

Orientation to the PBL Clearinghouse: An Electronic Peer-Reviewed Publication



*Institute for Transforming
Undergraduate Education*

University of Delaware



www.udel.edu/pblc



Characteristics of Good PBL Problems

Relate to real-world, motivate students

Require decision-making or judgements

Multi-page, multi-stage

Designed for group-solving

Initial questions open-ended, encourages discussion

Incorporates course content objectives

Challenges to higher-order thinking



PBL Clearinghouse

- An online database of PBL articles and problems.**
- All material is peer-reviewed by PBL practitioners for content and pedagogy.**
- All problems are supported by learning objectives and resources, teaching and assessment notes.**
- Holdings are searchable by author, discipline, keywords, or full text.**
- Fully electronic submission, review, and publication cycle.**
- Controlled access by free user subscription, students excluded.**



A Brief Tour of the Clearinghouse

Logging in to the Clearinghouse

Applying to be a user

Searching and Browsing the holdings

Examining problem detail and supporting materials for a sample problem

Managing Clearinghouse activities

Submitting a problem for review

www.udel.edu/pblc



Phase II: New Features

Request e-mail notification of new additions (alert list)

Submit and review user feedback to problems

See statistics on published material



PBL Clearinghouse

Currently there are ~15,000 registered users and >100 PBL problems.

Of the problems available, more than half are in physics, chemistry, and biology, but the number in other disciplines is growing steadily.

We are very interested in publishing adaptations of problems to other cultural/geographical contexts.

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