PROJECT KALEIDOSCOPE

PKAL VALUES

As the center for the reform of undergraduate STEM education within AAC&U, PKAL values:

• Core undergraduate teaching and learning that is deeply rooted in the traditions of a liberal education.

• Evidence-based approaches to professional development for STEM faculty that honor, and are appropriately grounded within, the complex relationships that exist between and among institutional contexts, professional aspirations, and personal perspectives.

• Excellence in undergraduate STEM teaching that is evidence-based, interactive, inclusive, and culturally sensitive and responsive.

• Courageous leadership that embraces diverse perspectives with authenticity and legitimacy.

• Effectiveness in leadership development for STEM faculty that is intentionally introspective, reflective, and holistic in approach.

• Communities of practice that support and energize the development of a national platform for expanding the STEM higher education reform knowledge base.

WHO THEY ARE

Project Kaleidoscope (PKAL) is AAC&U’s STEM higher education reform center dedicated to empowering STEM faculty, including those from underrepresented groups, to graduate more students in STEM fields who are competitively trained and liberally educated. PKAL also works to develop a scientifically literate citizenry as part of its commitment to principles and practices central to AAC&U’s Liberal Education and America’s Promise (LEAP) initiative.

Since its founding in 1989, PKAL has been one of the leading advocates in the U.S. for transforming undergraduate STEM teaching and learning. To date it has empowered an extensive network of over 70,000 STEM faculty and administrators committed to the principles, practices, and partnerships that advance cutting-edge, integrative STEM higher education for all students. To that end, all PKAL undertakings are uniquely designed to foster quality, diversity, and social responsibility.

WHAT THEY DO

Strategies:

• Develop and disseminate new resources, tools and evidence-based practices for quality undergraduate STEM teaching

• Build the infrastructure for leading and sustaining a national network of regional communities and meetings that provide opportunities for STEM faculty to be exposed to cutting-edge advances in undergraduate STEM teaching

• Foster and support the short- and long-term leadership development of STEM faculty.

RESEARCH & RESOURCES

• https://www.aacu.org/pkal
• https://www.aacu.org/pkal/publications