

June 24, 2015

*The Center for the Promotion of Learning and Teaching is proud
to invite you to a special meeting*

"Assessment For Learning"



Special Guest Speaker

Prof. Eric Mazur

**Harvard University, Area Dean of Applied Physics
Winner of the first Minerva Prize for Advancements in Higher Education**

- 12:30 – 12:40** Get together
- 12:40 – 12:50** Opening Remarks by Prof G. Shuster
- 12:50 – 13:45** Peer Instruction: Continuous Formative Assessment to Promote Learning, Prof E. Mazur
- 13:45 – 14:40** Assessment: The silent killer of learning, Prof E. Mazur
- 14:40 – 15:00** Light Vegetarian Lunch
- 15:00 - 15:15** Flipping the classroom- A new model for continuous assessment, Prof D. Lewin
- 15:15 - 15:45** Panel: Grade Assessment and Management

Date: 24/6 /15 12:30 – 15:45

Location: Center for the Promotion of Learning & Teaching, Ullman 213

For registration: abigailb@tx.technion.ac.il

Brief Bio

Eric Mazur is the Balkanski Professor of Physics and Applied Physics at Harvard University and Dean of Applied Physics. He is a prominent physicist known for his contributions in nanophotonics, an internationally recognized educational innovator, and a successful entrepreneur. In education he is widely known for his work on Peer Instruction, an interactive teaching method aimed at engaging students in the classroom and beyond. In 2014 Mazur became the inaugural recipient of the Minerva Prize for Advancements in Higher Education. He has received many awards for his work in physics and in education and has founded several successful companies. Mazur is Chief Academic Advisor for Turning Technologies, a company developing interactive response systems for the education market. Dr. Mazur has widely published in peer-reviewed journals and holds numerous patents. He has also written extensively on education and is the author of *Peer Instruction: A User's Manual* (Prentice Hall, 1997), a book that explains how to teach large lecture classes interactively, and of the *Principles and Practice of Physics* (Pearson, 2014), a book that presents a groundbreaking new approach to teaching introductory calculus-based physics. Mazur is a sought-after speaker on optics and on education.

Assessment: The silent killer of learning

Abstract

Why is it that stellar students sometimes fail in the workplace while dropouts succeed? One reason is that most, if not all, of our current assessment practices are inauthentic. Just as the lecture focuses on the delivery of information to students, so does assessment often focus on having students regurgitate that same information back to the instructor? Consequently, assessment fails to focus on the skills that are relevant in life in the 21st century. Assessment has been called the "hidden curriculum" as it is an important driver of students' study habits. Unless we rethink our approach to assessment, it will be very difficult to produce a meaningful change in education.

Peer Instruction: Continuous Formative Assessment to Promote Learning

Abstract

The basic goals of Peer Instruction are to encourage and make use of student interaction during lectures, while focusing students' attention on underlying concepts and techniques. The method has been assessed in many studies using standardized, diagnostic tests and shown to be considerably more effective than the conventional lecture approach to teaching. Peer Instruction is now used in a wide range of science and math courses at the college and secondary level. Peer Instruction provides continuous assessment and feedback, forcing students to learn from each other while in the classroom to facilitate lifelong understanding.