

**CAREER DECISION-MAKING SELF-EFFICACY: PRELIMINARY RESULTS** Sachel M.Villafañe and Jennifer E. Lewis, Department of Chemistry, University of South Florida, 4202 E. Fowler Ave. CHE 205, Tampa, FL 33620.

How to increase the scientific and technical workforce is always a concern in the STEM field. Career Decision-Making Self-Efficacy (CDMSE) has the potential to help us to diagnose difficulties students encounter as they consider careers in STEM. Therefore, assessing our students should help us identify those who need support for making a career decision. A four-factor CDMSE instrument was used to examine students' confidence toward making a career decision within the first few weeks in an introductory college chemistry course. The scores from the instrument had good internal consistency, but it was still difficult to interpret the results. Since the overall student response for each factor was around seven on a 10-point continuum scale, differences among students are being sought. Results from these analyses, and the implications of this preliminary work are discussed.