

CEE's e-Newsletter: Stay informed about the latest news and events.



Research Science Institute

CEE's 40th Annual Research Science Institute (RSI) is in session at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) from June 25 to August 5, 2023. Mark Kantrowitz (RSI '84) is again serving as the Director of RSI. RSI continues to be cost-free for students to attend, thanks to the generosity of donors. The RSI is proud to host 100 students including those from 34 U.S. states and the nations of Bulgaria, Canada, China, Germany, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Kazakhstan, Lebanon, Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Korea, Spain, Switzerland, Taiwan, Turkey, the United Kingdom, and Vietnam.

CEE's RSI is the most prestigious international summer science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) research program in the world for high school students, collaboratively sponsored with MIT, RSI combines on-campus course work in scientific theory with mentored off-campus research in science and technology. Students conduct original, innovative research in state-of-the-art university laboratories, hospitals, and corporate research facilities. Students make oral and written presentations based on their research during the last week of the program. To date, more than 3,000 high school students representing every U.S. state and 61 nations have experienced RSI.

For more information about CEE's RSI, visit <https://www.cee.org/programs/research-science-institute>.



2023 USA Biolympiad

CEE's 2023 USA Biolympiad (USABO) National Finals were held June 2-16 at Marymount University on its Arlington, Virginia campus. USABO Finalists participated for ten days in high-level biology instruction inclusive of laboratory training and conceptual understanding followed by two days of testing. Four students earned the honor to represent the U.S. at the 34th International Biology Olympiad, a worldwide competition involving student teams from over 80 countries. It will be hosted July 3-11 in the United Arab Emirates. Representing the U.S. as the USA Biolympiad Team will be: **Yufei Chen**, University High School, Irvine, CA; **Damon V. Gurvich**, Lexington High School, Lexington, MA; **Kaiden Zida Wu**, Thomas Jefferson School of Science & Technology, Alexandria, VA; and **Richard Zhu**, North Hollywood Senior High School, North Hollywood, CA. Speakers included **Joseph Dexter, PhD**, (RSI '08) Data Science Fellow, Harvard University; **Vishal Nigam, M.D.** (RSI '89) Seattle Children's Hospital/ University of Washington; **Rebekah Rogers, PhD**, (RSI '01) Associate Professor, UNC Charlotte; and **Elizabeth Wood, PhD**, (RSI '01) JURA Bio, Inc. Co-founder & CEO as well as Broad Institute Visiting Scientist. The Keynote speaker at the closing ceremony was **Debra Van Egeren, PhD** (USABO '10, RSI '11), a postdoctoral scholar at Stanford University.

USABO is the premiere biology education and testing program for high school students in the U.S. USABO's mission concentrates on stimulating intellectual curiosity in young scholars and developing their critical thinking in laboratory skills and biological reasoning to propel them to careers of excellence and leadership in science and technology. With school registration, teachers gain access to a wealth of online biology resources, including recommended readings, study guides, practice questions, guidelines, checklists, and previous exams to help them prepare students for study and testing. Registration for the 2024 USABO will open in August. For more information on USABO, visit <https://www.cee.org/programs/usa-biolympiad>.



Teacher Enrichment Program

CEE's Teacher Enrichment Program (TEP) will continue to have high school teachers engage speakers who are immersed in innovative research. Sample topics include cyber security, agricultural biotechnology, data science, and art preservation. Also, there will be a regional TEP meeting in Northern Virginia in November. More information will be available soon.

In May CEE's TEP presented "STEM in Oceanography." Participants learned about the science behind many job and career opportunities in this field. Speakers included **Amanda Felix**, Mote Marine Laboratory and Aquarium Biologist, based in Sarasota, Florida, and **George I. Matsumoto, PhD**, Senior Education & Research Specialist, Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute. The recording is available on [YouTube](#).

To date, more than 4,000 teachers from over 1,400 schools have participated in TEP programs, encouraging more than 600,000 underserved rural and urban students to consider STEM careers. More information is at <https://www.cee.org/programs/teacher-enrichment-program>.

A promotional graphic for the STEM Lyceums program. It features a dark blue background. At the top center is the 'Excellence' logo in a white script font, with 'Center for Excellence in Education' in a smaller white font below it. On the left side, the text 'STEM Lyceums Program Manager' is written in white, bold, sans-serif font. In the center is a white-bordered portrait of Devin Simmons, a man with a beard wearing a light-colored striped shirt. On the right side, the 'STEM Lyceums' logo is displayed, featuring a white geometric tree icon and the text 'STEM Lyceums' and 'EXPLORE YOUR POTENTIAL IN STEM' in white. Below the portrait, the name 'Devin Simmons' is written in white, bold, sans-serif font.

STEM Lyceums

Devin Simmons is CEE's Manager of CEE's STEM Lyceums program. He earned a bachelor's degree in history from George Mason University in 2018 and a Master of Science in Education from Johns Hopkins University in 2021. He noted, "With five years of experience in the field of education, I have continually demonstrated a dedication to fostering a love for learning among students. I'm a firm believer in the power of STEM education and have played an instrumental role in equipping students with the necessary skills and knowledge to excel in these fields. One of my key passions lies in highlighting the numerous career paths that STEM education can lead to by showcasing the real-world applications of STEM and sharing success stories of individuals who have forged exciting careers in these fields. As a vital member of the Center of Excellence in Education, I am eager to make a meaningful impact on the lives of students."

