



Modeling Teachers International

Supporting and connecting science educators across the globe

MTI Newsletter, May 2026

Hello Everyone,

Greetings from all of us at *Modeling Teachers International* (MTI)! The purpose of newsletter is to update you on the latest MTI news!

Who are we?

MTI is the international affiliate of [American Modeling Teachers Association](#) and US 501c3 non-profit organization. Our mission is to create and implement programs that support science teachers *outside* the continental U.S. who use model-based approaches to science instruction in their classrooms. This includes the *Modeling Method of Instruction (Model Didactics)*, an approach to science instruction that highlights the importance of science models and modeling in science learning pioneered by Dr. David Hestenes at Arizona State University.

MTI has active members across the globe, including Australia, Canada, Croatia, Egypt, Germany, Hong Kong, Jordan, Latvia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Saudia Arabia, Slavic Republic, Turkey, and the US.

You are invited to join our private online groups:

[MTI Facebook group](#)

[MTI LinkedIn page](#)



Latvian physics teachers participate in a modeling lesson (March 2026).

You are also invited to join our growing MTI *WhatsApp* group. Email your *WhatsApp* contact information to the MTI: modelingteachersinternational@gmail.com

How do I become an MTI member?

If you are receiving this newsletter, you are *already* an MTI member!

Have friends or colleagues who might be interested in MTI? Ask them to email us (subject line: MTI membership). If at any time you would like to opt-out of MTI membership and communications, please email us. *MTI membership is absolutely free!*

MTI membership recently reached the 200 mark! 😊

Latvia Modeling Method Workshop, March 25-28, 2026

The whole workshop was just amazing. I loved all the demonstrations, types of models, and connecting of dots at the end of experiments. I also loved the way of Prof. Mark explained everything in detail, including what we should focus on. I will definitely implement the modeling method next semester for my students. -Latvian faculty participant

This March, Professor Lattery traveled to beautiful Riga, Latvia to give four days of presentations at the University of Latvia. His visit included a two-day workshop entitled, "Scientific Models and Analogies for the Science Classroom: An Introduction to the Modeling Method of Instruction," co-sponsored by Modeling Teachers International, the University of Latvia, and the University of Wisconsin.

During the workshop, Latvian physics teachers and faculty explored such basic questions such as:

- What is a scientific model?
- What does scientific modeling look like in the science classroom?
- How can a focus on models and modeling improve learning?

Thank you to all our Latvian participants!

Interested in organizing a similar workshop for science teachers and faculty in your region? Reach out to us at: modelingteachersinternational@gmail.com

Save the Dates! Online Course on the Modeling Method (Model Didactics), January to April, 2027

Are you curious about Modeling Instruction and want to delve deeper? This online science-teacher professional development course is an introduction to the Modeling Method of Instruction (Model Didactics). The course asks:

- What is a scientific model?
- What does scientific modeling look like in the classroom?

Sample topics include pre-lab concept maps, inductive laboratories, whiteboard discussions strategies, and spreadsheet physics. Examples are drawn from mechanics (gravitational and spring motions, with a focus on energy concepts), and electromagnetism (magnetic fields and force).

Course Dates: 4/1/2027 t/m 23/4/2027 (4 January to 23 April, 2027)

These dates include 1 week of preparation, 9 weeks of course content, 4 weeks of classroom application, and a 2-week mid-course break.

Location: Online



Mark Lattery (left) meets with Professors Andris Broks (middle) and Jelena Kosmaca (right, Latvia Workshop Organizer) at the University of Latvia (March 2026).

Min/Max Number of Participants: 15/25

Additional information: Subscription link and course cost to be provided in the next newsletter.

Current Research on Modeling in Science Education

Cortes-Morales, A. & Marzabal, A. (2025). The Design of Science Teaching and Learning Tasks with Modeling (April 2025): Published in the *International Journal of Science Education*, this study identifies key design criteria for creating "modeling-oriented" tasks, emphasizing that effective tasks should have a phenomenological context, a scientific practice, and a question that allows for multiple correct answers.

Solbes, J. Palomar, Rafael, Petit, M. F., & Tuzon (2025). Modeling with Embodiment for Inquiry-Based Science Education. Published in *Education Sciences*, this article reviews how modeling (constructing, evaluating, and revising models) supports learning about natural phenomena and helps students address misconceptions.

International Journal of Modeling in Science Education

MTI is launching a new peer-reviewed electronic journal! The *International Journal of Modeling in Science Education* (IJMSE) will publish high-quality teaching and education research articles on the use of scientific models and modeling in science education. Classroom-action research and review articles are especially welcome.



For the Fall 2026 issue, the manuscript submission deadline has been extended to **August 1, 2026**.

Please send paper ideas and manuscripts (PDF format; 12-point font; Calibri, Arial, or Times; single-spaced; standard margins) separately to

modelingteachersinternational@gmail.com (subject line: IJMSE)

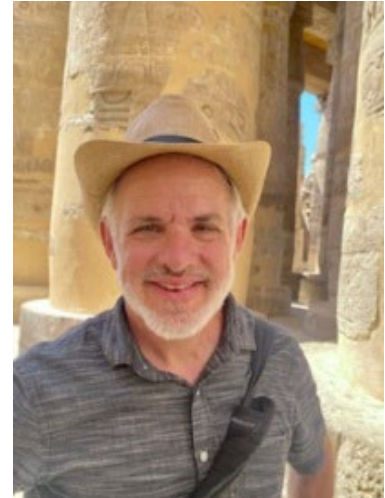
Also, the IJMSE Editorial Board is currently being constituted. *Would you like to serve on the IJMSE Editorial Board?* If so, please send us a letter of interest and your current resume/vita.

Help us grow!

Modeling Teachers International is a U.S. non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. Donations by US citizens are tax-deductible. We seek funds to

- provide scholarships for teachers to participate in professional development workshops and courses
- create new workshops and courses on the modeling method of instruction
- sponsor and organize conferences on model-based inquiry
- create and maintain of the new journal, *IJMSE*

If you would like to donate to MTI, please click “Get Involved / Donate” in the upper right of the [MTI webpage](#) (link below). All major credit cards are accepted. (For US citizens, donations are tax deductible.) No donation is too small!



Serving science teachers together,

Mark

Dr. Mark Lattery

MTI President

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