

SENCER E-News for November 21, 2009

NCSCE Awards 20 Sub-Awards to Support Campus Programs

Following a competitive application process, twenty teams received SENCER/NSF Post-Institute Implementation Awards to create or revise courses and curricula, to develop partnerships, and to implement faculty development programs and workshops. The teams will work over the next two years to implement and assess their efforts, and will convey progress and results to the SENCER community through local outreach, national symposia, and publications. The competition was open to members of teams of four or more people who actively participated in SSI 2008 and met other eligibility requirements.

Save the date: 2009 Washington Symposium and Capitol Hill Poster Session

NCSCE will hold its annual symposium and poster session on March 30 – 31, 2009. This event is designed to serve the needs of alumni in our community who are looking for venues to report on their innovative efforts in STEM education reform. We encourage all interested educators to consider bringing at least one student to Washington.

The event will be co-sponsored by the Center for Teaching Excellence at the University of Maryland, and the Capitol Hill programs are hosted with the office of Representative Tim Holden (PA). Details on the program and how to apply to attend will be provided in the next issue of the E-News on December 5th. That information will also then be posted to www.sencernet.net.

Apply Now to Attend SSI 2009

SSI 2009 will be held from August 6-10th and will be hosted by Harold Washington College (Chicago, IL) and the SENCER Center for Innovation-Midwest. We invite applications from teams and individual educators, administrators and students interested in learning more about the SENCER approach and how to improve courses and programs in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). Participation is by invitation only.

The Institute will include plenary sessions, concurrent sessions, and colloquia designed to introduce participants to SENCER and the approaches used to infuse civic engagement into courses and programs, as well as opportunities for SSI alumni to report on new and advanced campus-based implementations. A special session will focus on the work of SENCER alumni in the Chicago area, where several colleges and universities have successfully implemented courses and programs on a variety of topics for students majoring both in the STEM subjects and other disciplines. To learn more or to submit an application, please visit <http://www.sencernet.net/Institutes/summerinst09.cfm>.

SCI-West Hosts Symposium on Water and the West

On October 25, 2008, SCI West held its first workshop entitled Symposium on Teaching Science and Engineering through Civic Engagement with a special emphasis on Water and the West at Santa Clara University. The symposium began with an outstanding keynote address by Chris Kitts, and was followed by a series of presentations primarily by the SENCER Leadership Fellows. To read a complete report on the symposium, please visit the SCI-West website.

SENCER Adds Job Announcements to Website

SENCER often receives requests to convey job opportunities to members of our community by employers interested in hiring educators with experience and interest in innovative pedagogies. To better respond to these needs, SENCER has created a dedicated space on www.sencernet.net under 'Resources' for job announcements. Announcements will be posted to the page, accessible directly at <http://www.sencernet.net/Resources/jobannouncements.cfm>, immediately until the application deadline or the date requested. They will also be featured in our bi-weekly E-News. If you are interested in featuring an announcement on our website, please email a brief description of the job (maximum 150 words), the job title, the deadline for applications, and a link to the full announcement or contact person to sencernet@sencernet.net.

Current Postings

Education Programs Manager, The Biotechnology Institute
Director, Board on Science Education for the National Academies
Director, Whitaker Center for STEM Education at Florida Gulf Coast University

USDA Grant Opportunity

The Higher Education Challenge (HEC) Grants Program aims to strengthen and enhance the Nation's higher education teaching and training programs in the food and agricultural sciences and to ensure the quality of education so that graduates can respond to national needs. Proposals to this program should address the goals of increasing the number of students graduating with a degree in the food and agricultural sciences and increasing the quality of postsecondary instruction in the institution. Priority areas include "supporting healthy food choices and lifestyles, and obesity and chronic disease prevention" and "promoting human sciences that address rural youth, individual and family well-being in a community context." Educational need areas for the HEC program include curricula design and materials development, faculty preparation, and student experiential learning. Proposals are due January 30, 2009 and details can be accessed at

<http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?&mode=VIEW&flag2006=true&oppId=18501>.