

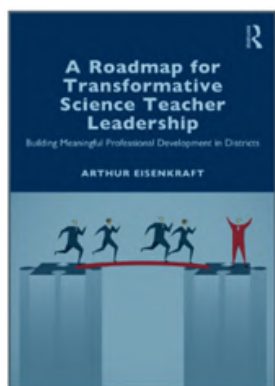


Community Matters

Welcome to the Wipro Science Education Fellowship (Wipro SEF) Community Matters Newsletter. We are excited to share updates on the remarkable contributions of our fellows to STEM education. Our program has supported science teachers and districts for over a decade, benefiting nearly 750,000 students. Our partnering universities include: UMass Boston, Stanford University, University of Missouri, University of South Florida, Montclair State University, Mercy University, and UNT Dallas.

IN THE NEWS

A Roadmap for Transformative Science Teacher Leadership: Building Meaningful Professional Development in Districts” by Dr. Arthur Eisenkraft is now available!



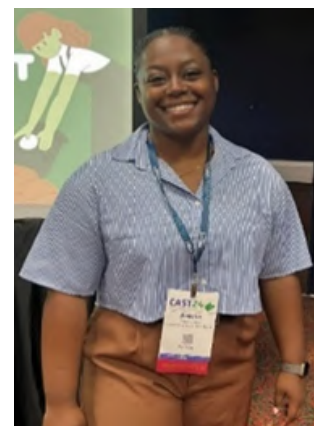
Building a Learning Community requires sustained efforts in fostering connections and mutual learning among participants. These efforts vary from small group activities to large-scale nationwide events. This issue highlights two recent events where Wipro fellows from different sites showcased their work and connected with STEM education peers: The Annual K-12 STEM Educators Conference, hosted by Mercy University Center for STEM Education in New York, and The Conference for the Advancement of Science Teaching, that took place in San Antonio, Texas.

Here is what our fellows are saying about the value of collaborating with peers:

“The facilitation and support are just incredible. This still seems to be the place where I feel supported and a place where I can clearly see people's enthusiasm in the work they do. I feel respected here.”

“I really enjoy the camaraderie of the other participants and the learning that we do as a group.”

“I really appreciate how they create a trusting, open, collaborative atmosphere where all voices are respected and honored without anxieties. The climate is very professional and open. No intimidation at all.”



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.

Community Building Events



K-12 STEM EDUCATORS CONFERENCE, MERCY UNIVERSITY CENTER FOR STEM EDUCATION.

As part of cross-site collaboration, Wipro Fellows from San Francisco (Lisa Ernst, Laura Spanier, Kendrick Chow) and Florida (Nicole Holman) presented their project work. Dr. Arthur Eisenkraft delivered the keynote speech titled “Building Teacher Leadership Capacity.” In this photo, Dr. Arthur Eisenkraft speaking to Dr. Amanda Gunning and Anny Vanegas, a Wipro Reimagined Fellow and teacher at Columbus Elementary in New Rochelle.

WiproSEF@UNT Dallas at CAST 2024

This event took place in San Antonio, Texas. Over twenty fellows from our UNT Texas site presented to 5,000 attendees.



Presenting at CAST strengthened my confidence as an educator and reinforced my ability to lead within my district. The support from WiproSEF@UNT Dallas was instrumental, and I truly appreciated the resources and feedback provided throughout the process. (Patricia Lee working in a team with Crystal Trejo and Jennifer Melton)

UNT Dallas helped prepare my presentation through an in-person pre-presentation and feedback, which was beneficial and provided an opportunity to run through the presentation and feel more confident in the work. (Shelby Allen)

Wipro’s support for my presentations at CAST has amplified both my personal and professional growth as a teacher/leader. Through financial support, educational tools, collaborative opportunities, Wipro has enriched my experience as a teacher by teaching me to present with confidence and display innovative practices in science education. (Marsha Bolden)

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Reflections from Wipro SEF Fellows



NEW JERSEY: MONTCLAIR STATE UNIVERSITY

FRANCES CARLO, THIRD GRADE TEACHER,
CLIFTON SCHOOL DISTRICT.

