Troy Sadler studies science teaching and learning and, in particular, how students make sense of and learn through complex societal issues. He holds appointments as a Professor of Education at the University of Missouri and the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, where he will assume the role of Associate Dean for Research in 2018.

In this presentation, I present a new science teaching approach for promoting scientific literacy through the development of modeling competencies. The approach, Model-Oriented Issue-Based (MOIB) teaching, highlights student engagement in modeling as they make sense of the science underlying critical societal issues (such as climate change and genetically modified organisms). Our work on MOIB teaching reveals that the approach can support student learning of science concepts and modeling practices. Other aspects of the research reveal ways in which teachers engage in the process of designing and enacting MOIB learning experiences as well as the barriers and challenges that must be addressed to support teachers as they engage in this work.

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Light refreshments will be served.