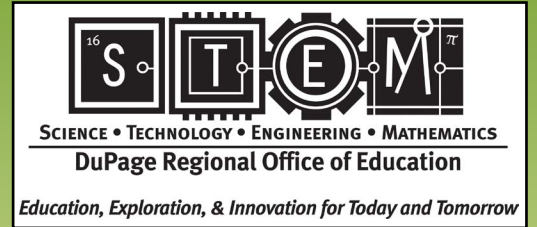


# STEM

News You Can Use . . .



March 2014



Photos from the February 17 STEM Open House at the Technology Center of DuPage

## Nevada Becomes Ninth State (+DC) to Adopt the NGSS

The Nevada State Board of Education adopted the Next Generation Science Standards, making it the ninth state and Washington D.C. to support the new standards. Learn more in this [Education Week blog post](#).

## NAE Report Examines STEM Integration in K-12 Education

The report, [STEM Integration in K-12 Education](#), references approaches to formal and out-of-school STEM education and research regarding the impact of an integrated approach. A [short animated video](#) explains STEM and potential advantages and challenges of integration.

## Engaging Girls in STEM: Tinkering

Learn about the challenges of engaging girls in tinkering, proposed solutions to these challenges, and ideas about how to assess tinkering projects, and promote tinkering in specific fields. [http://www.laurelschool.org/about/documents/CRG\\_TINKERING.pdf](http://www.laurelschool.org/about/documents/CRG_TINKERING.pdf)

## Spell Success with S-T-E-M: Science, Technology, Engineering and Math

Some say the U.S. can regain the competitive edge in education with the use of a training plan not unlike that of the American athletes who recently competed in Sochi. [Read more here](#).

## DuPage Science Teacher Receives STEM Award

Jeff Grant, science teacher at Downers Grove North High School, was recently announced as one of five recipients of the 2014 PASCO STEM Educator Award. A portion of the award includes several Pasco probes and sensors that Jeff will use to advance STEM learning with his students. Congratulations!

## Coming Events

### Climate Change Workshop, June 18-20 at Purdue University

This NSF sponsored Climate Change workshop at Purdue is limited to 60 people – the first 40 get free housing (principal's letter required). The \$25 registration fee includes food and materials. For more information; <http://content.des01.com/vo/?FileID=e1d1e5d8-875f-4966-94e2-07bb1c291d09&m=27b9e4ae-0be8-4413-8043-58ee22a6f29c&MailID=28137760&listid=70611> or contact Cindy Fate, [cynthia@purdue.edu](mailto:cynthia@purdue.edu) or 765-494- 5146.

### “Energy Slam” on April 3, 2014; 6:30 p.m. Reception and Poster Session; 7:00 p.m. Talks, Voting, Q & A at Argonne

Four Argonne researchers will each have 10 minutes to state their case for a different energy source – wind, solar, nuclear and biofuels. At the end of the presentations, audience members will decide which researcher made the most persuasive case. [More . . .](#)

### Wonders of Science (Grades 2-7) on April 6, 2014; 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. at Fermilab

Award-winning high school chemistry and physics teachers will present a fast-paced series of demonstrations on chemical and physical phenomena to involve you and your young scientists mentally and at times, physically! Portions of this show have been seen on many national television broadcasts including Inside Edition, the CBS Evening News, and David Letterman. The presenters are master science teachers who have been recognized locally and nationally for their ability to reach young minds. Tickets: \$4.00/person (nonrefundable). <http://ed.fnal.gov/events/wos>. Contact [edreg@fnal.gov](mailto:edreg@fnal.gov) (preferred) with questions.

### STEM High School Career Expo on April 23, 2014; 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. at Fermilab (Wilson Hall)

High school students from Kane and DuPage Counties are invited to meet scientists, engineers and technicians from many STEM careers. Ask career questions of the experts. Attend panels to learn more. The program is free with no registration required. For more information, send e-mail to [edreg@fnal.gov](mailto:edreg@fnal.gov). <http://ed.fnal.gov/programs/careerfair/>

## Resources

### Scholarship Program for Community Stewardship Projects

The Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant (IISG) EMPOWER Scholarship provides \$500 to plan and implement a community stewardship project focused on local watershed issues and is available to Illinois and Indiana grade 4-12 educators. Applications will be accepted until April 30. For more information: <http://lakesideviews.blogspot.com/2014/03/new-scholarship-program-offers.html>. Learn more about upcoming training opportunities and classroom resources: [http://www.iisgcp.org/education/topics\\_education.html](http://www.iisgcp.org/education/topics_education.html)

### Energy Is Elementary with KidsActOnEnergy

Free K-8 teachers' guides provide standards-based lessons that easily integrate into the regular curriculum. The website also offers games, videos and fun facts about energy with a focus on energy efficiency. Order materials online at [KidsActOnEnergy.com](http://KidsActOnEnergy.com).

### Fermilab Scholarships for Teachers and Schools

Funding for teacher professional development and engaging activities and enrichment classes for students can be challenging. [Fermilab Friends for Science Education](#) offers scholarships for teachers to attend summer workshops, field trip transportation expenses, and families for student enrichment classes held at Fermilab. Apply online. Deadline is March 28, 2014. [http://ed.fnal.gov/ffse/ed\\_ffse\\_scholarships.html](http://ed.fnal.gov/ffse/ed_ffse_scholarships.html)

### Illinois Department of Natural Resources

IDNR has added to its website at <http://dnr.state.il.us/education/standards.htm> new lessons based on the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). New topics include: Mammals - grades K-3; Fossils - grades 3-4 and middle school; Trees - grade 1. Visit often as lessons will be added as they are completed.

### Illinois Summer Research Academy (ISRA) for High School Students - July 13-18, 2014

High school students will spend a week with ISU professors working on various hands-on research projects and/or working with peers on their own research projects. Research Opportunities include: Arts Technology, Biology, Biochemistry, Chemistry, Computer Mapping and GPS, Computing and Information Technology (IT), Criminal Justice Sciences, Mathematics, Physics, and Technology. Scholarships are available! The application is due May 2, 2014. For information <http://cemast.illinoisstate.edu/students/high-school/summer-academy/>

### Benedictine Offers M.S. in Science Content and Process

The program is designed for K-9 teachers and other science educators. Participants will use inquiry-based learning and technology to create an effective learning environment for science education. More information at [http://www.ben.edu/academic\\_programs/majorsheets/upload/MSSCP\\_Trifold\\_2013.pdf](http://www.ben.edu/academic_programs/majorsheets/upload/MSSCP_Trifold_2013.pdf)

