# CORRIDOR CONNECTIONS

## The Official Newsletter of SCILS STEM Collective for Innovative Louisiana Stakeholders

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The Lincoln Parish STEM Center hosted a STEM Day for the children of district teachers on the first professional development day of the academic year. With volunteer instructors and students within the UTeach Tech program from Louisiana Tech University, the day featured opportunities for students to complete STEM exercises, challenges and activities related to the theme of upcycling.

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If you are interested in receiving a copy of the STEL, contact Cathi at ccb91110@gmail.com

### SCILS DIRECTOR ATTENDS NORTHEAST LOUISIANA WORKFORCE ECOSYSTEM 101

#### Partners in Workforce Development

On October 20, the Louisiana Community and Technical College System hosted a Workforce Ecosystem 101 gathering for partners and stakeholders throughout Region 8. Facilitated by Camille Conaway, LCTCS Vice President for Policy and Industry Partnerships, and held on the campus of Louisiana Delta Community College in Monroe, the event provided an opportunity for informational sharing and networking between the different entities involved. Joining SCILS Director Cathi Cox-Boniol at the event was SCILS Advisory Board members Ryan Pierce of LDCC and Angie White with the North Louisiana Economic Partnership. In addition to resource sharing, numerous follow-up outcomes were discussed, including a quarterly meeting, monthly calls, and piggybacking on other events. All partners involved have been challenged to not only maintain contact in the coming days but also intentionally connect with those beyond normal circles of influence.



Register for the 2021 Energize Your Destiny Louisiana live link at: https://www.centralcreativity.com/EYD/



#### SCILS Advisory Board Welcomes Cyber.Org to the Table

As it continues to evolve and expand its leadership capabilites, the SCILS Advisory Board proudly welcomes Dr. Chuck Gardner, a member of the cyber.org team within the Cyber Innovation Center. Gardner brings wealth of experience working with the cyber initiative as well as robust partnerships throughout the region. The SCILS team welcomes this new addition and looks forward to how continued emphasis on critical workforce needs along the I-20 corridor will help elevate the SCILS work.



## **SCILS Advisory Board Spotlight**

#### Sandra Harvey Bossier Parish Community College

Sandra Harvey is the Associate Vice Chancellor of Innovative Learning at Bossier Parish Community College. She oversees Veteran Educational Services and a variety of special projects. She also serves on teams that support the intersection of education, technology, and innovation, such as the Louisiana Cyber Education Center, National Initiative for Cybersecurity Education (NICE) Workgroup for Apprenticeship, and Tech by 20 Steering Committee. Sandra is experienced in developing partnerships and is dedicated to creating workforce opportunities that impact the community.



\*SCILS is supported through funding to the Science and Technology Education Center (SciTEC) in the College of Education at Louisiana Tech University through the LaSTEM initiative of the Louisiana Board of Regents.\*



#### 2022 STEM Education Summit: Building a Coalition for Attracting and Retaining a Diverse STEM Teaching Workforce

To confront the underrepresentation in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) teaching and leadership, the Smithsonian Science Education Center is hosting our annual STEM Education Summit March 19 – March 26, 2021, as a virtual convening. This summit is the sixth of its kind to be offered by Smithsonian and the second to be held virtually.

Research shows that by increasing the diversity of the STEM teacher workforce, students from underrepresented populations are more likely to become interested in STEM and ultimately be better prepared for the career opportunities available to them.

At the STEM Education Summit, 20 teams of educators from diverse regions across the nation embrace their roles as change agents to create plans for attracting and retaining STEM teachers from underrepresented populations at the school, district, or state-level. Selected teams are matched with a mentor who is carefully selected to fit the unique composition and needs of their team.

Mentors paired with a team bring an array of skills and professional STEM experiences to their assigned team. Previous mentors have held positions as nonprofit executive directors, veteran classroom teachers, school and district leaders and university professors with deep-rooted interests in STEM education equity and systemic change. They support all team members to become leaders and provide feedback to their team to guide them through developing and achieving goals.

To register to attend an information session that will be hosted December 1, 2021, view mentor expectations and application, visit https://s.si.edu/3BUJirU.

Prior to the STEM Education Summit, teams will get acquainted with their mentors as they prepare themselves for the Summit. During the Summit, teams continue to work with their mentor to develop a logic model to address a challenge in attracting and retaining teachers from underrepresented populations into their teaching workforce. Following the Summit, teams are supported by mentors to implement the action plans described in their logic model in the subsequent school year.

#### Program Overview

Saturday, March 19, 2022: First Day of STEM Education Summit Monday – Friday, March 21 –25 2022: Teams and Mentors Supplemental Work and Sessions Saturday, March 26, 2022<mark>: Second Day of STEM Education Summit</mark>

Be the catalyst of change in your education system and apply for the STEM Education Summit today! (Deadline: Friday, January 21, 2022)

This work is made possible by an advisory committee composed of education thought leaders including experts from PK–12 and postsecondary education, minority-serving institutions (MSIs) and nonprofits collectively working to build a coalition to attract and retain STEM teachers from underrepresented groups resulting in 30,000 new and existing teachers by 2030.

This program is made possible by funding from Shell Oil Company.



#### **ENERGIZING STEM**

November 30, 2021 1:00-2:30 PM CST To register visit: https://bit.ly/3mT5tdO

Join the U.S. Department of Education (ED) and the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) to learn about their programs, student competitions, and workforce development efforts to expand the diversity of the energy workforce and deliver results in the fight against climate change.

Host: Patti Curtis, Robert Noyce/Ellen Lettvin STEM Education Fellow, U.S. Department of Education Moderator: Christy Jackiewicz, Chief, Office of Economic Impact and Diversity, Minority Educational Institutions Division, DOE

## **LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT SERIES KICKS OFF NOVEMBER 17**

Take advantage of a great (and FREE) opportunity to explore and grow your leadership skills. The ITEEA Council for Supervision and Leadership (CSL) welcomes pre-service teachers, new teachers, veteran teachers, teachers who teach, teachers who are now administrators as well as state leaders. Join the live monthly virtual leadership series with sessions organized in partnership with Grand Canyon University. The leadership series will be delivered at no cost via Zoom and will begin on Nov 17, 2021 and conclude on Feb 16, 2022.

Complete this application to participate in the sponsored sessions: https://bit.ly/3wfFKzb. The Zoom link for each session will be sent via e-mail to pre-registered participants on the morning of each session. Please share this opportunity with ITEEA members, colleagues, STEM teachers, undergraduate students, and TEECA members.

Participants who register and complete all 4 of the 4 free sessions will receive a ITEEA-CSL Leadership Development Series certificate of completion and free membership in CSL for the 2022 ITEEA conference.



February 7, 2022 Raising Cane's River Center Baton Rouge, LA

#### Registration is now open for the 2022 LaSTEM Summit!

In addition, the landing page for the Call for Presenters and Vendors is complete. There are two ways to access it. 1) The hyperlink is available on the main landing page for the LaSTEM Summit Registration or 2)

you can access the page directly here: *https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/cu/CGsWN2g/LaSTEM*. Remember to register for the Summit--entering the Call for Presenters and Vendors doesn't register you!