Connecting Science Forward

September 29, 2023
Illinois Institute of Technology
Rice Campus, Wheaton, IL

Students' diverse needs and their world
Three dimensions of NGSS
Authentic assessments
Transdisciplinary learning
General Schedule

Thursday 9/28/2023

5:30 - 7:00  HHMI Film/Presentation  Room 203

Friday 9/29/2023

7:30 - 3:30  Registration  Atrium
8:00 - 8:50  Continental Breakfast  Atrium
8:30 - 4:00  Exhibits  Atrium/Hallways
9:00 - 11:50  Concurrent Sessions  Various Rooms
12:00 - 12:40  Lunch  Room 203
12:40 - 12:55  General Business Meeting  Room 203
1:00 - 3:50  Concurrent Sessions  Various Rooms
3:55  Raffle  Atrium

Wifi: IIT-Connect
username: ista
Password: 4n95tq
2023 ISTA Educator Award Finalists

Elementary School:
Ramon Gutiérrez
Position: Second Grade Teacher
School: Paul Revere Primary School

Middle School
Melissa Ramirez
Position: 6th through 8th Grade Science Teacher
School: Virgil I Grissom Elementary
District: Chicago Public Schools

Middle School
Andrew Bean
Position: 8th Grade Science Teacher
School: Catherine Cook School
District: Lake Michigan Association of Independent Schools

Middle School
Jessica Johnson
Position: 8th Grade Science Teacher
School: Joseph E. Gary Elementary School
District: Chicago Public Schools

High School
Vyjayanti Joshi
Position: Science Educator and Department Chair
School: Lake View High School
District: Chicago Public Schools

High School
William Kane
Position: Science Teacher
School: Lockport Township High School East Campus
District: Lockport Township High School District 205

High School
Jennifer Thorstenson
Position: Science Teacher
School: William Fremd High School
District: Township High School District 211
Natural Resources & Environmental Sciences

We’re pioneering efforts to sustain our society and the planet.

Join one of the longest-running environmental degree programs in the United States! The Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences (NRES) brings together natural and social sciences to tackle the challenges of conserving, restoring, and managing ecosystems to meet the needs of current and future generations.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

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Our flexible online programs are specifically designed with busy calendars and careers in mind.

- Online Master’s Degree
- Soil Science & Conservation Certificate
- Water Science & Conservation Certificate

In-person
In-person summer courses are offered at select locations each summer; contact us to receive announcements.

RESOURCES FOR YOUR CLASSROOM

In-class Presentation
We offer virtual and in-person presentations for your classroom on various topics: environmental careers, plants & pollinators, aquatic invasive species, aging deer, or a subject of your choice.

Campus Visit
Bring your group or club to campus and get a feel for college-level science. Presentations and conversations are customized to meet your group’s interests.

Contact us: nres@illinois.edu
Concurrent Sessions

9:00 - 9:50

Room: 103
Audience: STEM, k-12
Using Literacy/Writing Elements to Strengthen Understanding
Come learn how to use effective literacy strategies so that students can better understand science content. Student understanding and critical-thinking skills will improve with these techniques. Join our constructivist approach that promotes literacy in the science classroom.
Presenter: Pamela Richards

Room: 114
Audience: College Biology, 9-12
3-Dimensional Investigative Activities from HHMI BioInteractive (1:50 hr session)
This presentation will include some newly published and draft investigative activities to immerse teachers in select segments from these 3-dimensional lessons. These phenomenon-driven lessons will immerse participants as students to get a feel for how these investigations progress.
Presenters: Kathy Van Hoeck, Jason Crean

Room 118
Audience: Biology, 9-12
3D Science in a World of 8 Billion
Engage in interdisciplinary, hands-on activities (problem-solving challenges, simulations and mathematical modeling) that use 3D learning to explore key ecological topics in Biology and Environmental Science courses (including AP) – population trends, climate change, land use, biodiversity, and ecosystem health. Discover interactive, digital tools for use in and outside of the classroom.
Presenter: Jennifer Adams

