

*Excellence*

Center for Excellence in Education

## President's Message

*"To keep and grow US innovation and leadership will require investment in programs that identify and nurture top achieving STEM students. For 35 years the Center for Excellence in Education has provided internationally recognized programs for thousands of high school and college scholars, free-of-cost to them. Alumni are solving gene-coding problems, producing research showing the health benefits of dark chocolate, and even starting one of the most popular social media sites in the world. There are no other programs like that of CEE, but more resources are needed to scale up to meet the STEM-leadership needs of the future."*

**Joann DiGennaro, President**

**MISSION:** The Center for Excellence in Education (CEE), a non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization, nurtures high school and university scholars to careers of excellence and leadership in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM), and encourages collaboration between and among leaders in the global community.

**IMPACT:** The Center for Excellence in Education (CEE) has contributed to the scientific leadership of this country since its founding in 1983 by the late Admiral H.G. Rickover, Father of the Nuclear Navy and civilian use for nuclear power, and Joann DiGennaro, CEE's President. CEE refers to alumni as "Rickoids" in fond honor of the late Admiral H.G. Rickover.

**PROGRAMS:** CEE programs are nationally and internationally recognized for providing opportunities to some of the world's greatest young minds through collaborations with educational institutions, foundations, corporations, government agencies, and individuals who share a commitment to educational excellence. CEE sponsors the Research Science Institute (RSI), USA Biology Olympiad (USABO), the Teacher Enrichment Program (TEP), and the Department of Defense Research Laboratories Internships.

All CEE programs are offered cost-free to students and teachers.

### THE RESEARCH SCIENCE INSTITUTE

The Research Science Institute (RSI) is one of the most prestigious international summer research programs in the world for high school students. RSI is sponsored jointly by CEE and MIT, where the program is hosted in Cambridge, Massachusetts.



### USA BIOLOGY OLYMPIAD



USA Biology Olympiad (USABO) is the highly successful premiere biology competition for U.S. high school students. The Olympiad enriches the life science education of nearly 10,000 talented students annually with twenty finalists invited to a two week residential training program. Ultimately, four students are competitively chosen to

represent the USA at the International Biology Olympiad (IBO), a worldwide competition involving student teams from over 60 countries. Every member of Team USA has medaled at the IBO since first competing in 2003. In 2017, Team USA earned four Gold Medals and the coveted #1 world ranking.

## TEACHER ENRICHMENT PROGRAM



Teacher  
Enrichment  
Program

The Teacher Enrichment Program (TEP) provides opportunities for middle and high school teachers to connect with leading experts from industry and academia to explore cutting-edge research and development and make

meaningful professional links with direct benefits for them and their students.

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE INTERNSHIPS

CEE partners with the Department of Defense (DoD) to place CEE alumni from the RSI and USABO programs in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) internships in DoD Research Laboratories available in Army, Navy, and Air Force labs throughout the U.S. CEE received applications from RSI and USABO program alumni who attend top-tier colleges and universities.

**INTERNATIONAL:** CEE's international footprint reaches over 55 nations with the Research Science Institute modeled in Bulgaria, China, India, Israel, Saudi Arabia and Singapore.

## ALUMNI HIGHLIGHTS



**Feng Zhang (RSI '99)**, Ph.D., a pioneer of the revolutionary CRISPR gene-editing technology, was awarded the \$500K 2017 Lemelson-MIT Prize.



**Kelley Harris (USABO '03)**, Ph.D., is a recipient of The Burroughs Wellcome Fund 2017 Career Awards at the Scientific Interface (CASI) and will receive \$500,000 over five years decoding the evolutionary history of DNA replication fidelity from whole genome sequences.



**Dr. Kaloyan Slavov (RSI '01)** is completing his post-doctorate and teaching at the ETH Math Youth Academy, Department of Mathematics at ETH Zurich (among the top universities of the world).



**Ben Silbermann (RSI '98)** CEO and co-founder of Pinterest, a virtual pinboard and one of the most popular social media sites in the world.

*Excellence*

Center for Excellence in Education

## Chairman's Note

*"CEE is the crown jewel of free, competitive STEM programs for the most talented U.S. and international high school and university students.*

*I'm proud to know that CEE has nurtured and challenged thousands of brilliant scholars who are taking their place in significant leadership roles in corporations, research labs, and universities. CEE scholars are the foundation for the increasingly high demand for a STEM-ready workforce. I continue to be honored to serve CEE as its Chairman, and I'm equally impressed every day by the achievements of our scholars."*

**Mel Chaskin, Chairman**