

Triangle Coalition's Annual Conference on STEM Education Policy February 25-26, 2008

Speakers and Presenters

Opening Keynote: *Convergence: Understanding the Intersection of Education, Employment and Economic Development and Its Implications for STEM*



HANS MEEDER

President
Meeder Consulting Group, LLC
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Hans K. Meeder is President of the Meeder Consulting Group, LLC, a firm offering assistance in education and workforce policy analysis, leadership development, and governmental relations. Meeder has an extensive and varied career in education policy. He has served as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Education in the U.S. Department of Education Office of Vocational and Adult Education, policy and outreach director for the House of Representatives Committee on Education and the Workforce, senior vice president for workforce and postsecondary education at the National Alliance of Business, and Executive Director of the 21st Century Workforce Commission. His areas of expertise include high school reform, career technical education, community colleges, adult literacy and government management. Meeder earned his B.A. from the University of Maryland College Park and holds an MBA from the University of Maryland University College.

Panel: *STEM Education Issues and the Congress*



CHUCK ATKINS

Majority Staff Director
House Committee on Science and Technology
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Mr. Atkins is the Majority Staff Director for the House Committee on Science and Technology. He is responsible for providing direction to the Democratic staff personnel with regard to policy and direction for the Committee. He works directly with the Committee Chairman Bart Gordon (D-TN).



ALICE JOHNSON CAIN

Senior Education Policy Advisor (K-12)
House Committee on Education and Labor
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Alice Johnson Cain is Senior Education Policy Advisor (K-12) for the House Committee on Education and Labor. Cain focuses on K-12 education, including No Child Left Behind (NCLB) and teacher quality.



JENNIFER BERRY-RICKERT

Einstein Fellow

Office of Senator Bernie Sanders

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Dr. Jennifer Berry-Rickert has taught biology, chemistry and AP environmental science for eight years, the past seven of those in Nashville, Tennessee. She has worked with her local Nashville district to outline courses of introductory and honors biology and to develop a series of summative, standards-based biology assessments to gauge student understanding and modify curricula during the school year.

Jennifer earned a BS in Zoology and a MA in Science Education at the University of Arkansas. She completed her Professional Studies in Education PhD at Capella University with a dissertation on the No Child Left Behind law.



CHAN LIEU

Professional Staff

Senate Commerce, Science, Transportation Committee

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Mr. Lieu is a member of the professional staff for the Senate Commerce, Science, Transportation Committee and supports the Committee in the areas of technology and innovation issues.

Panel: What's Working... State Initiatives That Are Achieving Success



DAVID CEDRONE

PK-16 STEM Education Program Manager

State of Rhode Island

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David Cedrone is the PK-16 STEM Education Program Manager for the State of Rhode Island. David leads the statewide implementation of Project Making the Grade, an action plan for Rhode Island recommended by Governor Donald L. Carcieri's Blue Ribbon Panel on Mathematics and Science Education. Previously, David led the development of a STEM professional development initiative in Massachusetts, Leadership Initiatives for Teaching and Technology. This model of public/private partnerships engages innovation-driven companies in collaboration with K-12 schools through STEM externships for secondary school teachers. David has over 25 years experience leading technology and service innovations in the Network and Telecommunications industry with Digital Equipment Corporation, Compaq Computers and Hewlett Packard.



MEGHAN GROOME

Consultant
American Museum of Natural History
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Meghan Groome is currently a consultant at the American Museum of Natural History in New York City and is helping incorporate science, technology, engineering, and math education into their government relations, strategic planning, and education departments. Previously, she was a Senior Policy Analyst for the National Governors Association (NGA) and worked on the *Innovation America* Initiative and helped to lead the STEM Center Grant Program. Dr. Groome graduated from Colorado College with a BA in biology and drama and completed her doctorate at Teachers College Columbia University in science education. Her work focused on issues of equity and access in science for high poverty, urban students. Dr. Groome taught biology, chemistry, and physics in New Jersey.

Lunch Keynote: *Results of the National Math Panel*



RAYMOND SIMON

Deputy Secretary
United States Department of Education
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President Bush nominated Raymond Simon to the position of United States Deputy Secretary of Education and the Senate confirmed him on May 26, 2005. As Deputy Secretary, Mr. Simon plays a pivotal role overseeing and managing the development of policies, recommendations and initiatives that help define a broad, coherent vision for achieving the President’s education priorities, especially the No Child Left Behind Act. He also provides overall supervision and direction of program organizations of the Department. He had previously served as the Assistant Secretary for Elementary and Secondary Education.

Simon was the Chief State School Officer for Arkansas for six years – a position he held until his initial appointment by President Bush. He also served as superintendent of the Conway (Arkansas) School District from 1991 to 1997.

A native of Conway, Arkansas, Simon has been involved in Arkansas education since 1966, when he began his career as a mathematics teacher at North Little Rock High School. While at North Little Rock, he was also Director of School Food Services and Director of Computer Services until moving back to Conway to serve as Assistant Superintendent for Finance. In addition, he has been an adjunct professor for both educational technology and school finance at the undergraduate and graduate levels.