9:00 - 9:50

Room: 123
Audience: Stem, 3-5
K-8 Science and Engineering Everyday? Yes! Hooray!
Limited science time in K-8? Encourage scientific thinking and an engineering mindset every day with 15 minute activities and ELA integrations. We'll explore:
* How to find more time in your daily schedule for scientific thinking
* Three ways to use picture books to teach reading comprehension and science concepts simultaneously
* 5 minute tasks for encouraging an engineering mindset
* Where to find free resources to help you apply what you have learned
Presenter: Emily Starr

Room: 155
Audience: Assessment, Teacher Educators
Using discussion as a formative assessment opportunity
Formatively assessing student talk during whole group and small group discussions can be difficult and intimidating. Learn how to plan for discussions in a way that makes formatively assessing student knowledge easier and more meaningful. Discussion planning and mapping tools will be shared and their use to formatively assess students explained.
Presenters: Jamie Noll, Dawn Novak, Nicole Vick
9:00 - 9:50

Room: 163  
Audience: General Science, 6-8  
Science Fair-Not as Archaic as You Think  
Learn about the benefits and real-world skills students gain by conducting students’ own research, analyzing their results, and communicating their findings. Learn more about how your middle and secondary students can be a part of the competition and give your students access to over $20,000 in prizes, scholarships, summer enrichment, and higher educational opportunities.  

Presenters: Kevin, Wilson, Emily Dawson

9:00- 9:50

Room: 244  
Audience: General Science, 3-5  
Supporting ALL students: making sense of phenomena.  
Phenomena is emphasized in the Next Generation Science Standards, but why? In this session, participants will learn about the role phenomena play in access and equity through relevant, shared experiences that increase student engagement and learning. We will engage in a lesson using FOSS Pathways that shows the instructional experiences.  

Presenter: Caryn Walker

10:00 - 10:50

Room: 118  
Audience: Biology, 9-12  
Nature’s Doppelgängers- convergent and divergent evolution  
In this lesson we will look at how students can use their own observations of animal morphology, niche descriptions, and karyotypes to create cladograms. They then use the power of scientific argument to learn about the difference between homologous/analogous structures and environmental pressures. A completely hands on and easily reproducible lab for freshman through senior level.  

Presenter: Jeff Grant

Room: 239  
Audience: General Science,  
Equitable Teaching Strategies in the Science Classroom  
Teaching science with equity in mind is an essential aspect of creating an inclusive and fair learning environment for all students. Equity in science education means ensuring that every student, regardless of their background, gender, race, or ability, has access to high-quality science instruction, resources, and opportunities for success.  

Presenter: Maggie Moore

Room: 236  
Audience: Earth/Space Science, k-12  
Biodiversity Surveys & Zines in AP Environmental Science  
This session will explore show AP Environmental Science students contribute to legacy data by engaging in biodiversity surveys to create inventory of trees, plants, & pollinators. Students use this data to co-construct what is the best way to disseminate and inform the public. 111 AP Environmental Science this past year created a publicly accessible Tree Campus digital zine.  

Presenter: Ayesha Qazi-Lampert
10:00 - 10:50

Room: 123  
Audience: General Science, 9-12
"I'm Bad at Science"

How many times have we heard students say that? The goal of NGSS is to create scientifically literate adults using a competency PBL approach. How can we change both our students’ perception of science and our mindset of science ed. to ensure we graduate scientifically literate students? It can be done! Come and learn some tips and tricks that work with our “not so good at science” young adults.

Presenter: Sharon Davids

Room: 155  
Audience: STEAM, 9-12
Students Today, Engineers Tomorrow!  
Engineering Tomorrow STEM labs are developed by engineers and modeled on the cutting-edge work of experts in the field. Engineering Tomorrow brings professional engineers and students from the nation’s top colleges and universities to mentor high school students as they solve real-world problems at no cost to students, schools, or teachers. Lab Materials included!

Presenters: Ann Vlegut, Lisa Peck

Room: 239  
Audience: STEM, k-12
Engaging Student Engineers: Designing Engineering Solutions  
Engineering design challenges provide the authentic application of science concepts in your classroom! Come learn structures and strategies that will encourage critical thinking and problem solving through the Engineering Design Process.

