

Invitation to Attend

CHAUTAQUA SHORT COURSE

Enhancing Student Success through a Model "Introduction to Engineering" Course

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May 17-19, 2017 at California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo in San Luis Obispo, California

"Sink or Swim." For decades, the general paradigm within engineering education in the U.S. has been to put up a difficult challenge and "weed out" those students who don't measure up. Whether this approach ever worked is debatable, but characteristics of today's students such as fixed mindsets, unwillingness to read, low attention spans, difficulty focusing on complex problems, obsession with texting and social media make an even more compelling case for the need to provide students help in transitioning from high school to university-level engineering study.

This three-day short course will address strategies for enhancing the success of first-year engineering students through approximately one-credit hour of curriculum (a small, orientation-type course or a module in a larger Introduction to Engineering course having other objectives) that focuses on five "student development" themes:

- Community building
- Professional development
- Academic development
- Personal development
- Orientation

Participants will learn general pedagogical approaches for working with students to bring about substantive changes in their attitudes and behaviors and approaches for accomplishing important objectives under each of the five primary themes.

The format of the course will be strongly interactive. Emphasis will be placed on group problem solving and experiential learning.

A specific focus will be devoted to a powerful "student-centered" approach for guiding students in developing a plan for moving from where they are to where they need to be on a number of important issues related to their success in

math/science/engineering coursework--the "Design Your Process for Becoming a World-Class Engineering Student" project.

Intended Audience: Engineering faculty and engineering student services staff working to enhance engineering student success through Introduction to Engineering courses, summer orientations, or formal and informal advising and mentoring.

Prerequisites: None. (Note: Acceptance is conditional on the completion and submission of a "contract" committing to be in attendance from the start of the course on May 17 to the end of the course on May 19 and agreeing to do assigned work prior to, during, and after the course.)

Registration: Register on line at: [Chautauqua Registration Site](#) (Note: Enrollment will be limited to 35 participants)

Cost: \$200 course fee

For information on course content: Contact Ray Landis, Email: rlandis@calstatela.edu

For information on logistics and accommodations: Contact Steffen Peuker, Email: speuker@calpoly.edu.

Dr. Landis is Dean Emeritus of Engineering, Computer Science, and Technology at California State University, Los Angeles. He is a nationally recognized expert and frequent invited speaker on engineering student retention and the author of the best-selling Introduction to Engineering textbook--*Studying Engineering: A Road Map to a Rewarding Career*--now in its 4th Edition with over 180,000 copies in print. See: discovery-press.com/discovery-press/studyengr/bio.pdf

Dr. Peuker is Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo. He is a pioneering implementer of the "Design Your Process of Becoming a World-Class Engineering Student" project. He has conducted workshops on implementation of the project at local and national engineering education conferences. His paper "Improving Student Success and Retention Rates in Engineering: One Year After Implementation" demonstrates that participation in the project leads to 0.5-point improvement in first-year GPA and ten percentage points improvement in freshman-to-sophomore retention.

Accommodations: There are multiple hotels in San Luis Obispo and the surrounding area. The central coast is a tourist hot spot and it is recommended to book a hotel room early.

We have arranged a block of rooms at a reduced rate at:

- Apple Farm Inn, 2015 Monterey Street, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401, 877-620-3602 or 800-255-2040 (for Group Sales Dept)

Reservations can be made by calling the hotel directly at one of the above numbers or on-line. Be prepared to give either the organization name: "Chautauqua" or the group #846478. To make a reservation on-line, go to: <http://www.applefarm.com/>. Click on "Reservations" and enter your arrival date, and then the group number. Note: The block of rooms will be held until April 16, 2017.

Other recommended hotels are:

- Holiday Inn Express San Luis Obispo, 1800 Monterey St, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401, 805-544-8600
- La Cuesta Inn, 2074 Monterey St, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401, 805-543-2777
- Embassy Suites by Hilton, 333 Madonna Road, San Luis Obispo, CA 93405, 805-549-0800
- BEST WESTERN PLUS Royal Oak, 214 Madonna Road, San Luis Obispo, CA 93405, 805-544-4410
- Madonna Inn, 100 Madonna Rd, San Luis Obispo, CA 93405, (805) 543-3000

Travel and Transportation: The San Luis Obispo Airport is serviced by American Airlines and United Airlines. Several car rental companies are available at the airport as well as Uber and taxi services.

Participants will be responsible for their own transportation to and from the airport to their hotel (inquire with the hotel if they offer a shuttle to/from the airport) as well as between the hotel and the Cal Poly campus. San Luis Obispo has an excellent public bus service (\$6 for a three-day pass) and the workshop location is just across from the Kennedy Library Transit Center. Parking is limited on the Cal Poly Campus and you are responsible to buy parking permits (\$5/day).