He received a bachelor’s and master’s degree in mathematics from the University of Central Arkansas, and holds an educational specialist degree in school administration from the University of Arkansas. Simon and his wife, Phyllis, have one married daughter and two grandchildren, Alex and Ana.

Breakout: *The STEM Pipeline... Futures and Careers in Innovation*



CATHLEEN AUBIN BARTON

Manager, US Education
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Cathleen Barton is the US Education Manager for Intel Corporation and is responsible for education initiatives that support success in teaching and learning science, mathematics, and engineering, the effective use of technology to improve teaching and learning of 21st century skills, and increasing the number of young women and under-represented minorities successfully pursuing education and careers in science, math, engineering and technology. Intel Education initiatives include professional development, equipment donations, mentoring, scholarships, undergraduate research and fellowships for masters and doctoral programs, as well as outreach, awareness and education related public policy. Cathleen serves on projects and initiatives including Achieve, the National Governor's Association, the National Science Resource Center Board and the Arizona P20 Council. Cathleen received her BA degrees in Psychology and Social Work from Rhode Island College and has held a variety of management positions in her 25 years at Intel.



BOB EKMAN

Senior Staff Specialist
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Bob Ekman is a Senior Staff Specialist in Technical Training with Lockheed Martin in Gaithersburg Maryland. He has had a forty year career in software engineering for IBM, and Lockheed Martin. He has worked on government contracts from Apollo in the 60s to DARPA projects in the 90's. He has developed commercial software for IBM and human resources software for Lockheed Martin. He has taught internal classes in software engineering for over 30 years.

Bob is deeply committed to developing the next generation of engineers. He has led the Lockheed Martin Exploring Engineering Program in Gaithersburg Maryland for ten years. This program uses hands-on learning activities in robotics and rocketry to give high school students experience in engineering and excite them in engineering careers. They have had over 400 teenagers involved in the program.

Bob is also the president of the Rockville Consortium for Science which is dedicated to developing science literacy in the Rockville Maryland community. For the past 20 years, the Consortium has conducted an annual Science Day at Montgomery College with exhibits in science and technology for the whole family. The Consortium is partnering with the City of Rockville to develop a permanent science center in Montgomery County Maryland.



BETTY SHANAHAN
Executive Director & CEO
Society of Women Engineers
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Betty Shanahan became the executive director and CEO for the Society of Women Engineers (SWE) in 2002. Prior to joining SWE, Betty spent 24 years in development, engineering management, and marketing for the electronics and software industries. Over her career has been responsible for products and technologies in document viewing and conversion, parallel processing, signal-processing, and computer-aided software engineering. Most recently she was the vice president of product management and marketing for the Software Components Division of Stellant, Inc.

Betty has earned a B.S. in electrical engineering from Michigan State University, a Master of Software Engineering from the Wang Institute of Graduate Studies, and an M.B.A. from the University of Chicago Graduate School of Business.

Betty is a fellow life member of SWE, a Certified Association Executive, and a member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, the Association for Computing Machinery, and the American Society of Association Executives.

Breakout: Ready, Set, Science – the National Research Council, Board on Science Education



BRETT MOULDING
Member, National Academies Board on Science Education
Director, Utah Partnership for Effective Science Teaching and Learning
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Brett Moulding is a member of the National Academies, Board on Science Education. He is currently the Director of the Utah Partnership for Effective Science Teaching and Learning. He was at the Utah Office of Education as the State Science Education Specialist and Coordinator of Curriculum from 1993 to 2004, and then Director of the Curriculum and Instruction before retiring in January of 2008.

Brett graduated from the University of Utah with a Bachelor's Degree in Chemistry with minors in Biology, Math, and Physics. He has a Masters of Education from Weber State University and an Administrative Supervisory Certificate from Utah State University. Brett taught chemistry for 20 years at Roy High School in the Weber District Science and served as the district Teacher Leader for eight years. Brett received the Governor's "Teacher Recognition Award" and the "Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching" while teaching, and the "Award of Excellence" from the Governor's Science and Technology Commission while at the State Office. Brett served on the Triangle Coalition Board, the NAEP 2009 Framework Planning Committee, and was President of the Council of State Science Supervisors from 2003 - 2006.

Breakout: *STEM Education – An Educator’s Perspective*



LYNNE CAMPBELL

Einstein Fellow

House Committee on Education and Labor

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Lynne Campbell, a National Board certified teacher, has taught science for 19 years, the last eight as a middle school science teacher in Woodward, Iowa. She is a strong advocate of Inquiry-based teaching and helped stimulate a change in her district’s elementary and middle school science curriculum through a partnership with the University of Iowa.

Lynne holds a Master’s degree in education from Drake University and a Bachelor’s in biology from Mount Mercy College.



KATHY GORSKI

Einstein Fellow

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Kathy Gorski is a Master Science Teacher and Dean of Academic Affairs at The Nativity School of Worcester in Worcester, Massachusetts. An industrial chemist by training, Kathy switched careers in 1998 and has been teaching middle school science for the past nine years.

