

*Centre for Science Education – Aarhus University* 

# Technology Transforming Math & Science Education: *Are We There Yet?*



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March 23, 2015

#### Acknowledgements



The Teaching and Learning Enhancement Fund: supporting and encouraging innovation in teaching and the learning environment



#### UBC TLEF support 2012-2015









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# **My Science Education** Trajectory





Varniar

## Our Science Education Trajectory



From world renowned "schools of physics" led by Bohr, Landau, etc. to the mass production of students in large courses...





#### **Science Education in Canada**

# Science Exposure



# University

#### Elem Second

B. Science

Other fields



### **Teacher Education in Canada**

# Bachelor Subject + B.Ed.





### **Teacher Education in Canada**

PHYSICS AND EDUCATION

#### PROMOTING RESEARCH-BASED PHYSICS TEACHER EDUCATION IN CANADA: BUILDING BRIDGES BETWEEN THEORY AND PRACTICE

#### BY MARINA MILNER-BOLOTIN

ore than 25 years ago, Lee S. Shulman, then president of the American Educational Research Association<sup>[1]</sup>, challenged us to re-think how we prepare teachers through focussing on *Pedagogical Content Knowledge* (PCK) - the knowledge of content and content-specific pedagogies. Shulman pointed out that in their attempt to incorporate generic educational research, many Teacher Education Programs suffered from the "missing paradigm" problem. They pedlected the nature content-specific professional development, teacher education programs should emphasize the development of teacher-candidates' PCK.

Lastly, there is a significant gap between the findings of Physics Education Research (PER)<sup>[4]</sup> and current physics teaching practices. In the words of a Laureate, Prof. Carl Wiema





# Gates' Foundation 2015 Report (January 2015)





This framework identifies two distinct segments that account for over 40% of the faculty and are well poised to be adopters of techniques, tools, and behaviors which will benefit students. Of this entire group, half are already adopting some emerging practices, and may serve as exemplars to others. (p. 5)

[FTI Consulting. (2015). U.S. Postsecondary Faculty in 2015: Diversity in people, goals and methods, but focused on students: FTI Consulting.]

# Our Research on Technology Use in Science Education

- 1. Peer Instruction (clickers)
- 2. Collaborative student work (PeerWise)
- 3. Live Data collection and analysis (Logger Pro)
- 4. Computer simulations (PhET)







Peer Wise<sup>2</sup>

comments written by you

Showing new replies on

DCP357 (Winter 1, 2013)

#### I. Peer Instruction

# Electronic response systems (clickers) in science classrooms...







Instruction

P

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An instructor leads a summary discussion with the class: the reasons for correct answer as well as the reasons for choosing the incorrect answers are elicited from the students.

### **PI: Challenging Assumptions**



#### Answers given by pre-service physics teachers

### **Peer Instruction Example**

The work needed to stretch a spring **10 cm** from equilibrium (from  $x_1 = 0$  m to  $x_2 = 0.1$  m) is **10 J**. How much work needs to be done to stretch the spring additional **10 cm** (from  $x_2 = 0.1$  m to  $x_3 = 0.2$  m)?

- A. 5 J
- B. 10 J
- C. 20 J
- D. 30 J
- E. 40 J



### **Peer Instruction in Action**



#### **Respondents:** Physics Teacher-Candidates

# Math & Science Teaching & Learning through Technology

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* Awards	CREATE is a faculty-wide initiativ	CREATE is a faculty-wide initiative established by Dr. Rita Irwin,			MATH & SCIENCE TEACHING & LEARNING		
* Current Students * Prospective Stud	<ul> <li>Associate Dean of Teacher Education at UBC.</li> </ul>	ation programs, to inspire innovations	GRAVITATION				
* Faculty and Staff	Seminars are held in Neville Scar	Seminars are held in Neville Scarfe, Room 310 from 12:30 - 2:00 p.m.					
CREATE (unless otherwise noted).				WAVE MOTION AND OPTICS			
Presenta On October	ation about MSTLTT Pro	ject	PARTICLE AND NUCLEAR PHYSICS				
seminar to f	faculty and students at UBC Teac	her Education Program	EQUILIBRIUM				
Read More			ELECTROSTATISTICS				

# **Navigating the Resource**

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HOME ABO	UT - RESEARCH		SECONDARY -	ADD YOUR PRESENTATION	NEWS	
» Home » Secondary » Physics » Dynamics » Forces						

