Biology Journal Club
LEAP Action Summary

LEAP Workshop Year: 2015   **For more information, contact:**

Action Dates: 2015-2016

Nic Tippery	Biological Sciences (Faculty)
Josh Kapfer	Biological Sciences (Faculty)
Brianna Jicha	Student – Biology Major

General Goal:

Provide a framework for students to gain experience reading, comprehending, and discussing primary scientific literature. We plan to set up a Journal Club that Biology students can opt into each semester, with a variety of topics that help the students to appreciate the motivation, methods, and critical evaluation of results that go into a scientific publication.

Planned Actions:

Goals for Spring 2015:

Run a preliminary version of the course, led by Josh and Nic, with the topic of "plant-animal interactions". We aimed to establish a framework for expectations and test out a variety of strategies for increasing student participation. Moreover, we aimed to establish the schedule for the semester, the tasks that students would undertake on any particular week, and the amount of participation that would be expected from each student. Brianna, our student team member, would participate as a student and provide a student perspective on the experience.

Goals for AY 2015–2016:

Increase the number of sections that are offered for the Journal Club, and encourage buy-in by additional faculty in Biological Sciences. We think it would be ideal to have two sections per semester, each led by two faculty members, with the two sections together covering the breadth of interest that our Biology majors have. We will implement the methods that worked from Spring 2015, and try to improve in areas that we identify as needing work. Ultimately we hope to increase the visibility of this option for Biology majors to satisfy their major requirements, and to integrate it into the overall package of options that our department provides to Biology majors.

Deliverables, Completed Actions:

- Thing one
- Add completed actions as necessary

Notes:

Teams, add any special notes here.