



# Biology FEST:

Faculty Explorations in Scientific Teaching

# Welcome to the Biology FEST Launch Party!



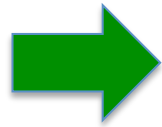
HHMI



# Biology FEST:

Faculty Explorations in Scientific Teaching

## Agenda



**12:30 Arrival, Lunch, and Agenda**

**12:45 Welcome, Goals, & Advisory Board**

**12:55 Table Introductions**

**1:05 Unpacking HHMI Biology FEST Proposal**

**1:35 Exploring Opportunities for Involvement**

**1:50 Reflection and Assessment**

**1:55 Looking Forward and Next Steps**

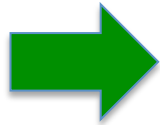


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## Faculty Explorations in Scientific Teaching

### Goals for today...

- Begin to build a community in our biology department focused on exploring scientific teaching
- Unpack the proposed effort and address clarifying questions
- Explore the many opportunities to be involved
- Share what we're excited and concerned about
- Look forward to gathering more often to learn from one another



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# Biology FEST:

Faculty Explorations in Scientific Teaching

## 2012-13 Advisory Board

**Zheng-Hui He**

**Jonathan Knight**

**Leticia Marquez-Magaña**

**Chris Moffatt**

**Sally Pasion**

**Andy Zink**



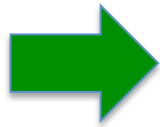
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## Introductions

Write on an index card:

1. Your name...
2. One thing you do – that you are most proud – to support the teaching and learning of biology in our department...



# Biology FEST:

Faculty Explorations in Scientific Teaching

## Introductions

Share with your tablemates:

1. Your name...
2. One thing you do – that you are most proud – to support the teaching and learning of biology in our department...



# Biology FEST:

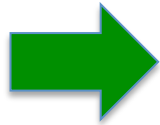
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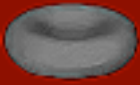


# Biology FEST:

## Faculty Explorations in Scientific Teaching

### Why you are all here!

- HHMI has invested in all of us, as a department, including faculty, staff, and students
- Last year was first year SFSU was eligible to apply
- 43 awards made to 47 institutions
- SFSU will receive \$1.5 million over 4 years
- Largest award to single campus



# Biology FEST:

## Faculty Explorations in Scientific Teaching

### Reviewers' Comments

*"Excellent potential for impact, given the survey data about the desire of faculty in the Biology Department for this change..."*

*"...likely to be successful as a large percentage of the faculty (88%) indicated interest in additional pedagogical training."*

*"It is so true that the vast majority of us that teach do so having come straight from graduate school with little to no teaching experience. It is also true that most of us are so busy that we aren't current with theories of/best practices for teaching. And, there is a high activation energy barrier to change... The department survey data presented builds a compelling case that this biology department is ready for this type of change."*



# Biology FEST:

Faculty Explorations in Scientific Teaching

## Framing Questions

Share with your table partners:

What questions do you have about the HHMI Biology FEST Project Summary and/or grant narrative that you'd like to have clarified?

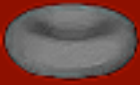


# Biology FEST:

## Faculty Explorations in Scientific Teaching

### Framing Questions

- How are funds allocated? Monies for coordinator for each lab course? \$ to work on labs over summer?
- Grant focused on pedagogy versus content? How can we improve quantitative skills at all levels?
- What resources are available to improve our teaching?
- What does intellectual resources mean?
- Foster infrastructure development? What the ?!%\$#! Is that? What 's the impact on curriculum?
- How do we reckon with the fact that at RTP meetings we talk about research? What are the rewards for teaching innovation?
- What % grant is faculty devo vs. curriculum development?
- How does this grant address online teaching?





# Biology FEST:

## Faculty Explorations in Scientific Teaching

### Overarching Goals...

- Build a professional community among SFSU biology faculty focused on exploring scientific teaching methods
- Provide material and intellectual resources to support teaching innovation among biology faculty
- Engage faculty in design and analysis of assessments to gauge student learning in classrooms and across the curriculum
- Foster discussions and development of visions for future curricular change based on assessment evidence



