PLA Effectiveness in WPI Calculus Courses: Can a Weekly Meeting Help?

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**Problem**
Peer Learning Assistants (PLAs) vary in how they conduct conferences. This variation affects student performance in calculus.

**Solution**
To implement weekly meetings between professors and their PLAs. These cover core objectives, soft skills & grading techniques.

**Conclusion**
Professors & PLAs noticed better communication after a weekly meeting. Students observed little change in PLA teaching methods.

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**Interviews**
- Conducted with professors, PLAs, and Morgan Learning Center staff

**Weekly Meeting**
- Provided tailored, organized agenda to each professor & set of PLAs

**Post Survey**
- Distributed after conference to professors, PLAs, and students

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**Change in Effective Communication**

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<th>Students</th>
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**As a student, my PLA**
"...went over the material with more depth and clarity than before."
"...seemed more focused on pacing and student participation."

**As a professor**
"...I like the personal interaction while we clarified and discussed potential problems."
"...regular meetings are crucial."

**As a PLA**
"...the meetings helped me keep track of my habits and effectively plan."
"...I was able to recognize and fix my mistakes."

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**References**
Quotes anonymously sourced from surveys distributed to WPI professors, Peer Learning Assistants, and students.

**Acknowledgements**
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