

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



Senator Joseph I. Lieberman (left) presents the Lieberman Award to Dr. Aaron S. Kesselheim (right).

CEE's Congressional Luncheon

The Center for Excellence in Education (CEE) hosted its Annual Congressional Luncheon on Tuesday, April 25 on Capitol Hill in Washington, DC. The luncheon brought together luminaries in the public and private sectors, friends of CEE, and alumni of the Center's science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) programs to hear the Center's Honorary Trustees, Congressional members, and program alumni speak about the importance of science and technology. CEE's 2023 luncheon celebrated 40 years of success and impactful STEM education programs.

The keynote speaker at the luncheon was **Jonathan Gardner, PhD**, Deputy Senior Project Scientist for NASA's James Webb Space Telescope, the successor to the Hubble Space Telescope, which looks backwards in time to find the first galaxies that formed after the Big Bang. The project traces their evolution into galaxies like our own Milky Way and connects the formation of stars and planets with the history of our own Solar System.

CEE Honorary Trustees U.S. Senator **Jacky Rosen** (Nevada), U.S. Senator **Todd Young** (Indiana), U.S. Representative **Neal Dunn** (Florida), and U.S. Representative **Scott Peters** (California) provided remarks.

The 2023 **Joseph I. Lieberman** Award for Outstanding Achievement in STEM was presented to **Dr. Aaron S. Kesselheim, MD, JD, MPH**, Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School, and a faculty member in the Division of Pharmacoepidemiology and Pharmacoeconomics in the Department of Medicine at Brigham and Women's Hospital. He attended CEE's Research Science Institute (RSI) in 1991. The Lieberman Award acknowledges significant STEM accomplishments by an alumnus of CEE's programs and recognizes Senator Lieberman's longtime support as CEE Honorary Trustee.

This exciting annual event brings together the Center's amazing alumni, donors, and friends to spotlight how STEM education is helping to assure future U.S. scientific and technological leadership in the global community. A recording of guest remarks is posted on [CEE's YouTube channel](#).



Research Science Institute

CEE's 40th Annual Research Science Institute (RSI) will be held at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) June 25 to August 5, 2023. CEE's RSI is a summer STEM program collaboratively sponsored with MIT that combines on-campus course work in scientific theory with off-campus research in science and technology. CEE and MIT agreed to increase the number of 2023 RSI students to 100! **Mark Kantrowitz** (RSI '84) will again serve as the Director of RSI. RSI continues to be cost-free for students to attend, thanks to the generosity of donors. For more information about CEE's RSI, visit <https://www.cee.org/programs/research-science-institute>.



RSI Alum Named NAS Member

Emily E. Brodsky, PhD, (RSI '90) Professor of Earth and Planetary Sciences, University of California, Santa Cruz, was recently elected as a member of the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) in recognition of her distinguished and continuing achievements in research. She joins two other RSI alums as a NAS member. **Joel Moore, PhD** (RSI '90), Chern-Simons Professor of Physics at UC Berkeley and a Senior Faculty Scientist at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, was elected as a NAS member in 2022. CEE Trustee **Feng Zhang, PhD** (RSI '99), Core Institute Member, Broad Institute of MIT & Harvard, was elected a NAS member in 2018. The National Academy of Sciences is a private, nonprofit institution that was established under a congressional charter signed by President Abraham Lincoln in 1863. With the National Academy of Engineering and the National Academy of Medicine, NAS provides science, engineering, and health policy advice to the federal government and other organizations. With Professor Brodsky's election, the total number of active NAS members is 2,565. CEE program alumnus and Lieberman Awardee **Aaron Kesselheim, MD, JD, MPH** (RSI '91) was elected as a member of the National Academy of Medicine in 2020.

