

# Building a Professional Community of Knowledge

Shared Knowledge | AACTE 69th Annual Meeting

Thursday, March 2, 2017

It is imperative that educators continue to *act as a professional community, building upon shared knowledge*. University and K-12 faculty alike find and use profession, research-based, and standards-based tools each day. Wouldn't it be great if there was a way to access quality, classroom-tested, educator-reviewed educational resources? The **eduTOOLBOX resource-sharing portal** began as an idea to meet this need for educators across the globe.

**SESSION LINKS:** <http://www.edutoolbox.org/session/AACTE17>

The eduTOOLBOX resource-sharing portal began as the result of a grant that funded a Math and Science curriculum partnership between K-12 educators and university faculty. At the same time, our state's K-12 online curriculum center was "closing," needing a place to be housed once the website was no longer accessible.

► As a part of the grant, *exemplary teachers* were recruited to create and share materials for teacher use. The *group of teachers* met periodically to peer-review materials, review the mission and vision for the project, and assess high-level curriculum materials. The group used a modified version of the state-adopted lesson planning rubric as a tool for peer review and curriculum assessment.

► In an effort to grow, strengthen, and diversify, five *faculty members* from our College of Education partnered with the group of teachers. The faculty members began participating in the group's meetings and activities in addition to obtaining outstanding candidate work to submit to the group for potential use.

As the work of the educator team, grant, and curriculum center merged, eduTOOLBOX.org was born. This modern, resource-sharing website hosts units, lessons, task arcs, assessments, videos, and professional learning materials that have been migrated from the state's curriculum website. In addition, the website shares the work of the educator group, with all materials matched to the appropriate K-12 standards. Though the educator group began with a Math and Science focus, the materials shared on eduTOOLBOX represent a diverse span of both content areas and grade levels.

Educators, parents, and professionals from around the globe can access quality, screened, and standards-based educational materials at no cost. The eduTOOLBOX website is a free resource created by a partnership of educators for use by educators. As eduTOOLBOX

continues to grow, our goal is to broaden the curriculum material authorship base beyond the current group of educators. Individuals in any location will be able to create and submit resources for review and potential publication on eduTOOLBOX, creating a professional community of educational scholars building and producing shared knowledge.

## Presentation Slides

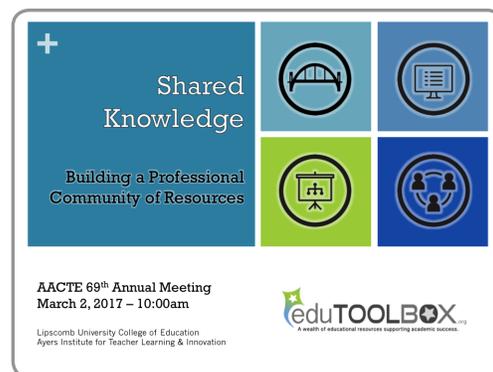
### Shared Knowledge: Building a Professional Community of Knowledge

<http://www.edutoolbox.org/rasp/4454>

This SlideShare provides the slides used during the presentation at the AACTE Conference. Feel free to open this link and follow along on your personal device.

## References

- David, J. (2008). What research says about collaborative inquiry. *Educational Leadership*, 66, 87-88.
- Hiebert, J., Barkley, R., Gallimore, R., & Stigler, J. (2002). A knowledge base for the teaching profession: What would it look like and how can we get one? *Educational Researcher*, 31, 3-15.
- Kosanovich, M., & Foorman, B. (2016). Professional learning communities participant's activities for the What Works Clearinghouse.
- Lenkei, A. (2016). How to find quality K-12 open educational resources. *Education Week*.



Willis, S. (2002). Creating a knowledge base for teaching: A conversation with James Stigler. *Educational Leadership*, 59, 6-11.

## eduTOOLBOX

### Academic Resource-sharing Portal

<http://www.edutoolbox.org>

This website hosts a wealth of educational resources supporting academic success, including: units, lessons, task arcs, assessments, videos, and professional learning materials.

- About the eduTOOLBOX website**  
<https://goo.gl/fXRyRp>
- eduTOOLBOX information handout**  
<https://goo.gl/mwzrzC>
- Webinar introduction to eduTOOLBOX**  
<https://goo.gl/MrDKk9>

