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Demonstrating the scholarship of teaching and learning through the effective use of concept maps

Concept maps provide a unique pictorial representation of an individual's understanding of a concept, problem, or idea. As tools in the undergraduate and graduate classrooms of an institution of higher learning, concept maps provide faculty with interesting and effective ways to effectively demonstrate and explore the scholarship of teaching and learning. Concept maps can give students and faculty meaningful information about student learning and faculty performance. These tools are objective, meaningful assessments through which the instructor can monitor student progress, self-evaluate classroom performance, and revise the delivery of instruction in the collegiate classroom.

This session is structured to be an interactive learning experience between the participants and the presenters. Participants will construct several concept maps that will serve as the foundation for the exploration of the use of concept maps as tools in the scholarship of teaching and learning. Several effective concept mapping strategies will be shared with participants, and a brief overview of historical and current research will be shared with participants. In addition, several internet resources and computer applications related to the use of concept maps will be shared and provided to participants.

As a result of participation in this session, participants can expect to develop a more complete understanding of the construction of concept maps, gain experience in the analysis of concept maps through qualitative and quantitative means, and explore several strategies for the implementation of concept maps to provide information about the scholarship of teaching and learning in their own classrooms.