

## **STEM ED Task Force Processes**

### **August 10, 2015**

STEM Ed Task Force Participants:

Individuals working with the STEM Ed program to facilitate a smooth transition include:

Dr. Jennifer Ellis  
Dr. Manuel Santiago  
Dr. Cecelia Wigal  
Keri Randolph  
Lynn Robertson  
Dr. Michael Pugh  
Dr. Peggy Kovach  
Linda Gehron  
Avalon Gourlay  
April Ebbinger

Faculty and Adjuncts: Completed July 2015 and ongoing.

The STEM Ed program is led by Dr. Ellis. Dr. Ellis has met with all individuals who have taught for us in STEM Ed (Lynn Robertson, Michael Pugh, Cecelia Wigal, and Manuel Santiago) and has discussed with them their responsibilities going forward. In addition, she has created a pool of schools which will comprise the STEM Ed program partners and will accept those students for all sorts of field placements. Also, Debbie Cantrell is co-teaching the math course with Dr. Matthews.

Advisory Committee: Completed July 2015 and ongoing

A STEM Ed Advisory Committee has been established which is composed of Keri Randolph from PEF's STEM Innovation Hub, Shellie Pritchard Assistant Principal at SMMHS, Dr. Gretchen Potts, (those three are confirmed): additional representatives from our collaborating partners will be invited: Tech Town, Creative Discovery Museum, TN Aquarium, Chattanooga Zoo, Challenger Center, and two STEM Fellows (one from middle school and another from high school) and possibly another UTC faculty member. The role of the advisory committee is to provide suggestions on how to ensure UTC's STEM Ed program is perceived as a major player in STEM Education at preparing quality STEM teachers and a strong collaborating partner in the community. They will also provide feedback on the curriculum mapping process to ensure we are addressing the most pressing needs in Hamilton County.

To help with the sustainability of the instruction, Dr. Ellis is working with the STEM Fellows (current math and science teachers in HC) to help them develop 4 week modules to co-teach the course courses moving forward to provide real-world applications to the students.

### Student Advising: Ongoing

With a focus on continuity and consistency, Dr. Ellis is listed as the STEM Ed advisor for all students in the program. As numbers expand, additional advisement will be assigned to other appropriate faculty.

### NOYCE Grant: Completed July 2015 and ongoing

Dr. Ellis is now serving as the PI for this grant (this change was approved in July 2015) with Manuel Santiago as the Co-PI. The evaluator is Amanda Clark. Several revisions have been proposed, particularly for the year 5 budget. The biggest emphasis will be on creating student internships for the fall, spring, and summer. Also, a number of new partners (see Advisory Committee above) have been recruited and are working closely to provide a variety of opportunities. As the existing grant winds down, a new application will be submitted to continue these efforts.

### Realignment and Relocation of Program: Completed July 2015 and ongoing

The STEM Ed program is now housed in the School of Education, but retains the partnership for content with all appropriate departments in Arts and Sciences and Engineering. No additional faculty were needed to continue to offer the course; responsibilities for overseeing placements for courses and student teaching will be handled by the SOE Field Placement Coordinator and the SOE Certification Officer.

Materials, furniture, and equipment purchased for the STEM Ed program are currently being inventoried. A master list will be used to verify the location and use of these items to insure that they are dedicated to and used by the STEM Ed program and students.

### Future Steps: To be completed during Fall 2015 to meet Records deadlines for 2016-17 implementation

The next biggest step for the program will be related to curriculum changes mandated by the State. The process will involve reviewing all of the classes and making sure the curriculum mapping is completed and matched with State licensure requirements.