PRESIDENTS PRESS
Community College Presidents Initiative

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CCPI ATE STEM
Achieving Excellence in Workforce Education

THOUGHT LEADERS DIALOGUE REPORT RELEASED IN OCTOBER CONTAINS RECOMMENDATIONS TO NSF

The first CCPI-STEM Thought Leaders Dialogue contains recommendations to the National Science Foundation as well as the key points made during the discussions (which were listed in the July 2023 issue of Presidents Press).

Dialogue participants' suggestions include simplifying the ATE grant proposal process; allowing stipends from grant funds rather than teaching load reductions for principal investigators; clarifying whether previously funded colleges are penalized by efforts to bring new colleges into the program; modifying the merit review process to give points to the institutions and leaders of previous well-executed grants; selecting more reviewers who understand the culture of community colleges; addressing the misperception that community colleges and faculty without NSF grant experience will not be able to make competitive proposals; and improving connections between NSF program officers and community college leaders and faculty.

The report also contains info from participants about what their colleges have achieved with ATE grants and examples of how colleges recognize faculty for leading ATE projects and other grant-funded initiatives.

Read the full article here: https://bit.ly/3ZYWxFv

SECOND THOUGHT LEADERS DIALOGUE FOCUSES ON RURAL, MINORITY-SERVING AND TRIBAL COLLEGES

The second CCPI-STEM Thought Leaders Dialogue and the League for Innovation in the Community College will convene Thought Leaders Dialogue II on February 9, 2024, from 12 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. (EST). The focus of discussions in virtual break-out rooms will be on "NSF Opportunities and Challenges at Rural, Minority-Serving, and Tribal Colleges." The needs of these colleges were raised during the first Thought Leaders' Dialogue in May.

Check CCPI-STEM's website for information about upcoming webinars about the technician education needs at rural, minority-serving, and tribal colleges, and how ATE grants can help faculty address them.

To register for the second Thought Leaders Dialogue, complete the "Get in Touch" form at ccpi-stem.org/#getintouch.

ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE IN WORKFORCE EDUCATION, CCPI-STEM AT THE NSF ATE PI CONFERENCE

On October 25, 2023, CCPI-STEM will host an invitation-only Affinity Group Meeting at the annual NSF ATE PI conference. This meeting will educate senior college administrators and industry representatives about the NSF ATE grant process, unveiling instructional modules developed by the CCPI-STEM project. Charlene Dukes, Co-PI, will provide welcoming and introductory remarks. Shane Kirby, curriculum developer, and Elizabeth Hawthorne, Co-PI, will debut the Overview Module designed for use in community college leadership institutes and doctoral programs. Additionally, Tan Moorthy, retired Executive Vice President of InfoSys, will discuss the importance of community college and industry partnerships to improve the STEM workforce. All eight CCPI-STEM regions will be represented, each region with a team of academicians and business and industry representatives. Also, among the thirty-six registered participants will be the first cohort of the CCPI-STEM Fellows.

UPCOMING EVENTS

November 3, 2023 | 2:00pm EST
Webcast: Building Institutional Grant Capacity at Rural and Tribal Colleges
RSVP HERE: https://bit.ly/3FeiuXO

December 1, 2023 | 2:00pm EST
Webcast: Strengthening STEM Education at Minority Serving Institutions through NSF ATE Funding
RSVP HERE: https://bit.ly/3LW0J36

February 9, 2024 | 12:00 - 1:30pm EST
CCPI-STEM Second Thought Leaders Dialogue
RSVP HERE: https://bit.ly/46Ic5Qf

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PRESIDENT WIMBISH USES A TEAM APPROACH IN THE SOUTHWEST REGION

Dr. Jennifer Wimbish, chair of the CCPI-STEM Southwest Regional Network, is intentional in her work of inviting community college presidents in Texas, Louisiana, and Oklahoma—and those they lead—to apply for NSF-ATE grants.

Her strategy involves partnering and networking with other organizations, which have a common interest and are willing to share info about CCPI-STEM on their websites and in their newsletters, communicating through email with presidents and others in their institutions, and direct telephone calls.

Wimbish noted Ellen Wills, coordinator for the CCPI-STEM Southwest Regional Network, plays a critical role in this strategy because she usually communicates with the presidents first through e-mails. Wimbish then follows up with telephone conversations with as many presidents as possible.

As a result of this strategy the Southwest Region's e-mail list has grown from 60 contacts to 180 individuals in the first nine months of 2023.

Read the full article here: https://bit.ly/48XR1r0

PRESIDENT NEWKIRK BEGINS OUTREACH IN THREE RIVERS REGION

Dr. Charlene Newkirk started as the chair of the Three Rivers Regional Network in August 2023 and by September she had made initial contacts with all the community presidents in Pennsylvania, Ohio, and West Virginia.

Newkirk has served at the Community College of Allegheny County (CCAC) in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania as a Campus President since March 2009. She assumed responsibility as the Southeast Region President overseeing the Boyce and South campuses, as well as the Braddock Hills Center. Her expertise and passion in the institutional areas of student access and success was renewed three years ago, when her responsibilities expanded to include joint leadership with the Northwest Region President

Newkirk hopes that by sharing information about the positive outcomes of five ATE grants at the Community College of Allegheny County, where she is president of the Southeast Region, will persuade other presidents to become CCPI-STEM affiliates and have their faculty submit ATE grant proposals.

"Our institution is really all in on this," she said.

Read the full article here: https://bit.ly/3M4MzN6