Stoney Jackson - Experience Report

3-Day POGIL Workshop at Stonehill College

I attended the Intermediate track of the 3-day POGIL Workshop at Stonehill College on #####. My goal for the workshop was to improve my facilitation skills. Although this was my goal, I attended sessions on both facilitation and activity authoring. My biggest takeaway was greater confidence in my abilities as a facilitator and as an activity author.

About two years ago, I attended a 1-day workshop on POGIL hosted at Muhlenberg College. After that workshop I created several activities that I termed "POGIL inspired" or "POGIL-ish". I also started using structured 3-person teams with roles similar to those modeled at the workshop. These I called "POGIL-esque" teams. Not wanting to mislead anyone, I would never claim that what I was doing was truly POGIL.

Talking to others who had been implementing POGIL in their classrooms for several years, hearing how they got started in POGIL and how they use POGIL, helped me to realize that I am on the same trajectory. More, when I shared what I had been doing, they confirmed that it was POGIL. Besides an increase in confidence, I also increased my bag of reporting out techniques, time management tools, and team management skills.

With these tools and a newfound confidence, I have begun implementing POGIL more aggressively in a new course I am teaching on Software Development in Fall 2014. I think the training I received has also effectively prepared me for facilitating activities written by others.