#### FORCES



Exploration of free body diagrams, two body acceleration, and Newton's law through the system of two blocks attached through a pulley and one of them resting on a table. acceleration, forces, friction, Newton's laws,

pulleys, string tension

rating 常常常常常 (No Ratings Yet)



Exploration of free body diagrams, two body acceleration, and newton's laws through the system of two blocks resting on a pyramid and attached by a pulley.

acceleration, forces, friction, gravitational acceleration, net force, normal force, weight

rating 常常常常常 (No Ratings Yet)

- Mathematics
- Physics
  - » Vectors
  - Kinematics
  - Dynamics
    - » Forces
    - » Springs
    - » Newton's Laws
  - Momentum
  - » Work, Energy, Power
  - » Thermodynamics
  - » Circular Motion
  - » Gravitation
  - » Wave motion and Optics
  - » Particle and Nuclear Physics

# **Navigating the Resource**

rating 常常常常常 (No Ratings Yet)

Cruising Car 60 km/h An introduction to acceleration and newton's laws using a demonstration of a commuting car. <u>acceleration</u>, <u>displacement</u>, <u>distance</u>, <u>forces</u>, <u>net</u> <u>force</u>, <u>velocity</u>

rating 常常常常常 (No Ratings Yet)



Tension Forces

How does a reading on a scale change when on a moving elevator? Scenarios with an elevator moving at different velocities and acceleration will be considered. The concepts learned will then be used to analyze data from a real-life experiment. <u>acceleration</u>, <u>gravitational acceleration</u>, <u>mass</u>, <u>net</u> force, normal force, real-life data, velocity, weight

rating 常常常常常 (No Ratings Yet)

The following set of questions apply Newton's Second Law to scenarios with multiple blocks held together by the tension force from strings.

acceleration area centripetal force common ratio conservation of energy conservation of momentum conversion Factors counting current displacement distance elastic collisions forces frames of reference free-body diagrams friction graphs gravitational acceleration gravitational potential energy inelastic collisions kinetic energy molar mass mole net force normal force numbers patterns percentages permutations power probability projectile motion ratios rectangles resistance sequences series tension triangles trigonometry unit circle vectors velocity voltage weight

#### http://scienceres-edcp-educ.sites.olt.ubc.ca/

# **Blocks and a Pulley**

Two blocks are connected via a pulley. The blocks are initially at rest as block  $m_1$  is attached to a wall. If string A breaks, what will the accelerations of the blocks be? (Assume friction is very small and strings don't stretch)



### Solution

#### Answer: E

**Justification:** None of the above answers is correct. Consider two blocks as one system: one can see that the system has a mass of  $(m_1+m_2)$ , while the net force pulling the system down is  $m_1g$ . Therefore, applying Newton's second law, one can see that the acceleration of the system must be less than g:

$$a = \frac{m_2 g}{\left(m_1 + m_2\right)} = \frac{m_2}{\left(m_1 + m_2\right)} g < g$$

Some people think that the acceleration will be g. They forget that the system consists of two blocks (not just  $m_1$ ) and the only pulling force is  $m_1g$ . Thus the system is NOT in a free fall. Compare this questions to the previous one to see the difference.

#### II. PeerWise Online System

#### PeerWise<sup>2</sup>

#### EDCP357 (Winter 1, 2013)

Home | Main menu > Comments written by you

#### Comments written by you

Comments written by you, about questions you have answered, are shown below.

#### Select an order:

New replies Most recent first Show agreements only Show disagreements only

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No comments to view

Return to main menu

http://peerwise.cs.auckland.ac.nz/



#### What is PeerWise?

Students use PeerWise to create and to explain their understanding of course related assessment questions, and to answer and discuss questions created by their peers.

## Technology-Enhanced Active Engagement Integration

	Question	View histogram screen shot
A ball tra point it le Assume horizonta	vels through the circular track until point r, at which aves the channel to travel across a frictionless floor. a bird's eye view, and that all motion is in the I plane.	
Which pa follow aft	ath will the ball most closely (B) (A) (A) (C) (C) (C) (C) (C) (C) (C) (C) (C) (C) (C) (C) (C) (C) (C)	

Peer Instruction modeled in every class PeerWise used to design, critique, respond to Conceptual Questions as a community of future teachers

 EDCP357 (Winter 1, 2013)

