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| **Title of Unit** | Static is Dynamic |
| **Date and**  **Location of SI** | August 2013, Stony Brook |
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| **Context** | *What kind of course is unit designed for?*  Cell Biology – intermediate (sophomore/junior)    *How long is unit?*  2-3 class sessions (90 minutes)  *When will the unit be used in the course?*  Early – after refreshing basic vocabulary and concepts |
| **Abstract**  (< 200 words) | This tidbit for an intermediate Cell Biology course encourages students to take a big-picture view of the cell. Students often enter cell biology thinking that the course will involve a simple march through the organelles. As teachers, we work to develop a broader view of cellular processes as integrated and dynamic. The tidbit uses a familiar item, a building, to inspire creative thinking about the dynamic processes needed to maintain cells. Following this lesson, students will be able to: a) compare cells and buildings with regard to processes required for maintenance and repair, b) identify at least two dynamic processes required to maintain and repair non-motile, non-dividing cells, and c) design an experiment to visualize dynamic maintenance processes in cells. The tidbit involves pairs of students brainstorming dynamic processes which occur in buildings or cells, switching pairs to focus more deeply on cellular processes, and ending with a bridge to experimental approaches. The tidbit is intended as a springboard for further study, which can accommodate a variety of subsequent steps in course plans. |
| **Rationale** | *How did the idea for the unit arise?*  Brainstorming during the Stony Brook NESI  *Why was this topic chosen?*  Utility and commonality for all group members.  *What misconceptions or difficult topics are addressed?.*  There is a misconception that non-motile cells are static and require no upkeep. All cells are dynamic. |
| **Learning Goals:** what students will know, understand, and be able to do; includes content knowledge, attitudes, & skills | Students will understand:  1. Tissues are composed of specialized cells  2. Structures and functions of cells within tissues are interrelated  3. Cellular specialization depends upon adjacent cells and matrix  4. Maintenance of cellular structure involves dynamic processes |
| **Learning Outcomes:** Student behaviors or performances that will indicate they have successfully accomplished the goals | Students will be able to:  4a. Draw comparisons between cells and buildings with regard to processes required for maintenance and repair  4b. Identify at least 2 dynamic processes required to maintain and repair non-motile, non-dividing cells  4c. Design an experiment to visualize dynamic maintenance processes in cells |

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| **Incorporation of Scientific Teaching Themes** | | |
| **Active Learning** | **Assessment** | **Diversity** |
| How students will engage actively in learning the concepts | How teachers will measure learning; how students will self-evaluate learning | How the unit is designed to include participants with a variety of experiences, abilities, and characteristics |
| *Activities outside of class:*  Before class: Review cellular structures.  After class: Read the assigned paper investigating a dynamic cellular process, focusing on Figure 1.  –Write a 1-page synopsis of Figure 1: hypothesis, methods, controls, variables, results, conclusion  –Outline an experiment using a GFP-labeled protein to study a different process identified by the class.  *Activities in class:*  Introduction by instructor.  Tidbit.  *Activities during tidbit*:    Pair brainstorm: Pairs of students list or sketch dynamic processes that are needed to maintain cells or buildings  Jigsaw: Pairs of students share ideas about dynamic processes needed to maintain and repair cells  Assess: Individual students write a 1-Minute Paper describing what they think is the strongest analogy. A more advanced activity would be a short paper critiquing the cells-as-buildings analogy, | *Pre-assessments:*  None  *Post-tidbit assessments:*  homework | •Students bring diverse perspectives to the concept of building maintenance and repair  •Activities accommodate multiple learning styles  •Activities promote participation by different personality types  •Minimal cost |

**Sample** Presentation Plan (general schedule with approximate timing for unit)

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| **Session 1** | | | |
| **Time (min)** | Learning Outcome(s) | Activity/assessment | Explanation, notes, suggestions, tips |
| *Enter approx. class time for learning activity #1*  **15 minutes** | a. Draw comparisons between cells and buildings with regard to processes required for maintenance and repair  b. Identify at least 2 dynamic processes required to maintain and repair non-motile, non-dividing cells  c. Design an experiment to visualize dynamic maintenance processes in cells | 2 person brainstorm  2 person jigsaw pair-share  Group Share/ teacher wraps up  One-minute paper  Homework assignment (high-level Bloom’s) | See accompanying presentation.  Needs:  Paper, writing implements, imagination  Whiteboard or chalkboard |
| *Enter approximate time for additional learning activities and associated class*  *Work/preparatory materials* | Blank paper; colored sticky notes |  | Students could bring in pictures of buildings to share. |
| *Enter approximate time for post-activity summing up or transition* |  |  | We have envisioned that in the next class period students will design experiments to investigate dynamic processes within cells. |

*Add additional activities information as needed for the unit.*

Resources for Teaching the Unit

*(other files and information needed/helpful to teach the unit, including files for papers from which original data for class activities is taken, supporting information for the instructor, handouts, in class activities materials, assessments with answer keys, homework assignments, etc.)*

We suggest the paper: Kreitzer et al., 2003. Three-dimensional analysis of post-Golgi carrier exocytosis in epithelial cells. Nature Cell Biology 5: 126-136. DOI: 10.1038/ncb917

You can choose any paper that fits in with your teaching unit.

Effectiveness of unit (if you have used it in your own teaching)

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