



Press Release for Immediate Use

CCPI-STEM Selects 7 New Community College Educators as Fellows

CCPI-STEM (<https://www.ccpi-stem.org>) has selected seven community college educators for its Fellows program.

The **Fellows program** is one of several initiatives of the Community College Presidents' Initiative in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (CCPI-STEM) that aim to strengthen community college faculty and administrators and nurture their leadership skills to grow and diversify the STEM technician workforce.

The CCPI-STEM Fellows program has grown to a total of 13 Fellows. Brief biographies of the Fellows and more detailed information about the Fellows program are available at <https://www.ccpi-stem.org/ccpi-stem-fellows-program/>

All CCPI-STEM Fellows are pursuing graduate degrees and conducting research related to STEM education and workforce development at community colleges. In addition to their graduate studies and research, the Fellows are expected to participate in professional development and mentoring activities to prepare them for future STEM leadership roles in community colleges.

The seven new Fellows are:

- **Allison Foster**, Faculty, Biological & Physical Sciences Department, Columbus State Community College, Ohio;
- **Diane Rhodes**, Faculty, Computer Technology Department, Red Rock Community College, Colorado;
- **Jason Boehm**, Interim STEM Dean, Meramec Campus, St. Louis Community College, Missouri;
- **Karen Bridges**, Faculty and Chair, Physical Sciences Department, Howard Community College, Maryland;
- **LaToya Chandler**, Interim Director, Andrews Center, Santa Fe College, Florida;
- **Laurel Carpenter**, Faculty, Environmental Science and Technology Department, Holyoke Community College, Massachusetts; and
- **Mitchell Sweet**, Faculty, Physical Sciences Department, Scottsdale Community College, Arizona.

The CCPI-STEM Fellows program is open to individuals who are pursuing or beginning to pursue graduate degrees and conducting research related to STEM education and workforce development in community colleges. The criteria used to evaluate the applicants considered educational background, STEM-related experience, leadership potential, STEM leadership potential, STEM community engagement, and the focus of their proposed research.

The Advanced Technological Education program from the National Science Foundation funds the CCPI-STEM Fellows program. It provides each selected Fellow an honorarium of \$5,000 annually for two years. Support in the second year is contingent on Fellows making satisfactory progress during the first year.

The next deadline for the Fellows program applications is September 9, 2024. For more information, contact Dr. Ashok Agrawal at Ashok@AgrawalAdvisory.com.