Supplemental Material CBE—Life Sciences Education

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Supplemental Material: STEP-U Survey

Rate the following skills in terms of importance to you in your undergraduate education:

Not important Slightly important Fairly important Important Very Important

- 1. Work in groups
- 2. Scientific writing
- 3. Memorize some basic facts
- 4. Acquire major scientific concepts
- 5. Learn basic sets of laboratory skills
- 6. Understand the dynamic nature of science
- 7. Understand how science applies to everyday life
- 8. Remember formulas, structures, and procedures
- 9. Apply quantitative reasoning
- 10. Problem-solving
- 11. Develop information literacy (e.g., being able to understand articles about science). *
- 12. Develop creativity and innovation
- 13. Develop understanding of interdisciplinary nature of science (e.g., how biology relates to chemistry, how physics relates to biology). *
- 14. Decision-making based on evidence

*revised items based upon response process analysis (interviews).

In the undergraduate courses for your major, how often did instructors use these methods?

None of my courses A few of my courses Some of my courses Most of my courses Almost all of my courses

- 15. Communicating course goals and objectives to students
- 16. Group work
- 17. Extensive lecturing (more than 15 minutes per session without breaks for questions or active engagement of students)
- 18. Class discussions
- 19. Online discussions
- 20. Writing assignments

- 21. Online module with immediate feedback (such as mastering CHEM or MathBench)
- 22. Inquiry-based learning (e.g., problem-based learning, case studies)
- 23. Personal Response System (clickers)
- 24. Use of multimedia (e.g., video clips, animations, sound clips)
- 25. Answering questions from individual students in class
- 26. Graphic organizers (such as concept maps)
- 27. Interpreting graphical information
- 28. Homework that counts toward final grade
- 29. Solving quantitative problems
- 30. Reading primary literature
- 31. Teaching with an interdisciplinary approach (e.g., making connections between physics and biology, between chemistry and biology).
- 32. Relating course material to scientific research
- 33. Relating course material to the real world