andrew will share strategies that can be incorporated into existing lectures to help make them more engaging and more effective.

4:00 pm – Seminar: *“Balancing Student Learning with Caseload and Hospital Efficiency”*

Description: In the midst of a busy clinic day, it can be challenging to provide both high quality care and high quality teaching. In this session, Andrew will share several potential strategies for addressing this challenge

Peer Observation: Dr. West was able to perform an external peer observation of a VTH faculty member on the clinic floor during his visit.

For more information, please see the website:

<http://www.vetmed.wsu.edu/innovative-education/teaching-academy/events/invited-guest-speakers/andrew-west>



Dr. Andrew West, PhD is the Director of the Academy for Teaching and Learning in the College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences at Colorado State University. His role includes working with faculty to develop innovative approaches to sustain and promote excellence in educational programs and to make improvements in areas identified by faculty, students, alumni, employers, and the veterinary profession. Prior to joining CSU, Andrew was an Assistant Professor of Science Teacher Education at Western Kentucky University. Andrew holds an MEd and PhD in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Missouri and a BS in Biological Sciences from Montana State University.



12:10 pm - Seminar: "Strategies for a More Effective Lecture"

30 Faculty, residents, interns, graduate students, and staff members from the College of Veterinary Medicine attended this seminar. Those that attended, 16 participated in the feedback survey (53.3% response rate), in which 100% found the seminar to be useful/valuable to very useful/valuable experience.



Most Valuable aspect of the seminar:

- Having seen the presentation before, I was able to process it more and think about ideas about intent. I think that it was useful to reinforce ideas that I currently utilize in my teaching and how to implement them in a thoughtful way. I also have a clearer understanding of the balloon in the box physic lesson :).
- Practical organized information with data to support
- Lecture organization ideas.
- Practical changes I could make without remodeling everything I do as an instructor
- Encouraging and demonstrating "explore then explain."
- I actually Like everything in the presentation. He has smoothly presented a very clear steps on how we can improve our lectures to be very useful to the students
- Perspective, teaching and seeing a topic or the service/hospital from a different/altered perspective, then try to convey a discussion/idea/thought into action/practice.
- Dr. West is a very engaging speaker. He can walk the walk. He also gave the audience ONE very useful tool that they could take away and try to apply in their own teaching. His table/lecture agenda was a very effective way of mapping what typically happens in a lecture and he brilliantly demonstrated how that agenda could be flipped to better engage students.
- Giving tips and examples of how best to incorporate this into specific individual situations. Also I appreciated the small examples of things I can do right now, rather than try to implement something that is too big to do right away (like flipping the classroom).
- Explicit examples.
- The best part of the seminar for me was that the speaker modeled what he was encouraging. So, rather than sharing an anecdote about how their previous students engaged with certain concepts, he has the audience participate in a simulation of the same exercise he used in the past.
- "How to make a simple layout switch to a lecture to make it more effective. Andrew's ability to engage."
- Ways to incorporate trigger material before teaching content.



When Asked - "Will you change or experiment the way you teach as a result of attending this seminar?"

Yes, I have already started	12.5%
Yes, certainly/without question	43.8%
Yes, likely	43.8%

What are you planning or likely changes to your teaching?

- When I am preparing lectures continue to be mindful of having explore and explain moments rather than just covering topics. I use the moments of ARS (Top Hat) as review of previous lectures, and clarifying ideas. I think that I need to have more ways to get the explore portion of my lecture integrated. Which is my goal for the next school year.
- Reordering lecture to present a problem- have student think about it- then present the lecture
- I'm starting with questions to engage student and interest them in the topic of the day. It was a beautifully simple technique to change the way I organize the time
- Do more explore then explain episodes in lecture.
- Mostly I will try to follow the structure that he suggested and see how will work for my class in future
- Diagram discussions at the board instead of just ppt. slides and words.
- I already make wide use of the strategy outlined, mostly using cases. However, the talk has stimulated to look for more opportunities when I can start with an engaging questions. I already see several of these in my course next fall, and I look forward to seeing how the sessions might be altered.
- Provide work students can do ahead of time so that I don't have to read to them (like basic review of what the liver does, or basic review of anatomy). This will free up time for interactive examples like case examples or multiple choice questions.
- changing the structure of the seminar, providing case examples to work through with discussion between students as well as student to lecturer
- I'm not currently teaching; however, in my current role as an instructional designer, I can take what Dr. West discussed and brainstorm ways for other faculty to take a similar approach. Additionally, I can point them to the recording of the session.
- Changing lecture presentation style.
- More challenging and thought provoking examples that can be analyzed in different ways and built upon

