

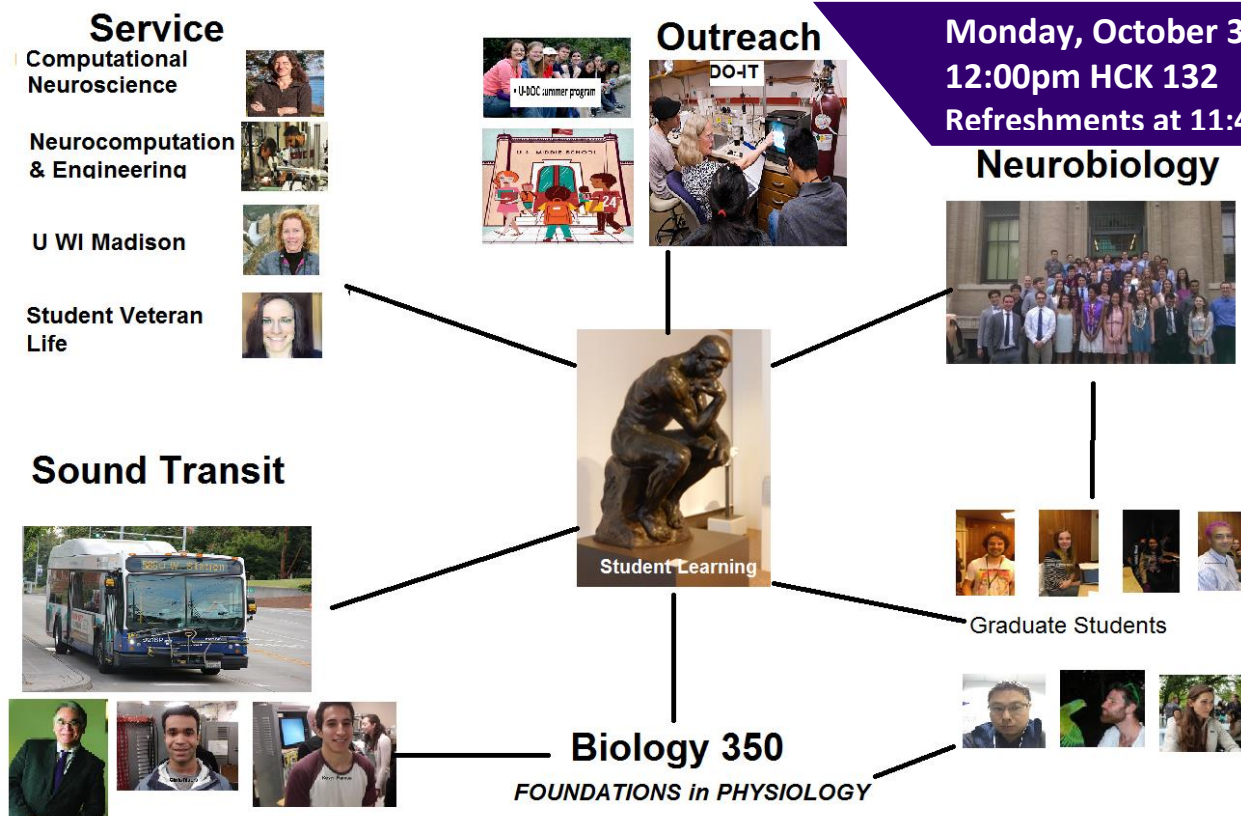
Biology Promotion Seminar

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Connections: the heart of student learning



Monday, October 31, 2016 |
12:00pm HCK 132
Refreshments at 11:45am
Neurobiology

Making connections and a sense of belonging to the university community enhances student learning. As a first generation college student and a veteran, I understand how important such connections can be. Outreach before students enter the university can be instrumental in acquiring skills to be successful in college. Laboratories can be a fun and instructive means for outreach and teaching. The cockroach leg preparation lends itself to student learning from middle school through graduate education. I will discuss the modular design of this preparation.

Presenting data to an audience is intimidating, especially for non-traditional students. Recently we developed laboratories where students record action potentials from neurons in leech ganglia. In these laboratories we instituted a low stake, fail-safe exercise called the DataBlitz (DB). DB exercises are brief presentations by students on their data and are designed to help students communicate better. I will discuss some preliminary data on the efficacy of the DB.