# HHMI



# Biology FEST:

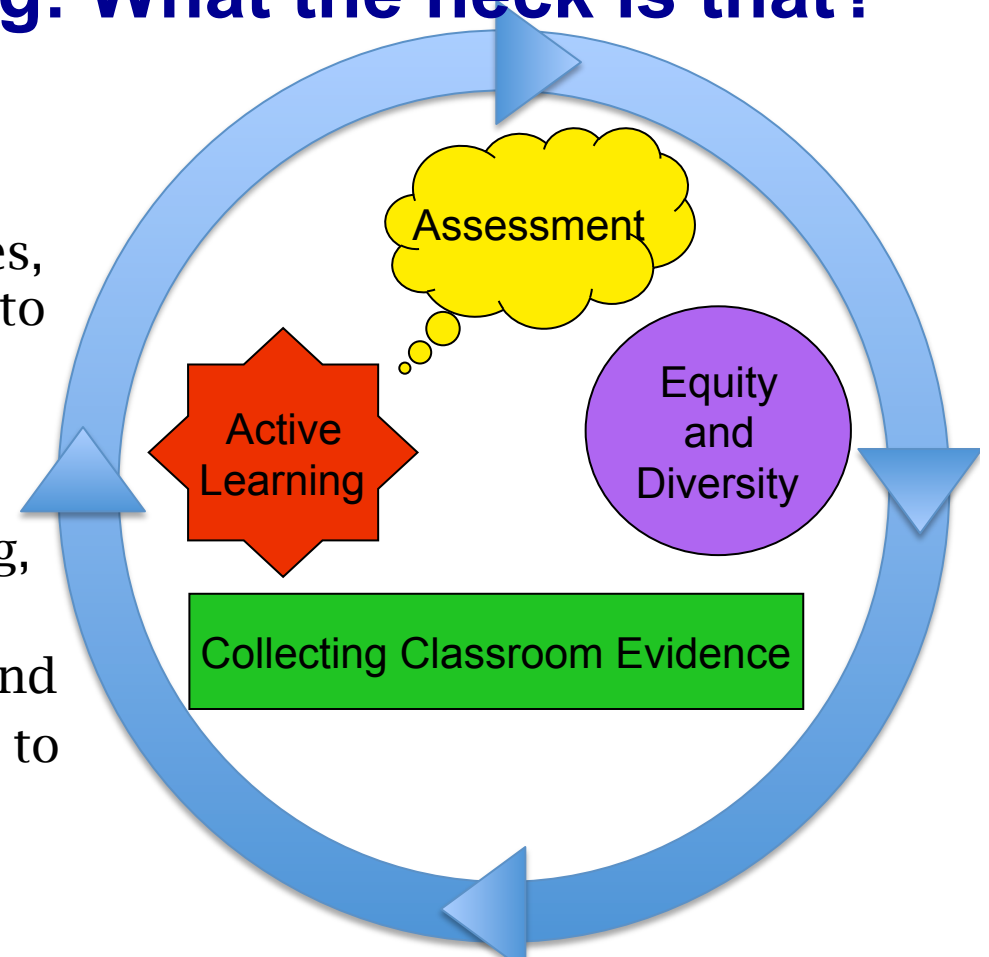
## Faculty Explorations in Scientific Teaching

### Strategies to address our goals...

#### 1. Scientific Teaching: What the heck is that?

*“Scientific teaching does not attempt to provide particular solutions to teaching challenges, but rather charges instructors to apply their analytical skills to gain insights into effective approaches for:*

- engaging students in learning,
- designing assessments that gauge student conceptions, and
- promoting equity and access to science learning for all students.”

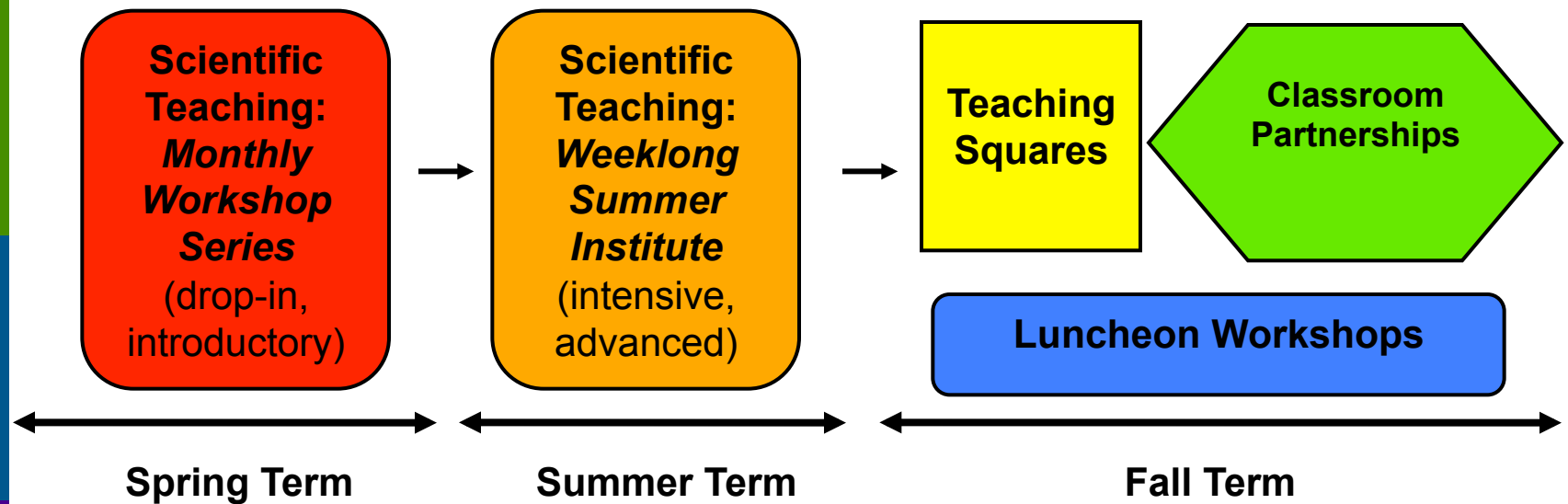


# Biology FEST:

## Faculty Explorations in Scientific Teaching

Strategies to address our goals...

2. Provide multiple ways to participate...



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**Opportunities to be Involved...**

**Please see  
handout!**



# Biology FEST:

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## Reflection and Assessment

- On one side of an index card...

*What are you most excited about in looking forward to our HHMI Biology FEST efforts together?*

- On the other side...

*What about you most concerned about?*

***Anonymous!***



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## Looking Forward & Next Steps

Biology FEST Luncheon Workshop #1

**Tuesday, November 27<sup>th</sup>**

**12:30-2 pm**

*Simple Strategies to Promote  
Active Learning and Engagement  
in Biology Courses*

*...invitation and rsvp link will arrive in your email inbox soon...*

