

## Faculty, Become a PLTL Implementer

We invite you to participate in the PLTL model. If you are interested in implementing peer-led team learning, or are already involved in doing workshops and want more help or information, contact:

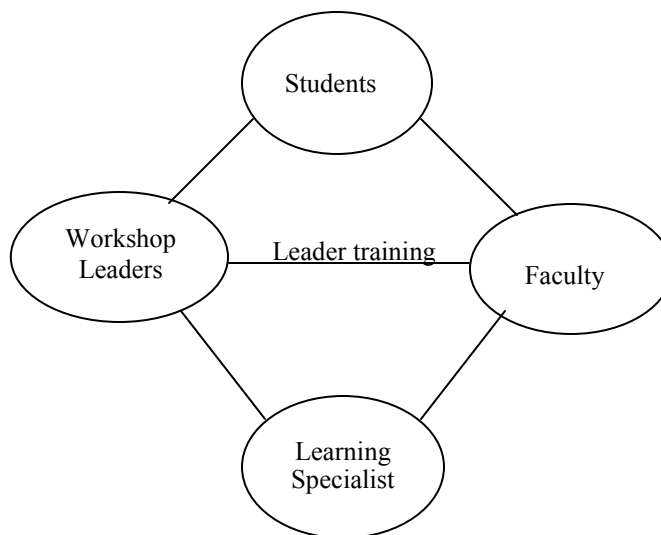
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Or

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The national PLTL program maintains a website at:

<http://www.sci.cny.cuny.edu/~chemwksp>



Be a part of the  
Workshop Team

University of West  
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## The Workshop Project

Peer-Led Team  
Learning



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## The Workshop Model

The Workshop model is a peer-led, team-learning model of teaching chemistry and other undergraduate science disciplines. The Workshop Model provides an active learning experience for students, creates a leadership role for undergraduates, and engages faculty in a creative new dimension in teaching.

In the Workshop Model, students who have done well in the course previously become guides and mentors, *Workshop Leaders*, to small groups of six to eight students. These peer-led groups, which meet weekly to work on carefully structured problems, provide a supportive environment that helps each student build understanding of science. For the Workshop leaders, the experience of working with faculty and guiding their peers through a difficult course is rewarding and unforgettable, and can have a profound effect on their individual and professional growth.

Each semester, the Workshop Model is currently implemented by 50 faculty and 300 leaders for over 2500 students at 30 diverse colleges and universities. The Model was started in the early '90s at CUNY and the U. of Rochester.

## XIDS 2002

Students who lead a workshop are required to enroll in XIDS 2002 the first term of leadership. This course, "What Do You Really Know About Leadership," will enable the student to learn leadership theories and methods that will be very beneficial not only in workshop leadership but in many areas of leadership.



For many introductory students, the workshop leader is a lifesaver.

## Critical Components of Peer-Led Team Learning

- Workshops are an integral part of the course.
- Challenging materials are used in consultation with the instructor.
- Workshop Leaders are well trained.
- Faculty are closely involved with the workshops and the workshop leaders.
- Organizational arrangements are optimized.
- There is appropriate instructional support for innovative learning

## Role of Workshop Leader

The workshop leader has several roles. However, it is clear that the role is not that of lecturer or "expert." The workshop leader is there to actively engage students with the materials and with each other. This facilitation can take many forms: organizing "round robin" or "pair" style problem solving, offering timely assistance, when a group is stuck, and providing encouragement and guidance in the study of science. The workshop leader needs to set a tone for the discussion in which individual points of view are respected, the criticism is constructive, and all members have an equal opportunity to participate. The workshop leaders don't dispense answers, they must know when to help, and when to let the student work out the problem alone.