



## Welcome

The Success Center Connection shares announcements, deadlines, and new initiatives related to the Center for Science and Math Success (CSMS), and important news related to teaching, learning and student success. This issue focuses on the Pre-STEM Teaching Program, one of CSMS's newest initiatives. Through this program, NSM students interested in exploring a STEM teaching career in middle and high schools will receive assistance with early field experiences/internships, advising for Sac State's single subject matter programs, scholarships through the Math and Science Teacher Initiative (MSTI) and opportunities to network with pre- and in-service teachers through professional development activities.



### Early Field/Internship Experiences

Teaching Internship courses (195T) offer field experiences for future science teachers. These one or two-unit, credit/no-credit courses pair students with an experienced middle or high school teacher in local and regional school districts. Students gain hands-on classroom experience, upper-division elective units towards their degrees, and fulfill the CSUS Teacher Credential Program fieldwork requirements. Advisors in the Pre-STEM Teaching Program support students as they complete the necessary requirements for gaining access to, and completing their internships. Also, students can get reimbursed for fees related to fingerprinting and background checks. Any student interested in enrolling in the 195T courses will need to talk with an advisor in our Center the semester before they plan to participate.

### Single Subject Matter Programs

The College of Natural Science and Mathematics (NSM) offers Single Subject Matter Programs (SSMP) in Biology, Chemistry, and Physics designed to prepare students with the content knowledge to teach middle and high school courses in their respective disciplines. All three programs include introductory classes in biology, calculus, physics, general chemistry, organic chemistry, astronomy and environmental

science. Benefits of the SSMP include preparation to teach all four sciences (biology, chemistry, geoscience, and physics) at the general/integrated level for 7th-12th grades, as well as at the advanced high school level for their discipline. Additionally, students that complete all SSMP courses with a C- or better receive a waiver for the California Subject Examinations for Teachers (CSET), a set of two exams used to assess mastery of subject matter content. For students interested in teaching at the foundational level only, a Single Subject Teaching Credential in Foundational-Level General Science (FLGS) authorizes teaching in general, introductory, and integrated science (integrated science through Grade 8 only). The FLGS waiver is equivalent to one of the two CSETs and requires a lower course load for completion. The Pre-STEM Teaching Program provides advising for all programs under the SSMP. Please contact our Center for more information on single subject matter programs.

### Professional Development and Networking

The Pre-STEM Teaching Program aims to create a community of students across the STEM disciplines who share career goals related to teaching middle and high school. This program further aims to provide professional development activities and opportunities for students to network and learn from middle and high school teachers



working in the Sacramento area districts. We invite anyone interested in learning more about a science/math teaching career to join us on Monday, April 27, 2020 from 5-7pm in Sequoia 320. A panel of four science teachers (with expertise in biology, chemistry and physics) will lead an inquiry-based activity, share their journey in science education, and answer questions as part of a panel discussion. This workshop will provide students with an opportunity to network with other pre-teaching students and education leaders from Sacramento State and local school districts. Food will be provided for all participants.

### Teaching Tips:

"Where's My Mentor?!"

Characterizing Negative Mentoring Experiences in Undergraduate Life Science Research is a qualitative study by Limeri et al., 2019 that examines the experiences of 33 life sciences majors who reported negative or unhelpful mentoring during their undergraduate research experiences. This article provides insight about the perceptions of mentorship from the perspective of the mentee and serves as a foundation for

the development of a scalable measure to quantify such experiences. See the full text at:

<https://www.lifescied.org/doi/pdf/10.1187/cbe.19-02-0036>

### What to look for in our next issue:

Find out more about an exciting new program: The STEM Education Research Network (SERN) as well as discipline-based education research (DBER) here at Sac State.

### Important Dates:

**Regenerative Medicine Lecture Series:**  
*Making Heart Muscle Cells from Stem Cells featuring Dr. Deborah K. Lieu – UC Davis Assistant Professor. Wednesday, April 8th, 2020 from 6:00-7:00 pm in the University Union Ballroom I*

**SEE Health Professions Week April 6-April 10th:** *Adjusting and Surviving Grad School Fri 4/17/20 4-5pm SQU 128*

*SEE Graduation & Awards Ceremony Fri 5/1/20 6-8pm Terrace Suite, The WELL*

**Pre-STEM Teaching Program Workshop:**  
*Monday, April 27, 2020 in the CSMS (Sequoia 320) from 5-7pm.*

**Math and Science Teacher Initiative (MSTI) scholarships:**  
*MSTI is part of a CSU system-wide project to increase math and science teachers. Scholarship applications are currently open to students interested in pursuing STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) teaching credentials. For more information and application instructions, visit <https://www.csus.edu/college/education/engagement/math-science-teacher-initiative.html>*

*Application materials are due September 17, 2020.*