

C. EUGENE BENNETT
DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY

Prioritizing Student Engagement: My journey from faculty-focused instruction to student-focused learning

Prof. Kevin Shea
Professor of Chemistry
Smith College



As a beginning faculty member, I taught classes much like I had been taught, mostly traditional lecture with questions answered by individual students. Professional development opportunities through the teaching and learning center at Smith and national organizations like PKAL and AAC&U helped me understand the value of student engagement inside and outside of class. Over the past 10 years, I have transformed my classroom into one that helps students prepare for class, prioritizes student-student interactions, enables all students to participate, and engages introductory students in the primary chemical literature. I will discuss my use of high impact practices with examples including creating videos for flipped classes, active learning strategies for lecture, and classroom response systems. I will also discuss the impact of a culture of student-centered instruction on the chemistry department at Smith.

Date: Wed, Aug. 29, 2018
Time: 4:30-5:30 pm
Location: 208 Clark Hall

Students, meet the speaker over
coffee and cookies in the Bennett
Conference room at 3:30 pm