
CEO message: CEO Updates-April 1, 2016

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Kate Spohr <kspohr@berkeley.edu>
To: CEO <education.outreach@lists.berkeley.edu>

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Spotlight

Coming up at CEO: Tuesday, April 12, noon to 1:30 pm—First generation college students and alumni speak out. A panel of diverse first-generation-to-college students and alumni discuss their journeys in STEM, including successes and challenges they encountered along the way. They will discuss the people, resources, and opportunities that made it possible for them to successfully navigate academic, social, and cultural hurdles at UC Berkeley. Location: 303 Doe Library. [More-->](#)

Funding opportunities

NSF Public Participation in Engineering Research focusing on Citizen Science and Crowdsourcing—Deadline: 6/1/16. To support the continued expansion of research involving citizen science, crowdsourcing, and related forms of public participation, the NSF invites proposals in areas covered by the Divisions of Civil, Mechanical and Manufacturing Innovation (CMMI) and Chemical, Bioengineering, Environmental, and Transport Systems (CBET) within the NSF Directorate for Engineering. Proposals may be submitted either as requests for supplements to existing awards or as Early-concept Grants for Exploratory Research (EAGER) proposals. For EAGER proposals, the anticipated award size will be up to \$100,000, with an anticipated duration of one year. For supplements to existing awards, the maximum award size will be limited to 20% of the original award or \$100,000, whichever is smaller. [More-->](#)

National Education Association Foundation Learning and Leadership Grants – Deadline: 6/1/16. Grants of up to \$5,000 will be awarded to support the professional development of public school teachers, public education support professionals, and/or faculty and staff in public

institutions of higher education. [More-->](#)

NSF Antarctic Artists and Writers Program – [Deadline: 6/1/16](#). The Antarctic Artists and Writers Program furnishes U.S. Antarctic Program operational support, and round-trip economy air tickets between the United States and the Southern Hemisphere, to artists and writers whose work requires them to be in the Antarctic to complete their proposed project. U.S. Antarctic Program infrastructure consists of three year-round stations and numerous austral-summer research camps in Antarctica, research ships in the Southern Ocean, and surface and air transportation. These assets support the projects undertaken by the artists and writers. [More-->](#)

NSF Broadening Participation in Engineering (BPE)—[Deadline: 6/16/16](#). The NSF BPE Program is a Directorate-wide initiative dedicated to supporting the development of a diverse and well-prepared engineering workforce. Across every educational juncture (e.g., elementary, secondary, and postsecondary levels), efforts to improve engineering interests, preparation, connections, experiences, and opportunities among underrepresented groups is of major importance to BPE. In FY 2016, aligned with NSF-wide [INCLUDES](#), BPE is interested in funding projects that bring together multiple groups (e.g., school districts, community colleges, engineering schools, industry, philanthropy, government, etc.) and offer the greatest return on investment by producing outcomes that are scalable, sustainable, and applicable to various contexts, settings, and demographics within the engineering enterprise. [More-->](#)

Events & opportunities

4/11/16, 4-5:30 pm—Teaching evaluations: biased beyond measure. Featured speaker: **Philip Stark, Assoc Dean, Math and Physical Sciences.** Location: 8th Floor, Barrows Hall. Student evaluations of teaching (SET) are widely used in academic personnel decisions as a measure of teaching effectiveness. Joint work with Anne Boring (SciencesPo) and Kellie Ottoboni (UC Berkeley) shows that SET are biased against female instructors by an amount that is large and statistically significant. This bias affects how students rate even putatively objective aspects of teaching, such as how promptly assignments are graded. Presented by the Center for Studies in Higher Education (CSHE). [More-->](#)

5/17/16, 10am-8pm—7th Annual Northern California Summit on Children & Youth: Building the Next Generation Workforce. The Richmond Community Foundation and the West Contra Costa Unified School District will co-present the **2016 Summit on Children and Youth.** The theme of this year's Summit, Building the Next Generation Workforce, focuses on ensuring that our communities are prepared to fill the employment opportunities in growth industries like health care, biotech, information and computer technologies. For registration, sponsorship, and program information, [click here](#).

News & views

Be A Scientist: community-school-university partnership—By next year, [Be A Scientist](#), a pilot program created by UCB professor [Mary Wildermuth](#), will reach *every 7th grader in the Berkeley Public Schools*. [Be A Scientist](#) exemplifies what can be achieved when institutes higher education combines forces with schools and community partners. The program was developed in partnership with Berkeley middle school teachers and UCB scientists, coordinated by the nonprofit [Community Resources for Science](#), and funded by the [Chancellor's Community Partnership Fund](#) and the [Berkeley Public Schools Fund](#). [Be A Scientist](#) engages UC Berkeley graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, and upper-level undergraduates as role models for 7th graders as they design and carry out their own individual scientific investigations. [More-->](#)

Colleges that do the best (and worst) at graduating low-income students– The US Department of Education has now posted lists of which colleges and universities do the best at enrolling and graduating recipients of Pell Grants. The federal grants go to children of families earning about \$40,000 a year or less and who are considered low income. [More-->](#)

Racial diversity without racial preferences–A wide body of research shows that when class disadvantage is properly defined—to include not just family income, but also family wealth and whether students grow up in disadvantaged neighborhoods—it can produce a vibrant level of racial and ethnic diversity. If carefully constructed, *class-based* affirmative action can produce both racial and socioeconomic diversity in a way that *race-based* programs never have. [More-->](#)

Brain gain–Since 1980, the overrepresentation of immigrants in areas of exceptional contribution to American society has shifted from cultural and artistic fields to engineering, computing, and scientific professions, according to a recent National Academies report. "The U.S. workforce increasingly relies on immigrants and their children to staff higher-level jobs." The panel identified three areas of concern: The role of legal status in slowing or blocking the integration of immigrants; racial stratification in the U.S. population; and the low percentage of immigrants who naturalize, compared with other major immigrant-receiving countries. [More-->](#)

Engineering-enhanced liberal education–The American Society of Engineering Education (ASEE), with financial support from the Teagle Foundation and expert guidance by leading education consultant Sheila Tobias, has launched a website highlighting case studies that examine the benefits of greater integration between the liberal arts and engineering. [More-->](#)

How a subtle bias influences retention–In a recent study of social environments in science classrooms, students and instructors in three sections of the same undergraduate biology course were asked at multiple points during the semester to name the students they considered knowledgeable about course content. Females nominated their male and female peers equitably, whereas male students received more recognition from other males than did their female classmates. The favoring of males by their peers may play a role in the retention of women in science. [More-->](#)

About CEO

CEO Updates is the newsletter of the [Coalition for Education Outreach](#) (CEO), an informal network of organizations, departments, and individuals on the UC Berkeley campus and in the community engaged in STEM education and outreach. [More about CEO-->](#)

Have some news (resources, events, project highlights, publications, job opportunities, etc.) that you want to share in our next newsletter? Contact [Kate Spohr](#).

Frequently used acronyms: *E&O (education and outreach); K-12 (kindergarten through 12th grade); NGSS (Next Generation Science Standards); NSF (National Science Foundation); STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics).*

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