

1116-S1-811 **Erich McAlister*** (mcalister_e@fortlewis.edu), Department of Mathematics, Fort Lewis College, 1000 Rim Dr., Durango, CO 81301. *Using Current/Urgent Research to Enhance Undergraduate Differential Equations*. Preliminary report.

In this talk I will outline the use of class projects that are both modern and urgent in order to get students engaged in the study of differential equations as a vital branch of mathematics. Too often, students feel as though the math they are learning is just “textbook math”. I will give parameters for, and examples of, going outside of standard topics in order to help students understand that differential equations are something they GET to use for exigent real world problems, rather than the topic of a class they need to get through. (Received September 13, 2015)