

WIPRO Community Newsletter



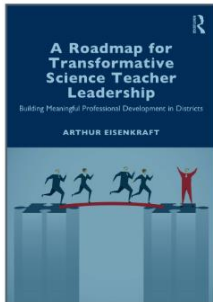
Welcome to the Wipro Science Education Fellowship (Wipro SEF) Newsletter! You are receiving this because you have schools or teachers involved in the program or have otherwise expressed interest.

We are excited to have an opportunity to share compelling updates about the remarkable contributions of our fellows in the field of STEM education.

For more than ten years, our program has provided funding and support to science teachers and school districts nationwide. With a presence in California, Florida, Massachusetts, Missouri, New Jersey, New

York, and Texas, our program has a far-reaching impact, benefitting nearly 750,000 students in total. In this and future issues, we want to share our initiatives in creating a learning community that positively influences nationwide STEM learning, by highlighting our teacher leaders' work in and outside the classroom.

WIPRO News and Upcoming Events



Our Wipro Book will be published by Routledge in February 2025.

A Roadmap for Transformative Science Teacher Leadership: Building Meaningful Professional Development in Districts” by Arthur Eisenkraft.

This book is a comprehensive guide to an effective Science Education Fellowship (SEF) program. Spanning over ten years and involving hundreds of teachers, district science coordinators, and university faculty, the Wipro SEF program has empowered teachers to become leaders who drive meaningful, sustainable change in their schools and districts without leaving the classroom.

Recent Workshops/Meetings

CAST (Conference for the Advancement of Science Teacher), San Antonio, TX. November 14-17. Over twenty Fellows from schools associated with our UNT Texas site have been invited to present their work to the 5,000 attendees.

NSTA (National Science Teaching Association), New Orleans, MO. Nov 7-9. Wipro Fellows from Massachusetts, Florida, New York, California and New Jersey will be presenting at this national conference on science education.

Acknowledgements

We want to thank Wipro, our corporate sponsor for their continued support of science education efforts as well as the teachers, district science coordinators and university faculty who improve student learning daily.

Highlights from WIPRO Sites

Innovative Projects and Events



An elementary teacher named Ana Weisner, who is a Wipro Reimagined Fellow from New York, took part in the "The annual STEAM Night event." During the event, students engaged in hands-on experiments, interactive demonstrations, thought-provoking presentations, and collaborative challenges, fostering a profound understanding of the interconnected STEAM fields.

A Wipro Fellow from Missouri, Melissa Hundley, engages students in activities that integrate mathematics and science. In her Algebra 2 class students measure the height of an "oil spill" and relate findings to the constant of variation. Students also conduct the tennis ball rebound experiment.



Knowledge Sharing through cross site collaborations

The California site hosted an in-person conference in June 2024 at Stanford University. 15 guests from various Wipro sites (Florida, Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, and Texas) attended as part of cross-site collaboration. Some of the conference attendees commented on the value of participating in this event:

"Refreshing opportunity to hear about great work being done by other teachers. Inspiring projects that energize me to go back to the classroom & talk with district leaders."

"I think it was amazing to hear about all the similarities in our teaching and differences as well. The greatest impact for me is their fresh takes on topics but also, I gained that feeling of if they could do, so can I! I feel more solidarity with colleagues especially when we share our stories and projects."



The Missouri Wipro conference took place in May 2024 on the campus of the University of Missouri. Dr. Eisenkraft gave a keynote presentation. Wipro fellows from other sites included Krystal Rising, Kellie Burchfield, and Jeremy Hesse from Ceder Hill ISD in Texas, and Jonathan Lee from San Francisco Unified School District in California.

National Conferences participation

The summer conference of the National Science Education Leadership Association occurred in Seattle, WA on July 16-18. Attendance included 16 District Science Coordinators (DSC), 2 university staff, and 2 consultants, with representation from six of the seven Wipro sites. The conference theme was climate science.



