CEO message: Weekly updates

CEO Updates is a newsletter by and for the UC Berkeley STEM education and outreach community. If you have an event or announcement you would like to submit to the newsletter, please contact Kate Spohr.

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CEO monthly meeting

Tues, May 19, 11:00 am to 1:00 pm (note early start time)—CEO Monthly meeting: Update on the Berkeley Global Campus at Richmond Bay. For this final CEO meeting of the year, Ruben Lizardo, Director of Local Government & Community Relations, and Jen Loy, Assistant Director, will provide an update on recent developments at the Berkeley Global Campus at Richmond Bay, focusing on the Community Working Group and its recently created education sub-committee. The presentation will be followed by an informal networking reception. If you are so disposed, please bring a snack to share with the group. Location: 303 Doe Library.

Campus awards for community engagement and service

Chancellor's Awards for Public Service On May 5, dozens of members of the campus community were honored for their dedication to public service, which Chancellor Nicholas Dirks told the crowd is “at the core of our mission.” The names and profiles of those honored is here.

Big Ideas@Berkeley projects for social change The Blum Center celebrated the 46 winning student innovation projects for social change with an awards celebration May 5. This year's contest received a record number of applications from 201 teams representing 700 students across nine UC campuses and 17 other universities. The teams presented hundreds of innovative ideas to address today's most pressing issues—from the need for financial literacy among U.S. students facing college debt to the best way to produce sustainable energy in rural Kenya. Summaries for all 46 award winning big ideas can be found here.

Broadening participation—Pathways to Science

The Institute for Broadening Participation (IBP) works with NASA and NSF to connect students, particularly those from underrepresented groups, with funded opportunities through the Pathways to Science website. If your organization offers opportunities for high school students, teachers, undergrads, grads, or postdocs, you can list them at no charge by filling out an online form here. View current UC Berkeley listings at Pathways to Science here. For questions, contact Liv Detrick.

Trends in foundation funding

Thurs, May 21, 2015, 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm Meet the Grantmakers: What's Trending in the World of Foundation Effectiveness? Sponsored by the Foundation Center. Increasingly funders are thinking about effectiveness, strategy, and amplifying impact. In May, the Center for Effective Philanthropy (CEP), is convening in San Francisco to share best practices in leading effective foundations. Participating grantmakers at the conference will provide an overview of the items discussed at the conference that may impact nonprofits and foundation fundraising, such as effective grantee/grantmaker relationships, evaluation and impact assessment trends, how grantmakers are thinking about growing income inequality, and new models of philanthropy.

Presenters: Chris Cardona, Ford Foundation; Lindsay Austin Louie, William and Flora Hewlett Foundation; Rhonnel Sotelo, Rogers Family Foundation. Location: 312 Sutter, San Francisco. Register here.

NSF under scrutiny

Impact of the America COMPETES Reauthorization Act (H.R. 1806) on the NSF H.R. 1806 recognizes that
NSF "has made major contributions for more than 60 years to strengthen and sustain the Nation's academic research enterprise" and "carries out important functions by supporting basic research in all science and engineering disciplines and in supporting STEM education at all levels." It has been widely anticipated that H.R. 1806 would enable actions to enhance the nation's competitiveness through science and innovation. In fact, H.R. 1806 provides findings that support the major ingredients to achieve this—including interdisciplinary research, international partnerships, and the enhancement of a STEM workforce. Yet the specific actions H.R. 1806 proposes contradict these findings. Read more-->

National education news

Districts out ahead of states in adopting science standards (Education Week, 5/11/15) While statewide adoptions of the Next Generation Science Standards continue to prove slow and steady, some districts are jumping the gun on their states and starting to bring the new standards to classrooms as soon as possible. In many cases, science teachers themselves have led this charge.

Nice PhD; Think it was worth it? (BloombergView, 4/22/15) The number of doctoral degrees rose steadily throughout the 2000's. So the question is: Should you go the Ph.D. route? Thinking about the costs and benefits of a decision like this isn't easy -- many of the costs are hidden, and not monetary in nature.

To build an army of STEM workers, look to veterans (AL.com, 3/31/15) While the U.S. job market has been gaining strength in recent months, there's one group of Americans who are still struggling to find work: veterans. According to the latest report from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, unemployment among post 9/11 veterans was 6.7 percent in February, a full point higher than the population at large.

Reports/Briefs

Design Principles for Equity and Excellence at Hispanic Serving Institutions (Spring 2015) This policy brief, sponsored by the American Association of Hispanics in Higher Education, Educational Testing Service, and Univ. of Texas at San Antonio, is aimed at Hispanic-serving institutions but contains broadly applicable recommendations for culturally inclusive educational practice.


Please note: A reply to this email will be sent to the entire list.

The Coalition for Education & Outreach (CEO) is self-formed group of staff, faculty, postdocs, and students on the Berkeley campus and surrounding community who work in science, technology, engineering and math education and outreach (E&O). During the academic year (Oct-May), we hold monthly meetings to further professional development, networking, and information exchange among members of our community. Click here to subscribe/unsubscribe to the CEO e-list and newsletter.