

Third Quarter
2022-23

LAB MISSION NEWS

“I hear and I forget.

*I see and I
remember.*

*I do and I
understand”.*

Confucius



Emily Buhnerkempe



Dave Bergandine at SCD

University Laboratory High School’s mission is to enhance the lives of young people through innovative learning, discovery, and public engagement.

Lab Mission Updates

Spotlight:

Emily Buhnerkempe was warmly welcomed back to her Alma Mater, Miami of Ohio. She gave a presentation to math and math education students sharing her teaching at Uni, particularly her work with interdisciplinary projects and standards-based grading. She says, “Supporting Miami students to learn about collaboration opportunities in the math classroom was gratifying as was the warm acknowledgement received from former professors”.

Institute Day at Siebel Center for Design:

Saad Shehab, Gail Rost, and Amber Shultz from SCD gave a morning [presentation](#) introducing Human Centered Design (HCD) and its integration into the classroom.

Saad asked each teacher to share “a positive teaching experience or lesson or student interaction that you are proud to talk about” with the rest of the group. Examples ranged from students jumping up and down upon seeing the Colosseum on the horizon in Rome, to witnessing a student overcoming shyness to ask a for help. This sharing time reinforced the concept that HCD prioritizes connecting with humans.

Next, Saad gave examples of the use of HCD in industry and academia. The examples testified to the method’s applicability to many situations. Also, it showed that a solution can be a product, an experience, a dashboard, etc.

The full HCD process was diagrammed, but Saad cautioned that it is not a solely linear process. Iteration can happen at any stage when new opportunities are discovered. Reviewing HCD mindsets showed that it could be deployed (if not already being deployed) in many disciplines.



Juan Socarras at SCD

Going forward Saad and Gail emphasized that they are available to support Uni teachers. Save the date May 30-31 for SCD's Immersion Day for teachers that will include poster sessions, workshops, and open discussions. This could be a presentation opportunity. If you'd like more resources, download relevant HCD readings [here](#).

To begin a collaboration, please, add a brief memo of any lesson/project/unit that intentionally uses or targets one more of the Human-Centered Design processes [here](#). You can make a copy and use the provided [template](#).

Saad would like to collaborate with Uni teachers. This Lesson Study (modeled off the Geometry Lesson Study done with Prof. Gonzales) could be an option at Uni. Publication possible. This feeds perfectly into teachers' lab mission. Here is a sample for your review. Cross disciplinary collaborations are welcome.

<https://www.umoncton.ca/umcs-macas2022/sites/umcs-macas2022.prod.umoncton.ca/files/wf/19-08-3a.pdf>

Professional Learning Communities:

Uni is moving forward with Professional Learning Communities (PLC) to help people collaborate and address Lab Mission goals. Each teacher will be expected to join a PLC. If one group becomes too large, it could be split into two or more groups. Trying out the PLC concept at Uni came out of a listening session suggestion.

The PLC categories for 2022-23 school year are:

- Campus Collaborations
- Community Engagement
- Classroom Experimentation
- Lab Mission Incubator (for those new to Lab Mission)
- Writing Projects – faculty publishing support
- Incorporating Human Centered Design into the Curriculum

Next year the group members or categories may change as needed.



This year we will use the assembly day schedule on PLC days. We hope to have two PLC dates before the end of the year. Exact dates TBD.

Opportunities:

[Booker T. Washington Stem Academy](#) is very open to collaborating with Uni teachers. Contact Jennifer Jamison.

[Professional Development funding](#) of up to \$1000/teacher is available. This money can be used to fund joining professional associations or attend conferences. These associations typically encourage sharing of teaching methods amongst colleagues and can be a gateway to lab mission opportunities.

Teaching Research:

[Siebel Center for Design](#) has many workshops available both in person and via Zoom.

Share your **lab mission/activities/photos/links** for inclusion in the faculty meetings/newsletter. Contact levans@illinois.edu.

