

Statement of Interest

I approach my teaching in the same manner as my other scholarly interests, with ambition to continually improve and a curiosity to better understand student learning. My goal for participating in the Wisconsin Teaching Scholars Program is to develop one of my current ideas for a teaching improvement project, devise a strategy for measuring its effectiveness, and eventually disseminate what I have learned in conferences and peer-reviewed publications.

I recently participated in the OPID Spring Conference and OPID Faculty College. These motivating and stimulating events inspired both small and large ideas for teaching improvement activities. I especially valued the interaction with my peers across disciplines and UW schools who offered a diversity of knowledge and perspectives. I look forward to being immersed in this atmosphere again as part of the Wisconsin Teaching Scholars Program.

I have a history of making deliberate inquiries into my teaching and making evidence-based improvements in my curriculum. Below I list eight teaching and learning projects that I have completed since 2010. In most instances, I was awarded grants for these projects, and I disseminated these projects at conferences and/or in peer-reviewed journals.

1. (SOTL project) Lesson study: "Developing Students' Ability to Connect Economic Modeling to Real World Issues" with Nabamita Dutta
 - Grant award: 2014 UWL Lesson Study Grant
 - Presented the work at local and regional conferences:
 - + Poster at the 2016 UW OPID Spring Conference
 - + Poster at the 2016 UWL Annual Conference on Teaching and Learning
2. Online resource development: "Pencast Lessons for Advanced Undergraduate Economics Classes" with John Nunley. We developed numerous Pencasts lessons (3-5 minute videos narrating and writing in a notebook page, teaching a short economics lesson or solving a mathematical / graphical problem) for four advanced undergraduate level economics classes.
 - Grant award: 2013 UWL Faculty Grant Development Program
 - Grant award: 2013 Kazanjian Economics Foundation Grant
3. Curricular redesign project: "Integrating the economics curriculum through a unified emphasis on critical thinking and communication" with Nabamita Dutta, Lisa Giddings, Michael Hauptert, Wahhab Khandker, and John Nunley.
 - Grant award: 2012 UWL Curricular Redesign Grant
4. Published in a peer-reviewed journal instructor-authored Pencasts. These are 3-5 minute videos of me narrating and writing on a notebook page, teaching short concepts from Introductory Macroeconomics and walking students through solving problems. Bibliographic reference:

Murray, J. (2012). Pencasts for Introductory Macroeconomics. *Journal of Economic Education*. 43(3): 438.

5. (SOTL project) Lesson study: "Efficient and Effective Feedback: Lesson Study Investigating Feedback on Students' Writing" with Taggart Brooks, Betsy Knowles, Bryan Kopp, and Laurie Strangman

- Grant award: 2013 UWL Lesson Study Grant
- Presented the work at local and national conferences:
 - + Poster at the 2014 UWL Annual Conference on Teaching and Learning
 - + Presentation at the 2013 National Conference on Teaching Economics

6. (SOTL project) Lesson Study: "Investigating Students Thought Processes for Choosing Appropriate Statistical Methods" with Betsy Knowles.

- Grant award: 2011 UWL Lesson Study Grant
- Presented the work at local and national conferences:
 - + Poster at the 2012 UWL Annual Conference on Teaching and Learning
 - + Presentation at the 2012 National Conference on Teaching Economics
- Peer-reviewed publication:
Knowles, E.F. and Murray, J. (2014). Developing Students Thought Processes for Choosing Appropriate Statistical Methods. *Journal of Education for Business*. 89: 389-395

7. Teaching and Learning Book Clubs: Frequent participant in teaching book clubs. We disseminated this valuable experience with a poster presentation and essay titled, "Of Mice and Men: Using a Book Club as a Means to Improve Teaching and Learning," coauthored with Kathryn Birkeland, Betsy Knowles, and Laurie Strangman

- Poster at the 2010 UWL Annual Conference on Teaching and Learning
- Essay published in *The Teaching Professor*, December 2010

8. (SOTL project) Lesson study: "Gender Equality Issues in the Developing World for Macroeconomics Principles" with Kathryn Birkeland in 2010-2011.

Selected video content on real world gender equality issues and developed classroom materials that integrated the content into problems using macroeconomic models for economic development.