



Kate Spohr <kspohr@berkeley.edu>

CEO message: CEO Updates

1 message

Kate Spohr <kspohr@berkeley.edu>

Wed, Sep 23, 2015 at 3:50 PM

Reply-To: Coalition for Education and Outreach <education.outreach@lists.berkeley.edu>

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

Dear CEO Colleagues: I'll be on vacation beginning next Monday through Oct 12. While I'm away, CEO Updates will also take a break. The next newsletter will be sent out the week of October 19. Please note that CEO monthly meetings start up again on Tuesday, October 13 with an informative presentation about the work of the Berkeley Center for Teaching and Learning. I hope to see you there!—Kate S.

CEO Monthly Meeting

10/13/15, 12:00 to 1:30 pm. Richard Freishtat, director of UCB's **Center for Teaching and Learning** (CTL), will discuss how the Center works with Berkeley faculty and departments to enhance teaching and learning effectiveness in pedagogy, curriculum, and assessment. He will also discuss two recent NSF-funded projects for which CTL provided consultation in program design, curriculum development, and training. Joining Richard will be **Catherine Halversen** and **Lynn Tran** from the **Lawrence Hall of Science** (LHS) who worked with CTL on the *Redefining the College Lecture* project; and **Jo Yuen** from the **Center for Energy Efficient Electronics Science** (E3S) who worked with CTL on a Research Experiences for Teachers (RET) program that teaches context-based learning to community college faculty. Location: **303 Doe Library**.

View the complete [CEO event and meeting schedule](#).

Local events

Latino Engineering Day/Día de la Ingeniería, Sun 9/27/15, 10:00 am - 5:00 pm—Free, at the Exploratorium. This annual, drop-in program is conducted primarily in Spanish and provides opportunities for participants to meet with prominent engineers in the Latino community. Activities include panel discussions, presentations on the science and engineering heritage of Latinos, and playful activities such as crash testing a piñata and scribbling machines.

Berkeley Intersect Conference, Sat 10/10/15. The Intersect Conference is a response to some of the incidents on campus last fall, the results of the 2014 Campus Climate Survey, and the impact of the Campus Climate Symposium held last February. The conference aims to provide the campus community with an opportunity to witness, engage in, and self-reflect towards critical dialogue about issues impacting our university. [Conference information & registration](#).

2015 Bay Area Science Festival, 10/22 - 11/7/15. Over 200 science, technology, and engineering organizations from across the Bay Area will present the fun and excitement of science through

hands-on, interactive exhibits, science-themed performances and demonstrations, and family-oriented entertainment. Registrations from exhibitors will be accepted through [Friday 9/25/15](#). [Exhibitor eligibility](#): 1) The exhibit must be related to the promotion of understanding science, engineering, technology, or mathematics. 2) Discovery Days are family-friendly events, therefore all materials and activities must be appropriate for a family audience. [Exhibitor information & registration](#).

Funding

American Society for Cell Biology Invites Applications for Mentoring in Active Learning and Teaching Program. Application deadline: 1/11/16. Grants of up to \$2,000 will be awarded to individual undergraduate biology educators to visit, observe, and work with mentors skilled in active learning and evidence-based teaching strategies that align with the society's principles. This immersion/mentoring experience is intended to provide clarity and practical interactive opportunities for MALT Fellows so they can analyze particular elements of teaching protocols; ask timely, pointed questions about how to activate them in their own classrooms and disciplines; and immediately put their new skills into practice. The program also provides a \$500 mentor stipend.

Opportunities

AAAS Early Career Award for Public Engagement with Science. Deadline for nominations: 10/15/15—This award recognizes early career scientists who demonstrate excellence in their research careers as well as in promoting meaningful dialogue between science and society. The award recipient will win \$5,000, a commemorative plaque, and complimentary registration and travel to the 2016 AAAS Annual Meeting in Washington, DC. [Eligibility and nomination form](#).

Webinar: Tools to support inquiry, 11/4/15, 11:00 am PST—Robert Tinker will demonstrate an integrated set of free, open-source computer-based tools that students can use to undertake sophisticated, open-ended investigations that are similar to the approach and thinking used by scientists. This allows students to experience the practices of science as envisioned in the NGSS standards. Although the project focuses on secondary physics and physical science content, it should be widely across any STEM discipline. Presented by MSPAcademy. Free and open to the public. [Register here](#).

New & noteworthy

Obama administration takes big step in simplifying financial-aid application process—The Obama administration has implemented a new approach to student financial aid documentation that will make the aid application process far less complex. Starting in the fall of 2016, students will be allowed to use two-year-old tax information, otherwise known as “prior-prior year income,” to determine aid eligibility for the 2017-18 school year rather than relying on families to estimate their income from the previous year. Higher Ed Watch, 9/23/15.