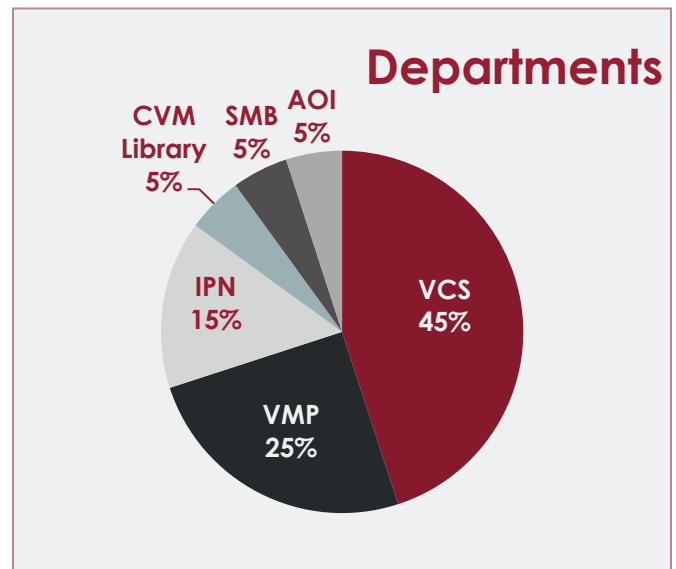
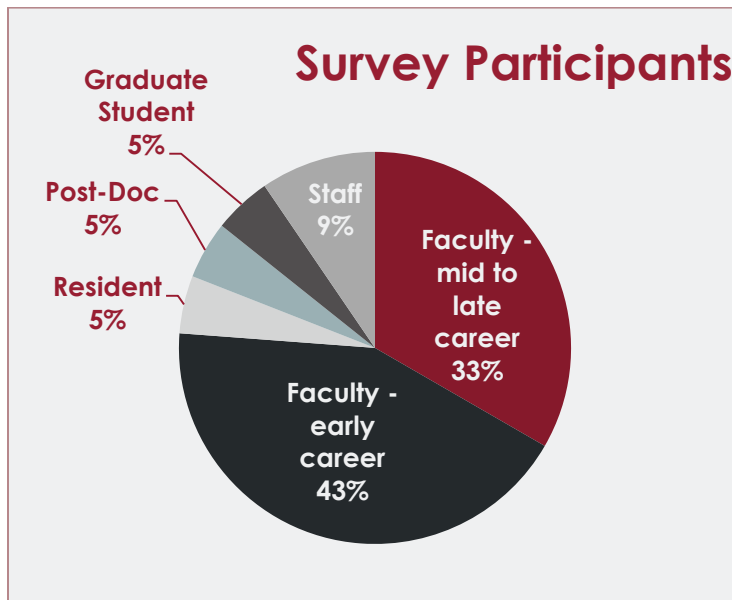




do things and staying efficient is a probability of the mind staying open to change and new ways to do things.

- I do not have control over the rotation schedule or operation. If I did, I'd make changes right away.
- I am considering changing how I schedule appointments, so that I may schedule off one afternoon or morning a week, to have more of a hands-on lab with the students on the rotation.
- Help team members find their own creative solutions that would work in their context.

Overall Survey Participant Results:



General Comments:

- I think it would have been nice to have more than 1 hr with Andrew's presentation. In a workshop format I believe especially the more junior (newer to teaching) faculty would have benefited from more in depth discussions.
- Great speaker with practical tips and much enthusiasm
- Engaging speaker offered something for everyone in a format that was most accessible
- It was great idea of having this seminar and I learn a lot form an expert how came from different part of the country. I really wish to attend more of these seminars during the teaching academy program.
- Dr. West's session was excellent and very fun. The "small bite" of giving us just ONE tool to experiment was also good. However, I would also have liked to take away a bit more. Perhaps there should be 1 BIG idea and maybe 2 other smaller ideas. Just a thought.
- I would like a copy of a couple of the slides that showed examples of how to change your 1 hr lecture schedule, to remember all of the examples he gave.
- I enjoyed the seminar overall and found it incredibly insightful and engaging. My one suggestion for the Teaching Academy, would be to use a different means for recording sessions--the quality

Invited Guest Speaker - Dr. Andrew West



of the recording isn't that great and the sound gets a little spotty at times. Additionally, it's hard to see/hear audience participants.

- I guess I am just curious to know what clinical faculty, house officers and/or graduates think of the program in comparison to the previous organizational structure. What improved, and what were some unintended adverse consequences?
- "Great visitor! I teach Tu-Th at noon, so it was great to have a Wednesday noon session"
- I would really thank him for sharing his teaching experience.
- "His presentation and energy were great! Thank you for providing this service to us!"
- Dr. West was an engaging lecturer with practical ways to improve student learning. I really enjoyed his lectures.
- It was interesting to hear and contemplate different approaches and will be interesting to see how well it works.
- They were great

