#### Transforming Modeling Instruction in a Large Classroom Environment

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> AAPT Summer 2018 Tue, July 31<sup>st</sup>, 9:10-9:20am



#### Acknowledgements

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Science & Mathematics Teacher Imperative

# What is Modeling Instruction?



- Student-centered studio class
- Integrated lecture/lab
- Student focus on group work
- Highly scaffold activities
- Student led discussion
- Includes both curriculum materials and pedagogical design.



# What is Modeling Instruction?



- Focuses on model
  development, testing, and
  refinement
- Physics content isuniquely organizedaround general physicsmodels
  - Example: Energy before Forces



- Brewe, E. AJP 76, 1155 (2008); doi: 10.1119/1.2983148
- Brewe, E. and Sawtelle, V. (2018) Eur. J. Phys. 39 054001



#### FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

- Public, Urban, R1 Research University in Miami
- Hispanic serving institution
- 83% commuter students
- 79% students locally recruited







Classroom of 30 students





- Classroom of 30 students
- Ten tables arranged in a semi-circle





- Significant differences on FCI learning gains as compared to lecture courses
- The odds of success in MI is 6.73 larger than lecture



**STEM Transformation Institute** FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY  Brewe E, Sawtelle V, Kramer L, O'Brien G, Rodriguez I and Pamelá P (2010), Phys. Rev. Spec. Top. Phys. Educ. Res. 6 010106



- Classroom of 30 students
- Ten tables arranged in a semi-circle
- Significant differences on FCI learning gains as compared to lecture courses
- The odds of success in MI is 6.73 larger than lecture
- First 6 MI Instructors achieved significant positives shifts on CLASS





**STEM Transformation Institute** Florida International University • Eric Brewe, Adrienne Traxler, Jorge de la Garza, and Laird H. Kramer, Phys. Rev. ST Phys. Educ. Res. 9, 020116

### Now: Large class



• Classroom fits 96 students





## Now: Large class



- Classroom fits 96 students
- 16 tables of six students with room partitions if needed



# Now: Large class



- Classroom fits 96 students
- 16 tables of six students with room partitions if needed
- We hold 3 coordinated discussion meetings in parallel
  - Anchored with instructor guide
  - And weekly planning meetings
- LAs lead discussion circles
  - New LAs are matched with more experienced LA



#### Resources

### Then

- 30 student class
- Instructional Team
  - One faculty
  - One Learning Assistant
- Institutionally cost ineffective\*

#### Now

- 75+ student class
- Instructional Team
  - One faculty
  - One Graduate Teaching Assistant
  - Two Learning Assistants
- Institutionally cost effective



 Brewe E, Dou R., Shand R. (2018) Phys. Rev. ST Phys. Educ. Res. 14 010109, DOI: 10.1103/PhysRevPhysEducRes.14.010109

# Learning Gains



- Current Large Modeling Class learning effect is averaged at **1.28** (CI 1.13-1.44)
- Historic Modeling effect is **1.41** (1.28,1.54)
- Historic Lecture effect is **0.88** (0.81-0.96)



Changed the learning diagnostic form FCI to FMCE in the large class

# Conclusion

- Scaling to a larger classroom environment, Modeling Instruction has effective learning gains
  - Proper implementation relies on coordinated parallel discussion circles
  - LA recruitment and training for leadership
- Note our outcomes in the context of our diverse student population
- More information in my poster
  - PST1C24, Monday July 30th 9:15-10:00pm
  - PERC Poster Session II # B72, Wednesday, August 1st, 8:00pm