Course, counselor, and teacher gaps: addressing the college readiness challenge in high-poverty high schools. College degree attainment is widely seen as a key to move low-income families and individuals into the middle class. Unfortunately, a college education is more difficult to access for students who grow up in poverty. An important question for policymakers is: what holds low-income students back? This paper presents a new analysis of education data on high schools in the 100 largest school districts and highlights the role of inadequate K-12 preparation as a barrier to postsecondary success for students who live in poverty. In particular, the analysis highlights stark differences in the quality of college preparation that high school students receive based on their schools’ concentration of poverty. Key findings and policy recommendations are included. Center for Law and Society Policy, June 2015.

The “gifted” system in US schools is broken, racist, and completely fixable—Low-income and minority children are significantly underrepresented in gifted and talented programs, but that could be dramatically changed by altering recruitment systems, a new study co-authored by Berkeley economics professor **David Card** has found. Traditionally, students are selected by teacher

referrals, or based on evaluations arranged and paid for by parents, but a test of universal screening in 2005 achieved far greater diversity. There was a 180% increase in the number of disadvantaged students, an 80% increase in the number of black students, and a 130% increase in the number of Latino students classified as gifted. The study further demonstrated that students overlooked in the old system did well once they got into gifted programs. "[I]f anything, the newly identified students benefitted even more from participating in gifted education than did the group of always takers who [would] be identified under a traditional referral system," the researchers reported. Berkeley in the News, 9/11/15.

3 ways to revolutionize STEM education in the United States—There are 26 million STEM jobs in the U.S., comprising 20 percent of all jobs. Despite the need for these workers, fewer than half of high school seniors are prepared for college-level math and science courses.

Because of this, a greater focus on STEM has been a trend for at least a decade. This article outlines three ways STEM education is being revamped in the United States, through the use of technology, a focus on computer science, and getting girls interested in STEM at an early age. STEM Coalition, 8/29/15.

Perceptions and resilience in underrepresented students' pathways to college. This study demonstrates the effort and engagement underrepresented students expend in the effort to become college-ready, and the risk for burnout as a result of both academic and nonacademic hardships during their high school years. School regard may mitigate these effects. Mere expectations for college appear insufficient in the current access-for-all climate. Rather, it is important that students perceive value and esteem for their potential from school faculty and peers, sustaining their ambitions through the obstacles they encounter in high school and expect in college. Teachers College Record, 2015.

Lower Income, Higher Ed—This public radio documentary reports on the hurdles encountered by many low-income and first-generation college students, and details some of the new solutions universities and community-based organizations are using to coordinate support. WAMU 88.5, American University Radio.

New think tank to focus on learning, education policy—A new national education think tank in the Bay Area hopes to bridge the world of research and policy-making to inform evidence-based education policies at the federal, state, and local levels. Headquartered in Palo Alto, the **Learning Policy Institute** will be led by researcher and policy expert Linda Darling-Hammond, with Patrick M. Shields, who previously created and built the education research function at SRI International, serving as executive director. Members of the institute's board include UCB education professor **Kris D. Gutiérrez**. The institute will work to highlight the design of education systems that prepare students for a knowledge-based world economy; identify early education programs that produce strong outcomes; generate and disseminate research on how to attract, train, and retain the next generation of teachers; and shape an equity agenda to address the high rates of child poverty and homelessness, as well as unequal school funding and staffing, in the U.S. compared to other industrialized nations. Philanthropy News Digest, 9/9/15.

Funding the Common Core State Standards: what have we learned over the last three years? This capstone paper, commissioned by the Common Core Funders Working group, poses questions about the turning points in Common Core implementation, about funder roles and influence, and about what funders should take away from Common Core funding efforts to date. Common Core Funders Working Group, 7/29/15.

Is college tuition really too high? Adam Davidson analyzes the startling data on tuition costs, which have tripled in real dollars since 1974; median family income fell from \$62,000 to \$52,000 during the same period. New York Times Magazine, 9/8/15.

About CEO

The **Coalition for Education & Outreach** (CEO) is an all-volunteer community of practice for staff, faculty, postdocs, and students who work in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) education and outreach at Berkeley and in our surrounding communities. Our mission is to further professional development, networking, and best practices within our community of over 270 subscribers. Membership is free and open to all. [Click here](#) to subscribe or unsubscribe to the CEO e-list and newsletter. Visit the [CEO website](#) for information about CEO's members and programs, or to access past issues of this newsletter. CEO co-chairs [Kate Spohr](#) and [Dan Zevin](#) welcome your comments, questions, and ideas.