Bringing Inquiry into an Online Laboratory Environment

Kristen Miller and Courtney Holt

The University of Georgia, Division of Biological Sciences, 1000 Cedar St., 402 Biosciences, Athens GA 30602 USA

(krmiller@uga.edu)

As online learning in lecture courses surges forward, online learning in laboratory environments drags behind. This mini-workshop will describe the creation and implementation of an online biology laboratory module on the topic of antibiotic resistance. This module was created to "mimic," as closely as possible, the face-to-face (F2F) version of the topic taught in introductory biology laboratory sections for non-science majors. Presenters will discuss challenges and successes of this effort, including perspectives from students, instructors who implemented the labs with their students, and designers of the module. Specific points of discussion will be raised regarding how to offer inquiry teaching and learning in an online laboratory environment. Data of a research study that compared the experiences of students, including summative assignments, in the online versus F2F modules will be shared. Participants will be able to view portions of the online lab during the presentation and will be asked to share experiences and challenges of online learning happening at their home institutions.

Mission, Review Process & Disclaimer

The Association for Biology Laboratory Education (ABLE) was founded in 1979 to promote information exchange among university and college educators actively concerned with teaching biology in a laboratory setting. The focus of ABLE is to improve the undergraduate biology laboratory experience by promoting the development and dissemination of interesting, innovative, and reliable laboratory exercises. For more information about ABLE, please visit http://www.ableweb.org/.

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