Presenter: Pamela Richards

10:00 - 10:50

Room 163  
Audience: STEM, Pre-k-2
Little Big Minds: STEAM For Our Youngest Learners

STEAM-integrated activities are for all learners, including those in early childhood. Participate in a series of play-based activities that promote foundational science and mathematics skills that foster curiosity, creativity, and innovation. Measure, graph, sort, categorize, argue, and defend your ideas while previewing a series of STEAM-integrated concepts featuring simple machines.

Presenters: Cassandra Armstrong, Lindsey Herlehy

10:00 -11:50 (2 Hours)

Room: 103  
Audience: General Science, 9-12
There’s Been a Fire!: Fire Forensics  
The (free!) Xplorlabs: Fire Forensics pathway uses a kitchen fire scene to support learning how Claims-Evidence-Reasoning is applied in firefighting and arson investigations. Participants will engage in a combination of the Xplorlabs online platform, investigations, sense making through models, discussion, and graphic organizers for teaching cross-cutting concepts like matter and energy.

Presenters: Jessica Sparacino, Amy Gilbert
Xplorlabs has two exciting workshops planned for ISTA. Both are sure to get you fired up about three-dimensional science instruction. Let us know if you’d like to participate! Pre-registration is not required, but helps us prepare enough take-home materials.

There's Been a Fire!
Fire Forensics
When: 10:00 – 11:50 a.m.
Where: Room 103
Who: General Science, 6–12

The (free!) Xplorlabs: Fire Forensics pathway uses a kitchen fire scene to support learning how Claims-Evidence-Reasoning is applied in firefighting and arson investigations. Participants will engage in a combination of the Xplorlabs online platform, investigations, sense making through models, discussion, and graphic organizers for teaching cross-cutting concepts like matter and energy.

There's Been a Fire!
Thermal Runaway in Batteries
When: 2:00 – 3:50 p.m.
Where: Room 163
Who: General Science, 6–12

The (free!) Xplorlabs: Science of Thermal Runaway online pathway uses outcomes from overcharging an e-scooter at Underwriters Laboratories Fire Safety Research Institute to support learning about hazards facing lithium-ion batteries. In this workshop participants plan and carry out investigations using lithium batteries and then ideate solutions as part of an engineering challenge.

All Xplorlabs content is freely accessible. Access the content, guides, and webinars to support educators planning to implement the resources.
Forms of Energy & Energy Transformations Lessons
Participants will conduct energy transformation experiments using items encountered in everyday life. Motion, sound, thermal, radiant, electrical, and chemical energy transformations are studied using glow sticks, handwarmers, batteries, etc. Teachers will be able to confidently teach energy forms & transformations!

Presenters: Cori Nelson, Kimberly Swan

It's All Fun & Games in High School Chemistry
Come play device-free comprehensive unit review games that are designed to provide an opportunity for students to problem solve and think critically while working together as a team in a growth-mindset environment.

Presenters: E. Kollar, L. Hessling, T. Smith

All In the Family - the story of human evolution
In this lesson students explore evidence of both extinct and extant primates to learn about human evolution. Some of the evidence analyzed in this lesson are the 3-D skull replicas, full skeletons pictures, geological time and space, and evidence of tools. Students are able to use all of this evidence to construct their best understanding of a “braided stream” of human evolution.

Presenter: Jeff Grant

The Sickle Cell Storyline for AP Biology (1:50 hr. session)
This presentation will showcase the updated draft Sickle Cell Storyline for AP Biology and immerse teachers in select lessons from it. This storyline includes free activities from HHMI BioInteractive that have been modified to fit the storyline approach and engage students in “figuring out” the science ideas in the AP Biology Framework.

Presenters: Kathy Van Hoeck, Britt Czupryna

Introduction to spreadsheets and data analysis
This session will start with the basics of a spreadsheet - using Google Sheets as a model (this includes its basic layout and menu functions). Afterwards, we will look at how writing functions and conditional formatting can help manipulate data for organizational purposes with examples of spreadsheets that have helped teachers and administrators in the past.

