Bio: Dr. Matthew B. Gerber serves as Director of Knowledge Management for the UCF College of Medicine, and has served as an adjunct instructor in the Computer Science and Computer Engineering programs. He has previously worked as a software engineer and architect for AT&T Government Solutions, a faculty research assistant at UCF's Institute for Simulation and Training, and a software engineer for Northrop Grumman.

“Black Boxes, Stories and Outcomes: Engaging Information Technology Students in Large Lecture Classes”

Institutions that prioritize accessibility inevitably deliver content to large lecture classes, even to hundreds of students. Information technology and computer science give us a useful asset in this delivery: the fact that every course in their core curricula not only delivers knowledge that students can use in almost any related career going forward, but can be shown to do so in direct terms. In this presentation Dr. Gerber discusses some practicalities of keeping large classes engaged with traditional lecture-based teaching, and discusses a story-driven approach to abstract material intended to keep students in mind of their existing experiences (and accomplishments) as they discover the underpinnings beneath them.