 Home | Main menu > Comments written by you

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### **PeerWise Pedagogy**

[Res. & Pract. in Math, Sci. & Techn. Ed., 2013. 1(5): LUMAT 1(5), 2013 p. 525-544.] Modeling Active Engagement Pedagogy through Classroom **Response Systems in a Physics Teacher Education Course** Marina Milner-Bolotin Department of Curriculum and Ped **EDUCATION CORNER** marina.milner-bolotin@ubc.ca S Heather Fisher Department of Curriculum and Ped USING PEERWISE TO PROMOTE STUDENT P Alexandra MacDonald A COLLABORATION ON DESIGN OF CONCEPTUAL Department of Curriculum and Ped C MULTIPLE-CHOICE PHYSICS QUESTIONS Abstract One of the most comm R and Mathematics (STEM) educat instructors generate in-class discus BY MARINA MILNER-BOLOTIN\* DEPARTMENT OF CURRICULUM AND PEDAGOGY É UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA contributed to Peer very physics instructor who ever used clicker-Table enhanced pedagogy knows that coming up with dagogically effective conceptual questions

[Physics in Canada., 2014, 70(3): p. 149-150]

# III: Live Data Collection & Analysis

2007, Journal of College Science Teaching, 36(4), 45-49.

#### Can Students Learn from Lecture Demonstrations? The Role and Place of Interactive Lecture Experiments in Large

Lecture Experiments in Large Introductory Science Courses

By Marina Milner-Bolotin, Andrzej

2008, The Physics Teacher, 46(8), 494-500.

#### **Physics Exam Problems Reconsidered:** Using Logger Pro to Evaluate Student Understanding of Physics

Marina Milner-Bolotin, Ryerson University, Toronto, ON

Rachel Moll, The University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC



## Example: Demos vs. Interactive Lecture Experim's

A 0.2-kg pendulum bob is attached to a string 1.2 m long. The bob is released at the point A as shown in the picture. The tension in the string as the bob passes its lowest position is about (use g = 10 m/s2):

(A) 0.00 N (B) 0.70 N (C) 1.30 N (D) 2.00 N (E) 2.70 N Tension in a pendulum's string exam problem. Only 25% of the students chose the correct response. 59% chose the incorrect response (D).

[M. Milner-Bolotin et al, Journal of College Science Teaching, January-February 2007, pp.45-49.]

### Pedagogy: Interactive Lecture Experiment



Students work in small groups, collect necessary data, come up with the analysis and solution and then check if their answer is meaningful using in-class live experiment (data collection).

Traditional lecture demonstrations are replaced by Interactive Lecture Experiments

#### **Post-Instruction Results**



### **Making Science Relevant**

Why do you sometimes feel lighter and sometimes heavier in an elevator?





A water jar was placed on a force plate inside a moving elevator: weight and apparent weight problem

### **IV: Computer Simulations**

home - about - terms - credits - feedback

#### Welcome to the Physics Classroom! Classroom

#### The Physics Classroom Tutorial

A set of instructional pages written in an easy-to-understand language and complemented by graphics and Check Your Understanding sections. An ideal starting location for those grasping for understanding or searching for answers.

#### Minds on Physics Internet Modules

The Minds On Physics Internet Modules utilize a collection of carefully crafted questions to challenge students' misconceptions concerning physics concepts. Interactive Shockwave files have been combined with web-based instructional resources to assist students in becoming aware of and altering their conceptual understanding of the world of motion, waves and electricity.

#### Multimedia Physics Studios

A large collection of GIF animations and OuickTime movies designed to demonstrate physics principles in a visual manner. Each animation is accompanied by explanations and links to further information.

#### Shockwave Physics Studios

A collection of pages which feature interactive Shockwave files that simulate a physical situation. Users can manipulate a variable and observe the outcome of the change on the physical situation.



American Association of Physics Teachers





Physics Tutorial

Physics

Minds on Physics

Multimedia Physics Studios

Shockwave Physics Studios

The Review Session

Physics Help

Curriculum Corner

The Laboratory

# **Developing Science Intuition**

Simulations help develop physics intuition via testing experimentally different scenarios – WHAT IF...? (Think critical thinking).





We can place the pendulum on Moon, Earth, Jupiter or even Planet X...



#### **Conclusions: Deliberate Pedagogical Thinking with Technology**

Technology opens unprecedented opportunities for educators, but we have just scratched the surface. We have to explore how to use it to promote meaningful science education. Teacher education both at K-12 and post-secondary levels should model effective research-based uses of technology.



### UBC Science Teacher Education





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#### PISA results show dropping maths abilities

Danish students still produce second-best PISA results in Nordics despite dropping performance in mathematics



and at mathematic