Presenter: Mark Frye

CAP Aerospace Education Material in the classroom
The Air Force Auxiliary (Civil Air Patrol) provides quality educational material at low cost and no cost. Aerospace and aviation materials are easily adapted to the classroom. There are numerous items available free to interested teachers and no cost STEM kits to teachers who register as Aerospace Education Members of CAP.

Presenter: Constance Kelly
Streamline and simplify teaching by taking advantage of BIOZONE WORLD.

This new digital platform seamlessly integrates engaging support resources and ancillary tools with digital replicas of our worktexts. Educators can easily plan, assign work, and grade student responses.

Weblinks  Videos  3D Models  Presentation Slides

Students will enjoy the numerous interactive 3-D models and digital content that bring lessons to life.

Sign up for your risk free 90 day free trial by using this QR code or following the link: biozone.com/us/bw-trial

1-855-246-4555  sales@biozone.com  www.BIOZONE.com
Concurrent Sessions

11:00 - 11:50

Room: 163
Audience: Biology, 9-12
**Engineering Solutions for Food Deserts**

Food deserts are geographic areas that lack access to affordable, healthy food options. Explore how to engage students in analyzing the issue of food deserts and equity and to engineering food access solutions using hydroponics while utilizing the three dimensions of NGSS and the NRC Framework.

*Presenter: Chris Embry Mohr*

Room: 239
Audience: STEAM, pre-k-2
**Playing With Math and Science in Early Childhood**

Young students have the curiosity and creativity to be successful scientists and mathematicians. Through open-ended explorations, students can engage in subitizing, sorting, drawing, pattern recognition, and loose parts. Participants will take part in several activities addressing these skills, discuss how they promote mathematical and scientific thinking, and share classroom resources.

*Presenters: Lindsey Herlehy, Cassandra Armstrong*

12:00 - 12:40

Lunch
Room 203

12:40 - 12:55

General Business Meeting
Room 203

1:00 - 1:50

Room: 103
Audience: Physics, 9-12
**STEP UP: An effort to achieve gender equity in physics**

The STEP UP community of teachers, researchers, and professional societies has designed lessons to inspire young women to pursue physics in college. This session will introduce our curriculum to attendees. The curriculum includes a lesson on careers in physics, a lesson discussing women in physics, and our Everyday Actions Guide with strategies for recognizing all students as physics people.

*Presenter: Kori Bowns-Kamphuis*

Room 114
Audience: College Biology, 9-12
**The Sickle Cell Storyline for AP Biology (continued)**

This presentation will showcase the updated draft Sickle Cell Storyline for AP Biology and immerse teachers in select lessons from it. This storyline includes free activities from HHMI BioInteractive that have been modified to fit the storyline approach and engage students in “figuring out” the science ideas in the AP Biology Framework.

*Presenters: Kathy Van Hoeck, Britt Czupryna*

Room 163
Audience: General Science, 6-8
**Beyond the Textbook**

Utilizing resources to enrich the Science curriculum, engage learners, and create a hands on experience for students. Participants will leave with resource ideas that can be found beyond the textbook.

*Presenters: Nicole Heaver, Joanie Thrush*
1:00-1:50

Room: 118
Audience: General Science k-5
Inquisitive - open and go, a rich, deep science curriculum

Inquisitive is a NGSS (K-5) brand new science resource. Lessons are built for 3-D learning, phenomena-based learning, formative assessment and built-in differentiation. Visible thinking routines and the 5e Pedagogical Model are embedded across the science curriculum. Come experience hands-on activities while exploring the built-in differentiation of Inquisitive lessons. Take home lesson samples.

Presenter: Peter Walters

Room: 123
Audience: General Science, k-12
Enhancing Your Curriculum: IDNR Science Resources

Explore with IDNR, Education what we offer to help teachers with science topics focused on our natural world. On a tour using our website, we will explore ways to enhance the science curriculum with grants, lessons, professional development, publications, items for loans, and videos and podcasts.

