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# Call for Manuscripts: Forty Years of PBL Scholarship: A Tribute to Howard Barrows

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## Call for Manuscripts

### Forty Years of PBL Scholarship: A Tribute to Howard Barrows

Since the early 1970s, Dr. Howard Barrows has been a pioneer in the area of problem based learning (PBL) as well as a prolific and sustained researcher. His efforts in PBL facilitation, medical education, and simulated patient assessments have inspired several lines of inquiry of interest to an international audience. From laying the groundwork for classifications of PBL (1986), to discussing its application in medical education and other disciplines (1996), to more recent examinations of the role of PBL facilitators (Hmelo-Silver & Barrows, 2006; 2008). Barrows' work is enduring and oft cited by PBL scholars. This special issue will be the first iteration towards a book honoring the many research traditions associated with Howard Barrows. Manuscripts submitted to the special issue and not accepted may be solicited for inclusion in the complete edited book with peer-reviewed chapters.

The special issue will include papers that:

- As a collection, represents the diversity of fields in which PBL is used.
- Investigate PBL or particular facets of PBL, such as simulated patient assessments, or facilitation, in one of the following ways:
  - o theoretical papers (limited number accepted)
  - o empirical investigations (defined broadly as quantitative, qualitative, or mixed-methods)
  - o literature reviews (limited number accepted)

For this special issue, PBL will be defined according to Barrows' own writing (1986; 1996). As Barrows points out, PBL is used as a label for a wide variety of interventions (1986). We want to represent that breadth as part of the special issue but want authors to be clear about how their own variations depart from Barrows' norms. For example, as one of many possible points of departure, an intervention might employ large tutorial groups (Barrows et al., 1986).

Barrows, H. S. (1986a). A taxonomy of problem-based learning methods. *Medical Education*,

20(6), 481-6.

Barrows, H. S. (1996). Problem-based learning in medicine and beyond: A brief overview. *New directions for teaching and learning*, (68), 3-12.

Barrows, H. S., Myers, A., Williams, R. G., & Moticka, E. J. (1986b). Large group problem-based Learning: A possible solution for the "2 sigma problem." *Medical Teacher*, 8(4), 325-331.

Hmelo-Silver, C. E., & Barrows, H. S. (2006). Goals and strategies of a problem-based learning facilitator. *The Interdisciplinary Journal of Problem-Based Learning*, 1(1), 21-39. Retrieved from <http://docs.lib.purdue.edu/ijpbl/vol1/iss1/4/>

Hmelo-Silver, C. E., & Barrows, H. S. (2008). Facilitating collaborative knowledge building. *Cognition and Instruction*, 26(1), 48-94.

### **Important Dates:**

Proposal (1000 words) submission deadline: November 1, 2011

Full paper invitation notice: December 1, 2011

Full papers (3000-5000 words) submission deadline: March 15, 2012

### **Proposals:**

The proposal should be a short version of the paper that contains essential information on a completed study or review (or completed data collection and preliminary data analysis).

### **The suggested proposal/paper structure:**

Introduction (with clear statement of the research problem)

Literature review

Research questions

Methods (detailed description of the PBL model used—including departures from Barrows, research design, instruments, validity/reliability—or appropriate analogues) Data analysis

Results or conclusions

Discussion (including limitations and future work)

Theoretical papers should be structured around an outline of all salient points and provide enough detail about each that the direction of the full paper is clear.

Electronic Submission only (<http://docs.lib.purdue.edu/ijpbl>)

When submitting your proposal via the IJPBL Electronic Submission System, please:

- Include the following in your title: "For the special issue: Building on and Honoring Forty Years of PBL Scholarship from Howard Barrows"
- Have identifying information hidden for double-blind review

Thank you very much for considering the submittal of your manuscript to this special is-

sue. We are looking forward to receiving and reviewing your paper. Should you have any questions regarding the proposals to this special issue, please send us an email and we will be happy to assist you.

**Guest editors (to whom enquiries should be directed):**

Dr. Andrew Walker  
Instructional Technology and Learning Sciences  
Utah State University  
2830 Old Main Hill  
Logan, UT 8432202830  
Email: andy.walker@usu.edu

Dr. Heather Leary  
Institute of Cognitive Science  
University of Colorado at Boulder  
594 UCB  
Boulder, CO 80309  
Email: heather.leary@colorado.edu

Dr. Cindy Hmelo-Silver  
Educational Psychology  
Rutgers University  
10 Seminary Place  
New Brunswick, NJ 08901-1183  
Email: cindy.hmelo-silver@gse.rutgers.edu