MSTI program helps Cal State LA students pursue teaching careers in Math and Science

The Math and Science Teacher Initiative (MSTI), an innovative collaboration between the CSU Chancellor’s Office, Cal State LA Charter College of Education (CCOE), and Cal State LA College of Natural and Social Sciences (NSS), has provided financial assistance to more than 60 Cal State LA students pursuing math or science teaching careers in the form of Early Field Experience scholarships and fee reimbursements.

This is just one way MSTI helps students achieve their goal of becoming a math or science educator. The program also connects students with appropriate advisors, resources, potential school districts, and facilitates classroom placement to help students fulfill teaching requirements and gain an authentic learning experience.

To access full articles, click on the source information.

California Colleges Transform Remedial Courses to Raise Graduate Rates

CSU system administrators earlier this year said they want to turn all non-credit remedial classes into college-level credit bearing ones by 2018, with the co-requisite classes as the likely model.

That move is an important part of the CSU campaign to bolster the system wide four-year completion rate for first-time freshmen to 40 percent from the current 19 percent by 2025. More than a third of entering CSU freshmen are found to need some remedial work.

About the STEM Education Consortium

The STEM Education Consortium is a multi-institutional, regional partnership in Los Angeles in which member institutions pool expertise and resources to achieve the common goal of increasing STEM major retention and graduation rates, particularly for students who are underrepresented in STEM fields.

The project brings together Cal State LA, Pasadena City College, and West LA College as partner institutions in a regional STEM Education Consortium supporting the development, implementation, and assessment of low-cost, high impact curricular strategies in first-year science courses and supporting comprehensive student advisement for STEM majors across institutions.

The consortium has put into place staff, facilities, and work processes that can potentially support additional STEM education efforts at Cal State LA. Rather than each individual STEM education project needing resources and a year or more to put similar infrastructure in place, the Consortium can serve as a support hub for multiple projects. Like an airport that supplies common services to multiple airlines, the Consortium can provide program coordination, administrative assistance, and other support services to STEM education projects on our campus.
Cal State LA helps lead effort to boost STEM degree completion

Cal State L.A. is one of eight campuses selected to participate in California State University STEM Collaboratives, a program designed to retain students who major in STEM fields. The system-wide effort is funded by a $4.6 million grant from The Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust. The goal is to help meet the nation’s need for one million more STEM professionals over the next decade.

“We are grateful to the Helmsley Charitable Trust and the Chancellor’s Office for this exciting opportunity to establish a First Year Experience at ECST, which we are calling FYrE@ECST,” said Deborah Won, who is the principal investigator for Cal State L.A.’s program and an electrical engineering professor. “Our main goal is to close the achievement gap we’ve observed in the students in our College by working together with faculty, staff and administrators involved in STEM education.” Others involved with the campus effort are Emily Allen, dean of the College of Engineering, Computer Science, and Technology (ECST), Mark Tufenkjian, professor of civil engineering, and Frances Hidalgo, director of the ECST Student Success Center.

The FYrE@ECST initiative will cultivate a shared leadership over first-year STEM education to bring high-impact teaching practices to STEM majors. The Golden Eagle Flight Plan, a new advisement tool, will help students navigate through their college experience.

“We are very excited to be working with a great team of faculty and staff from ECST and across campus, to promote a culture of excellence in our incoming students and provide them with the mentoring and the STEM foundational skills they need to be successful in their majors and in the workforce,” Allen said. The first two years of college are the most critical to the retention and recruitment of STEM majors, according to the President’s Council of Advisors on Science and Technology. California State University STEM Collaboratives will integrate summer-through-first-year programs with redesigned foundational courses to inspire students to pursue and complete degrees in STEM.
New Teacher Quality Partnership Grants

The Los Angeles Urban Teacher Residency Program Transformation Initiative (LAUTR-TI) program grant, headed by Project Director Dr. A. Dee Williams, is a part of the Teacher Quality Partnership (TQP) initiative to enhance collaborations between universities and high-need school districts to recruit, train and support teachers—primarily in the STEM fields—in improving student achievements in urban classrooms.

