Dr. Ben Van Dusen
Asst. Professor, Department of Science Education
CSU, Chico

What Big Data Can Tell Us About Learning Assistants

Abstract:
The big data revolution has transformed many STEM disciplines, but is only recently making its way into the field of Physics Education Research. In this talk, I will discuss a new tool for collecting and distributing big data in STEM education called the Learning About STEM Student Outcomes (LASSO) platform. The LASSO platform is designed to support instructors assessing the impact of their courses as well as researchers investigating national trends in student learning. I will also share how my research team has used the LASSO data to investigate the efficacy of using Learning Assistants in physics courses as well as their impact on classroom equity.