By integrating art with science, technology, engineering, and math through hands-on investigations, we will meet the district's plans that support the NGSS and the National Arts Standards. Our students will be better prepared to collaborate, communicate, think critically, and solve problems. The Arts Integration and S.T.E.A.M. Club project aims to provide students with opportunities to apply the scientific method and engage in the creative process as they participate in arts-integrated learning activities that help them to express their understanding of science through art.

NEW YORK: MERCY UNIVERSITY

GIORDANO GARCIA, ALDWIN MARTINEZ,
MICHAEL NANGLE, AND DAMIEN KING (WHITE
PLAINS CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT WIPRO
SCIENCE EDUCATION FELLOWSHIP).

Our team presented at the Mercy Center for STEM Education K-12 STEM Educator Conference. The annual Tiger Tech Boat Battle was a thrilling and educational competition designed for students from grades 5 through 12. This district-wide initiative aimed to harness the creativity and problem-solving skills of young minds through fun and interactive challenge: building and racing toy boats.



TEXAS: UNT DALLAS

CARLECE JACKSON: SCIENCE LEAD, CEDAR HILL ISD

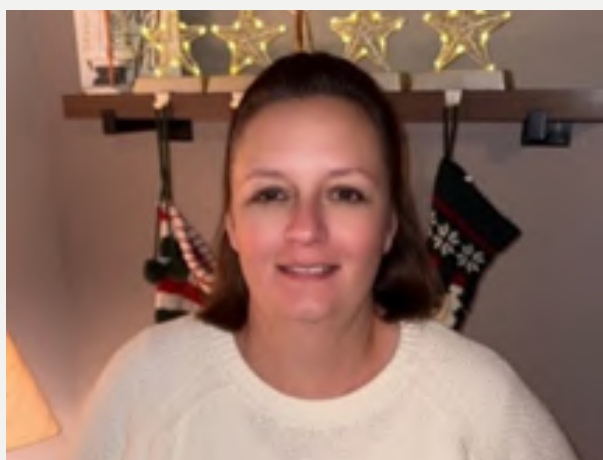
I am incredibly thankful for being part of the WIPRO program. This opportunity has been a transformative journey, offering me invaluable experiences and personal growth. Looking back on these past years, I am filled with gratitude for the mentors, peers, and experiences that have made this journey so enriching. The knowledge and skills I have gained during my time with WIPRO continue to inspire me to follow greater academic and professional endeavors.

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CALIFORNIA: STANFORD UNIVERSITY

KENDRICK CHOW, HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER, RUTH ASAWA SCHOOL OF THE ARTS, SAN FRANCISCO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT.

Throughout Wipro, I felt that remaining in education was the best choice for me, despite colleagues who have left the field, school leadership and district leadership rockiness, and starting off with a slump in enthusiasm. I'm glad to have met so many inspiring teachers who helped me rediscover the joys of teaching, and I'm thankful Wipro gave me the space to meet them.



FLORIDA: UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA

DAWN AVOLT, ELEMENTARY SCHOOL MATH AND SCIENCE TEACHER, CURLEW CREEK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN PINELLAS COUNTY.

My experiences as part of Phase 1 helped me understand more about myself as a teacher. I learned a lot by speaking with teachers from different grade levels, schools, and districts. After every meeting, I felt inspired by the other teachers and had new ideas I wanted to try in my own classroom. I learned that I am a better teacher when I have a community of other life-long learners to share with. By sharing these experiences with my school administrators and colleagues, I was able to convince many of them to join me for Phase 2 of the project. I'm looking forward to continuing to build my community of learners and teachers during this next phase.

MISSOURI: UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI

KELLI ANTHES IS AN EIGHTH-GRADE MATH TEACHER AT HALLSVILLE MIDDLE SCHOOL IN HALLSVILLE, MISSOURI.

Together with her Wipro teammate, she presented at the Wipro conference at Stanford University in June 2024, discussing a cross-curricular activity they created for their eighth-grade math and science classes. Students collected data on force and motion in science class and then used functions to model relationships between the data in math class. Attending the conference was an amazing experience that helped to network and bring a lot of ideas to the 2024-2025 school year.



CONTACT INFORMATION



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