

Engage with SoTL Motivations

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**The 3 key characteristics of SoTL that resonate with my professional experience and practice encompass:**

1. Focus on student's learning: A central tenet of SoTL is a dedicated focus on students' learning experiences. This includes enhancing learning by considering diverse perspectives, student backgrounds, and learning styles. In my teaching, I continually strive to define what successful learning looks like in my course, ensuring that the educational experience is tailored to meet the unique needs of my students
2. Commitment to continuous improvement: SoTL emphasizes a commitment to continuous improvement in teaching practices. This involved reflective practices where I regularly assess and adapt my teaching approach, learning from colleagues, sharing effective teaching practices, and making adjustments to better align with students' needs are integral aspects of this commitment.
3. Systematic inquiry approach: The systematic inquiry approach in SoTL guides my examination of teaching and learning. This involves posing relevant questions, gathering evidence through various methods, engaging in reflective practices, and sharing findings with peers. This cyclical process of adjusting teaching methods based on evidence forms a continuous learning cycle.

By integrating these SoTL principles into my professional journey, I aim to contribute not only to the improvement of my own teaching practices but also to the broader landscape of effective pedagogy through collaboration and the sharing of valuable insights.

**Comments made by others that resonated with me:**

The recurrent theme of self-reflection from the comments emphasizes the importance of consistently exploring, reviewing and refining our teaching methodologies to improve student learning. This introspective process enables us to identify strengths and areas for growth, fostering an environment of continuous improvement.

The second theme notes by others is the vital aspect of dissemination- the need to collaborate and share findings. Through conferences, publications, and meetings, educators contribute to a shared knowledge base. Encouraging more individuals to engage in the systematic inquiry of SoTL enhances our methodologies collectively. Embracing SoTL principles collectively contributes to the advancement of pedagogy, enriching the educational landscape with evidence-based insights and diverse perspectives.

**Motivations:**

My engaging in Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) activities is driven by three key motivators:

1. Renewed excitement for teaching and learning, fostering greater self-awareness.
2. Increased reflection on teaching and learning among colleagues, promoting collaborative professional growth.

3. The promise of improved outcomes and assessment scores for students, highlighting the direct impact of SoTL engagement on teaching efficacy.