



# SCIENCE LEARNING CENTER

Active learning experiences for undergraduate science students

We are incredibly proud that the Science Learning Center (SLC) has been awarded the 2024 Frank L. Christ Outstanding Learning Center of the Year Award by the International College Learning Center Association (ICLCA), a testament to our excellence in promoting student achievement and innovative learning. We are dedicated to creating an environment that supports students with less exposure to rigorous science coursework than their peers and from backgrounds that are underrepresented in STEM fields, ensuring they have equal access to the resources and opportunities needed to excel. Through personalized tutoring, study groups that bring together individuals with diverse perspectives and experiences, and tailored educational resources, we provide opportunities for all students to overcome challenges and thrive academically. Your generous support will help us continue to champion these values, allowing us to expand our impactful programs and further our commitment to supporting LSA's community of future STEM leaders.

## ACADEMIC COACHING

The SLC will launch a peer academic coaching program to expand student support of study practices and learning strategies beyond the course content. Recruitment will focus on prospective coaches who demonstrate empathy and an understanding of common struggles students face in STEM courses. Coaches will receive training so they can better connect with students from backgrounds that are not often found in the STEM fields, including first-generation, transfer students, and students who have encountered barriers to educational opportunities. Coaches will help their peers build a toolkit that they can apply to their studies in courses across the curriculum. Gifts of \$20,000 annually will support peer coaches, and the impact of this program will echo through the career trajectories of both the peer coaches and those receiving coaching.



## SUCCEED IN STEM WORKSHOP SERIES

The SLC will organize a workshop series by world-renowned cognitive psychologists, neuroscientists, and other top researchers on the cutting edge of how we learn and remember. Utilizing the most recent studies and data available, speakers will share the strategies and techniques every student should know and apply in order to best learn even the most challenging course material. These workshops will especially be geared toward first-generation, transfer, and other student groups that may face additional barriers to success in the rigorous introductory STEM courses at U-M. Funding will cover the costs associated with hosting these impactful opportunities; annual gifts of \$15,000 will support a workshop series throughout an academic year.

## SLC SHORT FILM

Students attending high school during the height of COVID-19 often had no choice but to study alone, but this strategy often proves less successful in challenging introductory science courses at Michigan. There is an urgent need to fill this learning gap for students entering Michigan now. We are developing a short film to help promote the SLC Study Group Program and highlight the benefits of collaborative learning. A generous gift of \$5,000 will help us connect with the students who need help from their peers, but may not yet realize the transformative power of peer learning.

## WAYS TO FUND YOUR GIFT

Your partnership connects the college's rich past to a boundless and bright future. You can change lives with gifts of cash, pledges, or appreciated securities, and create a meaningful legacy through your bequest, trusts, gift annuities, and other planned gifts. Your generosity makes an impact on what's next, for a better tomorrow.

*for what's next ▶*

**Look to Michigan**

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"Prashanti is the best SLC facilitator I have had for any of my classes. She is so knowledgeable about the material and has good techniques for explaining things or helping me get to the answer on my own. This is literally the most difficult class I have ever taken but I would be doing so much worse without the help of our study group!"

—Winter 2024 Study Group Member

"It was really satisfying to see trust and comfort built between group members, and how the group transitioned to a position where they were truly supporting one another. For instance, it was great to see how some members took on the lead and initiative to help other members learn."

—Winter 2024 Study Group Facilitator