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Moore Leads ADAPT Workshop in Chile

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Christopher J. Moore (M.S. 1992) presented a workshop on "College Teaching and the Development of Reasoning" to more than 30 faculty at the Universidad de Tarapacá in Arica, Chile during 14–15 November 2002. Moore's invitation stemmed from the interest of the faculty at the University of Tarapacá to initiate a multidisciplinary program for college students patterned after the successful ADAPT (Accent for Developing Advanced Processes of Thought) program developed and taught at the University of Nebraska under the leadership of Professor **Robert Fuller** from 1975–1997. Moore worked with Fuller in the ADAPT program and also helped develop materials for undergraduate hands-on multimedia physics laboratories.

The ADAPT program provided an environment for college freshmen to develop cognitive reasoning patterns based on the work of Jean Piaget (a Swiss cognitive psychologist who studied the phases and processes of intellectual development in children and young adults) and Dr. Robert Karplus (a physicist at the University of California–Berkeley who used Piaget's ideas to develop the learning cycle method to teach reasoning skills to students in science classes). Upon receiving the request for such a workshop from the faculty at Tarapacá University, Fuller suggested that it would be most appropriate for Moore to present the workshop as he had lived and been raised in Chile.

During the workshop, for which Moore translated all materials into Spanish, participants took part in active learning activities that examined how students reason. They also learned methods for developing student cognitive skills, and how to incorporate these into college teaching. Faculty participants included the Dean of Education and Humanities, the Director of the Education department, and professors from over 8 different disciplines including anthropology, physics, biology, math, and linguistics.

Moore is currently the Educational Outreach Coordinator at the Synchrotron Radiation Center of the University of Wisconsin–Madison. On November 16, 2002, before returning to Wisconsin, Moore gave a lecture to the faculty of the Universidad Arturo Prat in Iquique, Chile on why it is important for college students to develop formal reasoning. The faculty expressed an interest in having a similar ADAPT workshop presented at their university. ■

Christopher J. Moore lectures in Iquique, Chile