

# CIRTL Network Overview

CIRTL's mission and core ideas are the cornerstone of everything we do

**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 4,000 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 the CIRTL 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 local 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 Network.



## CORE IDEAS

Three core ideas 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 46 institutions across the U.S. and Canada. By design, these institutions represent a broad diversity — private/public; large/moderate size; majority-/minority-serving; and geographic location.



Center for the Integration of Research, Teaching, and Learning  
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