Lesson Plan

Title: Strategies for Increasing Student Interaction in the Classroom

Duration: Two hour workshop

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Description: This three hour workshop will introduce participating faculty to specific strategies that foster student interaction in the classroom.

Goals: Participants will develop an understanding of research showing that classroom interaction enhances learning.

Participants will be exposed to a variety of classroom strategies that foster interaction.

Participants will develop several strategies for student interaction they can use in their classrooms.

Resources:

Pre-Workshop Readings:

Brain-Based Learning, RIT's Learning Development Center: LDC Lately: Vol. 3, No. 1 Fall 2001.

Merging Brain Research with Educational Learning Principles by Allyson D. Saunders and Colleen Vawdrey. Business Education Forum, Vol. 57 No. 1, Oct. 2002.

Bloom's Taxonomy Websites:
www.bena.com/ewinters/Bloom.html
www.kcmetro.cc.mo.us/longview/ctac/blooms.htm

"Facilitating Discussion: Posing Problems, Listening, and Questioning" Chapter 5 from *Teaching Tips: Strategies, Research, and Theory for College and University Teachers*, William McKeachie, 10th edition.

Materials Used During Workshop:

       Brain-based learning principles (PowerPoint)
       Bloom's Taxonomy – levels of questions (PowerPoint)
       Strategies for Increasing Interaction (PowerPoint)

       Videotapes of Classroom Interaction

       Worksheets for developing questions

       One minute papers (question to be answered, paper copies)

       Examples (paper copies) of group projects

Workshop Plan:

1. Introduction (15 minutes)
    a. Outline of workshop including evaluation and development of strategies to use in home college classroom.
    b. The one minute paper: "What is your current style of presentation?"

2. Traditional emphasis on lecture. (10 minutes)
    a. Video of a lecture
    b. Reaction to this lecture (write one or two comments, share with person sitting next to you)

3. Brain based learning principles (20 minutes)
    a. PowerPoint presentation on principles
    b. Reaction to the principles (write one or two comments about these principles. Do they make sense to you?)
    c. Participants share their thoughts with entire group

4. Bloom's Taxonomy (20 minutes)
    a. PowerPoint presentation showing levels of questions using Bloom.
    b. Videotape of examples of questioning in a classroom using Levels 1, 2 and 3
    c. Participants write questions that could be used in their classes for Levels 1, 2 and 3

Break (10-15 minutes)

5. Bloom Practice continued (20-30 minutes)

      a. Participants sit in a group of three and share the questions they wrote for Levels 1, 2 and 3 that could be used in their classes

      b. Videotape of examples questioning in the classroom using Level 4, 5 and 6

      c. Participants write questions that could be used in their classes for Levels 4, 5 and 6

      d. Participants sit in a group of three and share the questions they wrote for Levels 4, 5 and 6 that could be used in their classes

6. Examples of Involving students in the classroom beyond questioning: (30)

   - Have students write a reaction or answers to problems (modeled in this workshop)
   - Have students come to the board to solve or explain problems (modeled)
   - Student presentations (videotape of example)
   - Group critique (videotape of example)
   - Students work in pairs to solve problems (paper example)
   - Set up games for review (example of "Who wants to be a Management Millionaire?")
   - Management: "Who do you fire?" Group activity example

Break (10-15)

7. In groups of three participants brainstorm strategies that they can use in their own classrooms. Each group has a recorder who uses newsprint or overhead that will be shared with entire group.(20)

8. One representative from each group shares strategies with the entire group. (20)

Evaluation and Closure
1. One minute paper: "Do you believe that some of these strategies will work in your classroom? What benefits or what barriers do you anticipate? Will you try it?" Have participants share if they are willing.

Post workshop:

Examples of brainstormed strategies will be posted on the workshop web page.