CEE's STEM Lyceums is a monthly virtual club for underserved high school students to learn about STEM professions and career pathways, provided at no cost to schools or students. Enjoy a YouTube [playlist](#) of all past STEM Lyceums. More information about STEM Lyceums as at [More information about STEM Lyceums is at https://www.cee.org/programs/stem-lyceums](https://www.cee.org/programs/stem-lyceums).

Federal Advocacy Manager

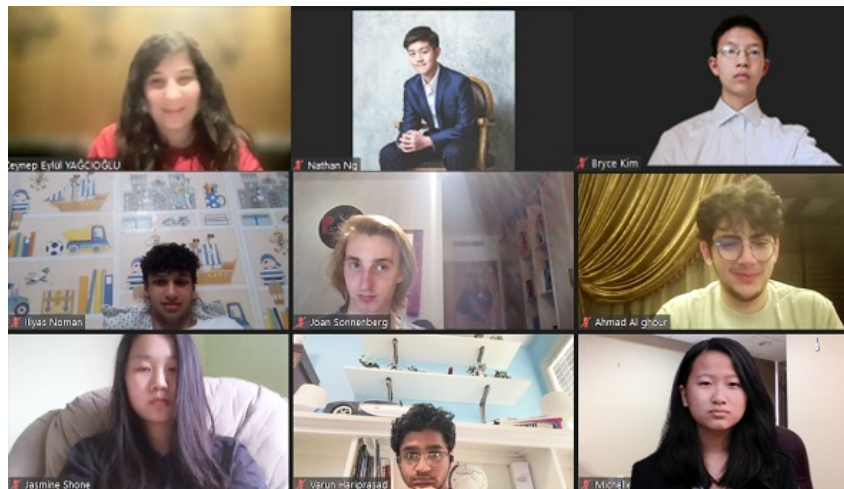


Alan Feyerherm

CEE Federal Advocacy Manager

Alan Feyerherm is CEE's Federal Advocacy Manager. Alan grew up on a farm in northeast Nebraska and graduated from Doane College (now Doane University) with a B.A. in Business Administration and Communication. Prior to joining CEE, Alan was a legislative staffer on Capitol Hill for several members of the Nebraska congressional delegation in both the House and the Senate, most recently with former U.S. Senator Ben Sasse. He served in key congressional roles in these offices, including senior legislative assistant, legislative director, and deputy chief of staff. Alan and his wife, Vivian, have a teenage son, Aiden.

Zoom Reunions



RSI Class of 2022

Twelve Rickoids from the RSI Class of 2022 attended a casual and exciting event. Almost all are high school seniors, so naturally discussion zeroed in on college plans -- schools and majors. International alumni were well-represented, with representation from Lebanon, Turkey, Spain, United Kingdom, and Saudi Arabia. Participants stayed for a second hour, demonstrating their second and third languages. As the saying goes, "What happens in a Zoom in Arabic, stays in a Zoom in Arabic." Never break Zoom's unwritten rules.

CEE's Zoom reunions not only help the Center connect with alumni through the years, but they are a wonderful opportunity for alumni from the U.S. and other nations to network. Many participants said they had never joined any kind of reunion before; their experiences were particularly exciting. **James Schuyler** (RSI '88), CEE's Webmaster & Alumni Liaison, is leading this initiative. Please [contact him](#) if you can volunteer time to assist in this project.



Alumni Gathering in Palo Alto

More than 50 alumni gathered to 'Celebrate CEE' in May at the Jen-Hsun Huang Engineering Center on the campus of Stanford University in Palo Alto, CA. The evening was hosted by Stanford clinical assistant professor **Nina Vasan, MD, MBA**, (RSI '01), who shared the importance of RSI friends and its network in her life. CEE Trustee **Arvind Parthasarathi** (RSI '90) spoke on behalf of the Center's board leadership and emphasized the importance of alumni campaign participation to outside funders. California Superior Court Judge **Danny Chou** (RSI '86) described how his RSI STEM experience has advised his legal and judicial career. CEE camaraderie was abundant as guests shared their memories and networked into the late evening.



Save the Date

CEE's 40th Anniversary celebration is Oct. 13-15, 2023, at Broad Institute in Cambridge, MA. Not only will this be an opportunity to reconnect with fellow Rickoids (alumni from CEE's RSI and USABO programs), Trustees of CEE, and special guests, but there will be insightful CEE Talks on exciting STEM topics as well as plenary panel discussions. [Contact Maite](#) with any questions. Registration will open in August on CEE's website.



Alumni: Please Update Your Information

If you have not recently done so, please take a moment to update your alumni information [here](#) so that the Center's staff can better plan alumni events and programs. Thanks again for being part of CEE's special RSI and USABO alumni community.



CEE Alumni LinkedIn Group

Good news! CEE now has a group active on LinkedIn for alumni to engage in social, career, and academic networking. This group offers CEE alumni an ideal way to post job openings to other alumni and to connect to others in their career or academic fields. If you are an alum of CEE's RSI or USABO, please [contact](#) CEE's Alumni Liaison **James Schuyler** to join.

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