

September 21, 2012

Purdue joins Center for Excellence in Education for Bite of Science event to strengthen science teaching

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. - The [Center for Excellence in Education](#) (CEE) and Purdue University next week will host the Bite of Science dinner event for high school teachers at the [Discovery Learning Research Center](#).

The [Discovery Park](#) event, scheduled for 4:30-6:30 p.m. Wednesday (Sept. 26), is for science teachers and teachers of humanities who wish to broaden their perspective of science in their classroom.

The [Teacher Enrichment Program](#) helps to assure a future talented and diverse U.S. workforce in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). It focuses on best practices and resources, as well as exposure to the breadth and depth of scientific discovery, often not available to rural and urban high school teachers and their students.

Contact Natasha Schuh-Nuhfer, director of the Teacher Enrichment Program, at nschuh@cee.org to attend the free dinner event at Purdue.

The Bite of Science program, providing professional development opportunities for teachers, is estimated to impact at least 9,375 Indiana students in 2012. The Teacher Enrichment Program will provide content and information to teachers so they can engage students to become interested in pursuing STEM careers.

CEE will feature Clark Gedney, director of the Bio Media Center for Instructional Computing at Purdue and co-director of the USA Biology Olympiad; and Barrett Caldwell, a Purdue professor of industrial engineering and aeronautics and astronautics and director of the Indiana Space Grant Consortium. They will discuss their work and relate it back to the classroom.

"I am excited to speak about the research that I have conducted in the Bio Media Center and my experiences as a co-director of CEE's USA Biology Olympiad at the Bite of Science dinner," Gedney said. "I am truly dedicated to enriching science education for teachers and students and to encouraging careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics."

The goals of the Teacher Enrichment Program are to:

- * Provide teachers with enhanced professional development.
- * Furnish the opportunity for teachers to ask questions and to interact directly with scientists and engineers.
- * Foster excitement in teachers to create an interest for students in STEM fields.
- * Inform teachers so they have a better understanding of research and development.
- * Allow teachers the opportunity to network with their peers.

About the Center for Excellence in Education

The Center for Excellence in Education was founded in 1983 by the late Admiral H.G. Rickover and Joann P. DiGennaro, president of the center. The center's mission is to nurture high school and university scholars to careers of excellence and leadership in science, technology, engineering and mathematics, and to encourage collaboration between and among leaders in the global community. CEE sponsors the Research Science Institute (RSI), the USA Biology Olympiad (USABO), and the Teacher Enrichment Program (TEP).

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