



### **California Summer Institute on Scientific Teaching Hosted by the Teaching + Learning Commons**

The Teaching + Learning Commons and the [Division of Biological Sciences](#) are hosting the Summer Institute on Scientific Teaching at UC San Diego from June 17-21, 2019. Led by UCSD assistant teaching professors [Lisa McDonnell](#) and [Stanley Lo](#), the Institute pulls together university and community college STEM educators to introduce them to the principles and practices in evidence-based teaching.

California university and community college STEM educators converged in the Summer Institute at UC San Diego where they were introduced to principles and practices in [evidence-based teaching](#). The curriculum includes [core elements](#) such as active learning strategies, effective assessment development, and inclusive teaching practices. In the morning sessions, participants are guided through the theory and research surrounding evidence-based teaching. These are active sessions, where instructors collaboratively explore concepts such as inclusive learning environments, backward design, active teaching (and learning), assessment techniques, how learners learn, and organizational change. In the afternoon, participants put the theory into practice as they develop engaging lessons on a set of topics, including evaluating phylogenetic trees, inclusive classrooms, and experimental design in Biology. The goal is to create shared curriculum that adheres to evidence-based teaching principles and leads to higher order cognitive skills.

By the end of the week, participants will have observed, evaluated, and collected a portfolio of innovative teaching approaches, instructional materials and practical strategies for enhancing student learning that can be adapted to their own teaching environments.

Data indicate increased student engagement and intent to persist in science when faculty are trained in scientific teaching implement at high levels. The Summer Institutes program is often [referenced in the literature](#) as making a significant impact on STEM education in the United States.

The Summer Institutes are sponsored by the [Howard Hughes Medical Institute](#) and the [Yale Poorvu Center for Teaching and Learning](#).

Source: <https://www.summerinstitutes.org/about>