

New Jersey Center for Teaching and Learning www.njctl.org

For Immediate Release January 31, 2011

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CTL's Progressive Science Initiative Impacts South America

Since its launch in 2009, CTL's Progressive Science Initiative (PSI) has impacted science education across New Jersey and now it's reached South America.

CTL Director Dr. Robert Goodman traveled to San Luis, Argentina to train physics teachers in an effective new approach to teaching math and science. PSI has increased the number of effective science teachers in New Jersey, and as Dr. Goodman stated, "The same problem exists most everywhere; there is an urgent need for math and science teachers. So, when the Universidad de La Punta reached out to the CTL, we knew we had an effective solution to address the shortage of math and science teachers in Argentina, as well as the U.S."

"We know that PSI raises the science achievement of average U.S. students to international levels and that more students in New Jersey schools have more rigorous science classes as a result of the PSI initiative", said CTL spokesperson Timothy Panebianco. So, Dr. Goodman, along with CTL consultant Michelle Lageman, traveled to San Luis to address the critical shortage of science teachers in Argentina.

On Dr. Goodman's return from Argentina he said, "These teachers are excited about the impact they will have on science education in San Luis and the impact that will have on the future of their country. CTL is excited to be a part of this initiative."

As a result of the training program, Universidad de La Punta had the English version of the algebra-based physics materials translated into Spanish; those will soon be posted on the CTL site (www.njctl.org) so that Spanish speaking students everywhere, including the U.S can use them freely. Translations of other CTL course materials will follow.

CTL is an independent 501(c)3 organization whose mission is to empower teachers to lead school reform. For more on CTL, check out www.njctl.org