LAUTR-TI is a collaborative partnership led by Cal State LA and the Center for Collaborative Education, Alhambra Unified School District, Pasadena Unified School District and Los Angeles Unified School District. This intensive program leads to earning a teaching credential and master’s degree at Cal State LA (M.A. in Education with an Option in Integrated STEM Teaching) and is designed to equip future Mathematics and Science teachers to creatively and effectively use Common Core State Standards (CCSS) and Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) to close the achievement gap in high-need urban schools. This 18-24 month graduate level program offers an opportunity for teacher residents to work alongside outstanding mentor teachers for an entire school year and is designed to provide teachers the knowledge, skills and dispositions they need to make an impact in urban schools. The program also provides every resident teacher with a $25,000 living stipend during the year of residency.

Successful STEM Program, Led by UVA, Nets New Grant to Expand

In a range of fields involving science, technology, engineering and mathematics, or STEM, the Virginia-North Carolina Alliance, a nine-member consortium the University of Virginia created 10 years ago, has been boosting the number of underrepresented minority students and preparing them for graduate school and related careers. Since the program’s inception, the number of minority students earning undergraduate STEM degrees at participating schools has increased by more than 150 percent.

The alliance’s approach has been so successful that the National Science Foundation awarded it a $5 million grant for its third five-year phase, which will include expansion of member organizations and of opportunities for students. Led by UVA, this alliance of nine colleges and universities participates in the NSF-funded Louis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation, which supports more than 40 collaborative programs across the United States.
STEM Education Funding Opportunities

**Improving Undergraduate STEM Education: Education and Human Resources**

PIVOT Opp ID: 147909
Type: Program or Curriculum Development or Provision
Deadlines: November 2, 2017 and January 11, 2018

**Advancing Informal STEM Learning**

PIVOT Opp ID: 75632
Type: Meeting or Conference or Seminar
Research Program or Curriculum Development or Provision
Deadline: November 8, 2017

**IUSE / Professional Formation of Engineers: Revolutionizing Engineering and Computer Science Departments**

PIVOT Opp ID: 154706
Type: Program or Curriculum Development or Provision
Deadline: December 9, 2017 and January 18, 2018

**Research Coordination Networks**

PIVOT Opp ID: 48454
Type: Collaboration or Cooperative Agreement Research
Deadline: January 18, 2018

**Dear Colleague Letter: Integrated NSF Support Promoting Interdisciplinary Research and Education**

PIVOT Opp ID: 140921
Type: Research
Deadline: Continuous

To view the full listing, click anywhere on the opportunity area.

Upcoming Seminars and Events at Cal State LA and other locations

- Seminar dates (weekly): September 15, 2017 through October 18, 2017 at the Career Development Center, Los Angeles Urban Teacher Residency (LAUTR)
- Project Leadership Team Meeting and Project Management Team Meeting dates (weekly and biweekly): September 18, 2017 through December 4, 2017 and November 13, 2017, respectively, LAUTR
- Seminar dates (weekly): September 19, 2017 through November 28, 2017 at Biological Sciences (BIOS), Room 334, Chemistry and Biochemistry
- Seminar dates (weekly): September 19, 2017 through November 28, 2017 at BIOS 335, Physics and Astronomy
- Seminar dates (biweekly): September 19, 2017 through November 28, 2017 at BIOS 245, Biological Sciences
- Boeing Day, October 14, 2017 at the Golden Eagle (GE) Ballrooms, College of Engineering, Computer Science and Technology
- Seminar dates: October 20, 2017 through May 11, 2018 at King Hall (KH) Lecture Hall 1, KH D4053 and the GE Ballrooms, NASA Direct STEM
- The 28th Annual Distinguished Educators Award Dinner, November 3, 2017 at the GE Ballrooms, Charter College of Education
- Direct STEM Annual Symposium, April 27, 2018 at Golden Eagle Ballroom #3, NASA Direct STEM

Contact

Please contact us for more information about our services.

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