ISLE-inspired Pilot Program at Princeton University
KATERINA VISNJIC, CAROLYN SEALFON, EVELYN LAFFEY, CATHERINE RIIHIMAKI,
Princeton University — In an effort to enhance the traditional calculus-based intro-
ductive physics course at Princeton University, an Investigative Science Learning
Environment (ISLE) inspired pilot program is underway. In the first year, two lab
sections performed ISLE-inspired labs and activities in class, while the remaining
ten sections received traditional instruction. We strove for a random selection of
students. To assess the effectiveness of the pilot program, we conducted focus inter-
views to probe how students felt about the course and how relevant it was in their
everyday lives. In this talk, we will describe in more detail the pedagogical approach
used in the experimental sections, and the expansion of the pilot to include more
sections this year. Using the interviews and more quantitative data, we will compare
student learning in the experimental sections and the traditional sections. We will
conclude with future plans.

Carolyn Sealfon
Princeton University

Date submitted: 26 Aug 2014

Electronic form version 1.4