

CeMaST Connections

A monthly digest of events and opportunities from ISU's Center for Mathematics, Science, & Technology

205 North Main Street Campus Box 5960

August, 2024

1. **Action Item!** CeMaST would like to pull together a **STEM Education Community Social** to kick-off the new academic year, foster networking among STEM education folks across campus, and welcome new members to our community. This will be a casual, short gathering with light snacks and opportunity to mingle. **Please help us pick a time/day with [this scheduling poll](#) by Friday, August 23.**
2. **Action Item!** CeMaST would like to provide more structured support for faculty and other members of our STEM community who would like to offer professional development to preK-16 STEM teachers. CeMaST's PD facilitation looks like this:
 - a. We post the PD description, which the facilitator writes, on our website.
 - b. We advertise PD opportunities to districts and teachers.
 - c. When educators contact us with interest in your workshop, we help arrange the details. This means:
 - We reserve the fleet vehicle for you to travel to the site and help you complete the travel voucher, OR we reserve the space on campus for you to offer the PD here.
 - We reimburse you for materials that you purchase for the PD (with receipts kept).
 - After you deliver the PD, we invoice the district/organization for your time (\$50/hour), materials costs, and travel.
 - We arrange you getting paid at \$50/hour for your time as either additional pay (if allowed by your supervisor) or summer pay.

We have a scaled fee schedule for districts, according to their percent of funding adequacy (i.e., low-income districts receive a substantial discount), but the discount is not "passed on" to you as the facilitator; we use CeMaST funds to make sure you are still fully paid for your time. **If this interests you, please complete this [STEM PD Workshop Advertisement form](#).**

3. **A heads up!** We will be accepting applications for our **next cohort of [Inclusive Excellence STEM Fellows](#)** in September-October. Fellows receive professional development and mentorship related to cultivating inclusivity and equity in their STEM

field. Fellows are honored at an annual Inclusive Excellence in STEM reception and receive \$3,000 summer pay. If becoming an Inclusive Excellence STEM Fellow interests you, please be on the lookout in our next CeMaST Connections issue for the application link.

4. **Another heads up!** CeMaST will be selecting 2-3 **new Associate Directors** soon. CeMaST Associate Directors commit to 3-years of service, in which they collaborate with other Associate Directors, the Director, and other CeMaST collaborators in grant-writing, STEM education scholarship, and STEM project administration, as well influence CeMaST's strategic directions. The CeMaST Leadership team, composed of the Director and 4-5 Associate Directors, meet monthly. Applications for Associate Directors will open in September and request a CV, a letter of interest and vision, and a letter from the applicant's chair/director stating that the directorship will be recognized as part of their service commitment.
5. **Keeping you connected:**
 - a. From the National Science Foundation:
 - [Science & Technology Centers \(STC\) grants](#) supports exceptionally innovative, complex research and education projects that create new scientific paradigms, establish new scientific disciplines, and develop transformative technologies which have the potential for broad scientific or societal impact. **Preliminary proposals are due November 20, 2024.**
 - [Dear Colleague Letter: Strengthening the Evidence Base Related to Broadening the Participation of LGBTQI+ Individuals in STEM](#) encourages NSF proposals that integrate evidence related to factors affecting the participation of LGBTQI+ individuals in STEM. Proposers are strongly encouraged to discuss proposal concepts with program directors in the relevant program(s) before submission, or to contact lgbtqi-dcl@nsf.gov.
 - b. From the National Institutes for Health, the [Galvanizing Health Equity Through Novel and Diverse Educational Resources \(GENDER\) Research Education R25](#) grant supports research educational activities that advance sex- and gender-specific education in science, medicine, and allied health professions by supporting the development of sex- and gender-focused courses. A PI meeting will be held on Friday, September 20, which you can [register for here](#).