# High-Impact Practices and the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning



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#### Overview of Session

- Brief overview of HIPs research and methods
- Results from our preliminary thematic review of recent literature
- Discussion of gaps in research
- Strategies for publishing HIPs SoTL research



#### Why we are here...



#### Advocate for:

 More empirical evidence about HIPs

 Propose a framework that focuses on the importance of quality teaching & learning ..pressing need for broader communication of HIP findings.



## Inventorying What is Known about HIPs

What do we think we know about HIPs?



#### HIPs Research Thematic Review

- Reviewed two journals Journal on the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (JoSoTL), and Experiential Learning and Teaching in Higher Education (ELTHE)
  - JoSoTL 2022 (4 issues), 2023 (4 issues), 2024 (2 issues)
  - ELTHE 2022 (2 issues), 2023 (2 issues), 2024 (2 issues)
- Reviewed each article for methodology, type of HIP, results, future directions, and limitations



#### HIPs Research Thematic Review - Type of HIP

- Type of HIP studied
  - Undergraduate Research
  - Service Learning
  - Internships/Co-ops
  - Capstone Courses
  - Study Away/Field Trip



#### Categories of Results & Outcomes

Counting & increasing HIP participation

Evidence of HIP effect, and for student populations

Studentcentered HIP
impact
(some facultycentered)

Critical focus

Documenting
effective HIP
instructional/
intervention practice

Study scaling

HIP associated personal & learning gains



#### Select Examples of Results & Outcomes

- \* Effect of HIP for specific student population (i.e., online, historically underrep, STEM, transfer)
- Evidence of equitable HIP outcomes across student identities
- \* What HIP participation means to participants, their emotions, and values, challenges,
- \* Documenting HIP gains i.e., confidence in career preparation, influence on further study, who "I am"

- Documenting challenges of expanding HIPs (on campus work, advising, etc.)
- \* Faculty benefits of teaching HIPs
- Exposing HIP-related, or ways to strengthen practice (i.e., training, reflection, metacognition) and validating approaches to teaching (cooperative learning, group work, CURES)

## Inventorying What is Known about HIPs

How do we know what we know about HIPs?



#### HIPs Research Thematic Review

Variety of methodologies used across more than 70 unique studies

- 34% used qualitative methods
  - Analysis of reflections/journals, case studies, observational studies
- 26% used quantitative methods
  - Surveys, Pre-test and post-rest studies, existing institutional data.
- 27% used mixed methods
  - o Content analysis, program evaluation
- 13% were more theoretical/conceptual pieces; may have relied on some existing data in framing argument
  - Reflective analysis of HIPs, exploring definitions, conceptual frameworks



#### HIPs Research Thematic Review

#### Limitations

- Single institution focus
- Resource intensive
- Selection bias for participants
- Small sample size

#### Future Directions

- Interdisciplinary focus needed
- Scale up and expand HIP opportunities
- Need for longitudinal studies
- Focus on diversity and inclusion
- Virtual or hybrid HIP opportunities needed

#### Back to Basics - Types of Research

- •Exploratory research is usually conducted when a researcher has just begun an investigation and wishes to understand her or his topic generally.
- Descriptive research is research aimed to describe or define the topic at hand.
- Explanatory research: answers "why" questions
  - O Seeking to identify the relationships that exist between independent and dependent variables
- Evaluation Research
  - O Research conducted to assess the effect of specific programs or policies

Where is the body of research on HIPs now? Where is it headed?



#### Group Brainstorming



Given our brainstorming today...

What is the most pressing scholarly question regarding HIPs?

What do we need to do next?



#### Audience/Attendee Recommendations

#### List of ideas from audience:

Are HIPs relevant at the graduate level? If so, how?

Do HIPs allow for embodied experiences? What impact does this have on students?

How do we identify which experiences are actually high-impact? Does this differ for racially minorities populations? How so?

Development of guidelines for quality control and consistency for implementing HIPs?

How do HIPs differ across disciplines? Can we bring them into more disciplines and how? Disciplinary depth and representation

What is the impact of one HIP vs. multiple HIPs?

Eight essential elements – what is the range and interpretation of those? How are those actually seen in the experience?

Can we go beyond the list of 11 HIPs and incorporate those practices and their impact?

What are the core elements of the HIPs that have been studied less than others?

Faculty professional development around HIPs – what does it look like, what are outcomes?





### Getting your Work Published: Consider a Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) frame

SoTL

Begins with intellectual curiosity, is conducted deliberately and systematically, is grounded in an analysis of some evidence, and results in findings shared with peers to be reviewed and to expand a knowledge base.

Nancy Chick, Director of the Endeavor Foundation
 Center for Faculty Development, Rollins College

- ✓ authentic scholarly & local context
- ✓ methodologically sound
- √ involves "going public"
- ✓ relevant to teaching experiences



#### Recommendations for Future Work

- Explorations of quality, and the "impact" of the HIP
- Collaborative work within <u>and</u> between institutions
- Robust assessment and methodology
  - Address student engagement/participation bias (e,g, some students seek of HIP experiences, and these students differ from those who may not participate for a variety of reasons)
  - Pre- and Post- intervention designs (measure before intervention, measure again after)
  - Quasi-experimental designs
- Expansion into more explanatory and evaluation research
- More empirical studies focused on impact of faculty/staff professional development (what strategies/models promote sustained change in practice?)

#### Strategies for Publishing HIPs SoTL Research

- What data do you have through your Office of Institutional Research?
- Are there other people or offices (Center for Engaged Learning etc.) on campus you could bring to your study?
  - Are you IRB certified?
- Explore partnerships with social science and education researchers at your institution
  - Presentations and Publications
  - Assessment Institute Conference and Assessment Update journal are friendly venues for scholarly dissemination





Thank you!

Session Resources



