



# CENTER FOR THE INTEGRATION OF RESEARCH, TEACHING, & LEARNING

## MISSION

The CIRTL mission is to enhance excellence in undergraduate education through the development of a national faculty committed to implementing and advancing effective teaching practices for diverse learners as part of successful and varied professional careers.

## CHANGE MODEL

Nearly 4000 institutions in the United States offer STEM undergraduate education. Most of their faculty come from graduate programs at ~100 research universities. Thus training graduate students at these universities is a powerful leverage point for change throughout STEM undergraduate education.

## STRATEGY

CIRTL has created a network of diverse research universities committed to advancing the professional development of future STEM faculty. Each member of the CIRTL Network develops, implements, and evaluates programs and learning communities for graduate-through-faculty development in STEM higher education. In addition, the universities contribute to a cross-network learning community and associated programs that allow all future faculty to draw on the diversity of the CIRTL Network.

## PILLARS

Three pillars underlie all CIRTL Network activities: teaching-as-research, learning communities, and learning-through-diversity. CIRTL programs prepare STEM faculty to apply systematic and reflective use of research methods to enhance learning outcomes. This preparation is done within a community of shared learning and discovery, and explicitly recognizes that effective teaching capitalizes on the rich array of experiences, backgrounds, and skills among the students and teachers.

## NETWORK DEVELOPMENT

The CIRTL Network comprises the University of Colorado at Boulder, Howard University, Michigan State University, Texas A&M University, Vanderbilt University, and the University of Wisconsin-Madison. By design, these institutions represent a broad diversity — private/public; large/moderate size; majority-/minority-serving; and geographic location.

Beginning in 2012 the CIRTL Network will expand to approximately 25 research institutions.

## CONTACT

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