As a follow-up to the conference, DSCs have started a book club and teams in Missouri, Massachusetts and California will be initiating V-CCLS (i.e. vertical articulation of curriculum) learning communities in their respective school districts. Florida Wipro fellows participated in the St. Petersburg Science Festival, a two-day event featuring about 100 exhibitors showcasing various STEM education activities. Wipro Fellows from NY, NJ, MA, and FL presented at the NSTA national conference in Denver in March 2024.

Reflections from Wipro Fellows



New Jersey: Megan Graziano
Supervisor, Pascack Valley Regional HS District

The Pascack Valley Regional HS District prides itself on its progressive, innovative, and forward-thinking staff. To support teachers who fit this description, my Wipro project is focused on encouraging and supporting teacher leaders who will bring new, exciting ideas and practices to our department.

New York: Michael Nangle, Wipro Reimagined Fellow and general and physical science teacher at White Plains High School.

“The Tiger Tech Boat Battle is the most meaningful project I've been a part of in my 15 years of teaching experience. Getting to know and work with my colleagues from other buildings and grade levels was incredible; Meeting the younger students at the event was a personal highlight of mine since I don't work with that age level often. I was blown away by their enthusiasm and ingenuity! Finally, I felt proud that we were able to put forth an interesting and fun challenge for our high school students, and they rose to the occasion! Overall, it was a great experience, and I can't wait to do it again this year.”



Texas: Sherry Thompson, Irving ISD, TX. As a Wipro Fellow, I have grown so much as an educator. Wipro has provided professional development that is essential for ensuring science content is meeting and exceeding the needs of our scholars. Through team collaboration, I have learned new ways to incorporate project-based learning with my students. They have learned a new way of thinking that will only elevate throughout their educational career. I believe that being a Wipro fellow is the gift that keeps on giving!

California: Jordan Garvey, Elementary School Teacher, Theuerkauf Elementary, Mountain View Whisman School District.

My journey with Wipro has been transformative. The program has not only supported my current work but also ignited a passion for continuous improvement. I am excited to stay connected with the Wipro community and continue to grow as an educator, always striving to enhance my practice and impact on students. Thank you, Wipro, for this incredible opportunity.



WIPRO Contact Information



For more information about Wipro SEF, please visit our Wipro website: <https://wiprostemprogram.com/>

Our contact email: wiprosef@umb.edu

Reflections from Wipro Fellows

California: *Sarah Lofgren, High School Life Science, Leland High School San Jose Unified School District.*

Wipro has been the most engaging and rewarding professional development experience of my career. The Wipro program has provided a perspective and experiences I would never have had otherwise. I feel like I accomplished something that was meaningful for myself and my students. I look forward to what's next, both for me and the incoming fellows this fall!



Florida: *Ileana Bermudez Luna (High School, Hillsborough County, FL) and Roschell Thybulle (FL) are part of the Virtual Reality in the Chemistry Classroom Team.*

We are an amazing team of educators that will be working on integrating Virtual Reality in the Chemistry classroom as part of our Wipro project. By performing this type of labs and simulations students will be able to have a deeper understanding of abstract chemistry content, such as chemical bonding and reactions. The project also wants to foster the appropriate use of more advanced technology in the classroom that will encourage students' engagement as well as the opportunity to explore more challenging science topics.



Massachusetts: *Luis E. Rosado-Bermudez (Boston Public Schools) is part of the Virtual Reality in the Chemistry Classroom Team.*

Luis is from Puerto Rico and has been teaching middle/high school students in Hillsborough County and Boston Public Schools. He wants to use virtual reality with students who have been marginalized in science. Having been a teacher in financially challenged districts and institutions, he saw that science materials and spaces were difficult to find. He's hoping that by providing an opportunity to be in a virtual reality lab, students will be able to have the experience that could be life altering.

Missouri: *Melissa Hundley, Boonville High School Mathematics*

teacher. One of my favorite Algebra 1 activities is titled "walk the graph". My science colleague and I realized we were doing very similar activities in our classrooms. Students are given a distance time graph and a motion detector and asked to analyze the graph and try to "walk" to see if they could match the graph. As my colleague and I share several students (who never mentioned the similar activities) we decided to collaborate in lesson planning so that we were not just repeating the same activity. Our students have now commented that what they learned in science class is related or very similar to their math class.



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