Developing Learning Communities: Seven Promising Shifts and Seven Powerful Levers

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Developing Learning Communities
Seven Promising Shifts and Seven Powerful Levers

A Plenary Session at the POD Network’s 1996 Conference

Saturday, October 19, 1996
8:45 to 9:45 a.m.

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Seven Promising Shifts in Academic Culture

From a culture of largely unexamined assumptions to a culture of assessment and evidence

From a culture of implicitly held individual goals to a culture of explicit, broadly shared goals

From an academic culture focused primarily on teaching and teachers to one focused primarily on learning and learners

From a teaching culture which ignores what is known about human learning to one which applies relevant knowledge to improve practice

From a narrow, exclusive definition of scholarship to a broader, inclusive vision of scholarship

From a culture that emphasizes and privileges individual struggle for private advantage to one which encourages collaboration for the common good and individual advancement

From a model of higher education as primarily a quantitative, additive process to one that is fundamentally qualitative and transformative
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