Dr. Gorski holds a Bachelor’s in chemistry and education from Western New England College and earned a Ph.D. in chemistry from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.



MELVINA JONES

Einstein Fellow

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Mel Jones is a science resource teacher from John Burroughs Elementary School in Washington, DC. She has been teaching elementary school in the DC public school system for ten years and is also an adjunct professor at American University where she instructs future teachers on elementary science education.

Mel received her Bachelor’s degree in biology from Howard University. She holds a Master’s degree in elementary science from Bowie State University.



RUTH MCDONALD

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Ruth McDonald is a middle school science teacher in Newport, Oregon. She has been teaching for 28 years; working as a special education teacher, elementary teacher, and most recently as a middle school science teacher. She is a leader in incorporating technology into her classrooms.

Ruth holds a Bachelor's in Psychology from UCLA and a Master's in Curriculum and Instruction from Portland State University.



KEVIN SWANSON

Einstein Fellow
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Kevin Swanson is an eighth grade Earth science teacher from North Oaks, Minnesota. After serving in the Peace Corps, completing a graduate degree in geology, and working six years as a professional hydrologist, Kevin became a teacher.

Kevin has a Bachelor's degree in Chemistry and German from North Dakota State University and a Master's in Geology from the University of Wisconsin.

Panel: *STEM Education Agenda for 2008*



JAMES BROWN

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James is Manager, Policy and Government Affairs in the Office of Legislative and Government Affairs at the American Chemical Society. James directs the Society's advocacy agenda on education and workforce issues and also oversees the newly launched ACS state government affairs program. James also co-chairs the STEM Education Coalition, an alliance of over 300 science, business, and education groups devoted to improving math and science education at the federal level and represents the ACS on the Steering Committee of the House Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Education Caucus. Prior to joining ACS, he worked as a Congressional Aide for Rep. Doc Hastings of Washington, as an advisor on energy, science, and environmental matters. He began his career as engineer with Newport News Shipbuilding, working on aircraft carrier construction.

He received a B.S. from the University of New Mexico and an M.S. from Penn State, both in nuclear engineering. He also holds an MBA from George Washington University.



DELLA CRONIN

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As vice president for legislative and public affairs, Della Cronin brings a broad range of education, legislative and public affairs experience to Washington Partners, LLC. Cronin has managed corporate and national partnerships, as well as outreach and public awareness efforts for education organizations and advocacy efforts. She has also done fundraising for an education advocacy organization and, after the Higher Education Act reauthorization of 1998, worked with the Department of Education to provide training related to the new law for college administrators. She also worked at a corporate foundation where she put together a communications plan and team and worked with national education associations and partners, state education agencies, administrators and teachers to get the Foundation's classroom resources into the hands of educators nationwide. Della Cronin holds a B.A. in economics, with a minor in political science from Virginia Tech.



PATTI CURTIS

Managing Director, Washington Office
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Since May 2005, Curtis has served as the Managing Director of the Washington, D.C., office of the Museum of Science and the NCTL. Curtis aims to advance technological literacy across the nation by advocating for federal and state policies and programs to enhance formal and informal technology and engineering education and learning.

Curtis currently sits on the U.S House of Representatives Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Education Caucus Steering Committee and the Purdue INSPIRE K-12 Engineering Outreach External Advisory Panel.

Previously, she served as a government relations representative for the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and served as a leader of the STEM Education Coalition. She also served as the director of government relations for the National Association of the Remodeling Industry.

Curtis received her B.A. in Political Science and her MPA at the University of South Carolina and worked for the South Carolina state legislature and the Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism.



KEN KREHBIEL

Associate Executive Director for Communications
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Ken Krehbiel joined the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM) as Director of Communications in September 2000. As Associate Executive Director for Communications, he is now responsible for all external communications, including government relations, media relations, publications, and program management. He directs NCTM's government relations program and is the staff person with primary responsibility for increasing the Council's political advocacy activity.

Before joining NCTM, he was Director of Communications for 11 years at another nonprofit association, where he was responsible for media relations and all publications, including an award-winning magazine. There he co-managed a public relations program that was recognized by the Public Relations Society of America with a Silver Anvil Award, PRSA's highest honor, for association institutional programs. Before his career in association management, he worked in the National Public Radio system and was Editor for NPR's "Performance Today."

He holds a bachelors degree from the University of Kansas (B.S., 1976, Journalism) and a master's degree from Johns Hopkins University (M.M., 1987).



JODI PETERSON

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Jodi Peterson has been director of legislative affairs for the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA) since 1996. She is responsible for identifying, monitoring, and analyzing policy and legislation affecting science and math education on Capitol Hill and actively promoting teachers' interests before Members of Congress. She also oversees NSTA's lobbying and outreach activities to Congress and develops and coordinates advocacy efforts for the association. She keeps NSTA members and others informed of legislative activities via the NSTA Legislative Update, now part of the NSTA Express (circulation of 185,000 subscribers). Jodi is a member of the STEM Education Caucus Advisory Committee in the House of Representatives, and was instrumental in helping to develop the STEM Caucus in the Senate.