USA BIOlympiad

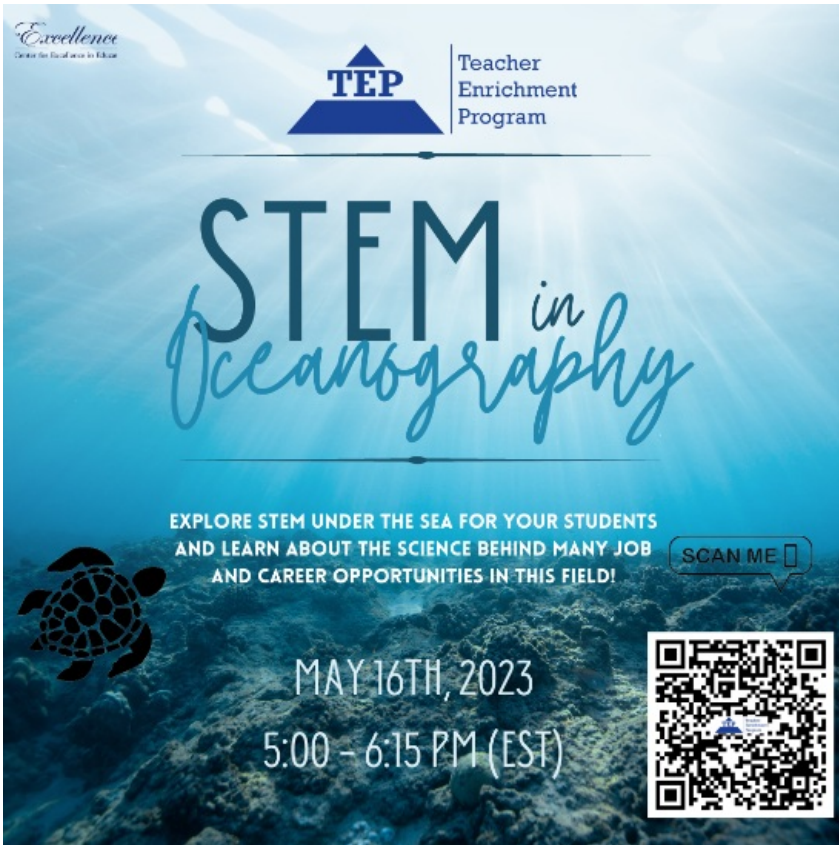
2023 USA Biolympiad

CEE's 2023 USA Biolympiad (USABO) National Finals will be held June 2-16 at Marymount University on its Arlington, Virginia campus. The 2023 USABO National Finalists in the USA Biolympiad (USABO) were just [announced](#). The Finalists will participate for ten days in high-level biology instruction inclusive of laboratory training and conceptual understanding followed by two days of testing. Ultimately, four students will earn the honor to represent the United States 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. For more information on USABO, visit <https://www.cee.org/programs/usa-biolympiad>.



Welcome Heather Hill!

Heather Hill is the new manager of CEE's Teacher Enrichment Program (TEP). She received her BS degree in Biology from Fort Valley State University and earned her MS degree in Molecular Biology from Georgia State University. She explored her love of education as a high school science teacher. She taught biology, anatomy and physiology, research, and became gifted certified. She taught anatomy and physiology at Georgia State University. Heather later became a Biological Scientist for the state of Florida. While there, she strengthened her laboratory skills and worked on COVID-19 research. Heather is excited to bring her many talents to CEE.



STEM in Oceanography

On Tuesday, May 16 at 5 p.m. ET CEE's Teacher Enrichment Program presents "STEM in Oceanography." Participants will learn about the science behind many job and career opportunities in this field. Speakers include **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. Register [here](#). The recording will be posted on CEE's [YouTube channel](#).

TEP hosted a College & Career Panel on STEM in Healthcare on March 30 via Zoom. Guest speakers were **Shirley L. Bazdar**, Program manager for the Claude Moore Scholars program, and **Dr. Megan Koh**, who attended the Research Science Institute in 1988 and 1989. Both speakers shared information and insights into STEM careers and educational pathways. [View the recording](#).

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



STEM Lyceums

CEE's STEM Lyceums is a virtual club for underserved high school students to learn about STEM professions and career pathways, provided at no cost to

schools or students. The April STEM Lyceum focused on careers in health sciences. Distinguished speakers included **Jasmine George, PhD**, Manager of Advocacy Programs at Research!America, **Katie Hoover** (RSI '92), Clinical Systems Director at NeoImmuneTech, and **Meredith Lewis BSN, RN, CCRN**, who works in the Medical Intensive Care Unit at Duke University Hospital. CEE thanks the Claude Moore Charitable Foundation for making this rewarding program possible. Watch the recording [here](#). More information about STEM Lyceums is at <https://www.cee.org/programs/stem-lyceums>.

Zoom Reunions



RSI Class of 2021

Rickoids from the RSI class of 2021 recently gathered on Zoom. It was an exciting time since many students were on break from their demanding college schedules. Princeton, Harvard, Stanford, MIT, Duke, Yale, Georgia Tech, and ETH Zurich were represented, with budding mathematicians, computer scientists, and present and future researchers in attendance.



USABO Classes 2018-22

In late March, 19 USABO alumni from the classes of 2018-22 attended a reunion on Zoom, along with **Kathy Frame**, director of the USA Biolympiad. USABO 2022 was particularly well-represented, with over half of the alumni hailing from that class. MIT was also well-represented. Current and former collegegoers passed their wisdom on to the college bound. The consensus: do not get wound around the axle. Remember to take a breather every now and then. If you think you are in trouble, ask for help. With all this advice, this group will surely thrive.

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 at jschuyler@cee.org if you can volunteer time to assist in this project.



Celebrate CEE in Palo Alto

CEE RSI and USABO alumni are invited to attend the next in person alumni event in Palo Alto on Wednesday, May 24 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Stanford University. The event will be hosted by **Nina Vasan, MD, MBA**, (RSI '01). This festive event will include food, drinks, friendship, and networking. RSVP [here](#) by Friday, May 19. Questions? Contact info@cee.org.



Save the Date

CEE's 40th Anniversary celebration is Oct. 13-15, 2023, in Cambridge, MA. Alumni from CEE's RSI and USABO programs are invited to attend. Not only will this be an opportunity to reconnect with fellow Rickoids, but there will be insightful CEE Talks on a variety of exciting STEM topics as well as plenary panel discussions. Contact Maite at (703) 448-9062 or maite@cee.org with any questions.



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** at jschuyler@cee.org to join.

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