Presenter: Lorna Shuman

Room: 244
Audience: STEAM, 3-5
Let’s make Aha! moments with Imagine Learning Twig Science!

Twig Science connects real-world phenomena with 3-D learning and ensures a comprehensive coverage of science standards through engaging hands-on and digital investigations in which Pre-K–8 students take on the roles of real-world scientists and engineers.

Presenter: Tanya Dodson

1:00 - 1:50

Room: 155
Audience: Teacher Educators
Coastal Engineering with OpenSciEd 6.5

This unit will introduce you to the OpenSci Ed 6.5 Natural Hazards Storyline. You will learn about the unit, the resources, and the coastal engineering lessons. Participants will come away with ideas and extra supplemental resources that can enhance the unit.

Presenter: Tricia Keams

Room: 239
Audience: Chemistry, 9-12
Exploring “Lego Chemistry” with the Digital Molecule Maker

The Molecule Maker Lab Institute (MMLI) at the University of Illinois is combining AI, block-based “Lego” chemistry, and automated molecule synthesis to change how students engage with chemistry as a problem-solving tool. Get a preview of the “Digital Molecule Maker” that allows students to explore molecular building blocks to create novel molecules and directly impact the research of MMLI.

Presenters: James Planey, Sabrina Abdulla

Room: 236
Audience: General Science, Teacher Educators
Comparing effects of 5E & storylines curricula on students

A study of eighth grade students’ academic achievement and attitudes toward science were evaluated before and after they experienced two different curricula. They differed in who experiences coherence, mySci 5E (teacher) and OpenSciEd storylines (student). Results of the study will be discussed.

Presenter: Nicole Vick
**Concurrent Sessions**

**2:00 - 2:50**

**Room: 118**  
**Audience: Teacher Preparation, k-5**  
**5e Model comes to life in K-5 classrooms with Inquisitive**

This session explores how to bring the 5e Model to life in your science classroom, with practical lessons around each of the 5 domains. We'll explore each domain with modeled lesson examples. Highlight the usability of the 5e model and Inquisitive in inquiry-based teaching to foster a structure for students to connect science ideas with their experiences, and apply their learning to new contexts.

*Presenter: Peter Walters*

**Room: 123**  
**Audience: Biology, 9-12**  
**Understanding Soils and Our Food**

Participants will engage in activities that are part of a new storyline unit that challenges students to make sense of how soil affects the food that we grow and eat. Topics include what is soil, the effect of soil on plant growth, movement of matter and energy through soils, and how to decrease human impact on soils and biodiversity.

*Presenters: Chris Embry Mohr, Lisa Pavic*

**Room: 155**  
**Audience: General Science, k-12**  
**Building Labs from Students’ Misconceptions & Concept Gaps**

Middle school co-teacher team will discuss how they approached and created review lab experiences for students. These lab experiences were based on student misconceptions and concept gaps observed from prior classroom experiences, in-class student discussions, and other student formative assessment data. Participants will walk away with methodology and examples provided by presenters.

*Presenters: Annamarie Vandrevala, Meridith Stauber*

**2:00 - 3:50 (Two Hours)**

**Room: 103**  
**Audience: Biology, 6-8**  
**Evolution for Middle School Educators**

Teachers will learn about dozens of free resources, including entire units that cover the NGSS standards on Evolution. They will learn about our live webinar series and YouTube channel with many recorded webinars with evolutionary biologists. Finally, teachers will be invited to join our network of educators where they can be paid to present our free materials back at their schools or districts.

*Presenter: Kathy Van Hoeck*
Concurrent Sessions

2:00 - 3:50 (Two Hours)

Room: 114
Audience: College Biology, 9-12
The Sickle Cell Investigative Activity for General Biology Students

This session will involve leading participants through the “Why do some with sickle cell not show symptoms?” investigative activity available at biointeractive.org. This model lesson has students engage in the Science Practices in order to figure out pieces of the puzzle as they are introduced to new data sets.

Presenters: Michele Koehler, Jason Crean

Room: 239
Audience: General Science, k-12
Everything You Want to Know about NGSS but Are Afraid to Ask

This presentation will review the basics of the NGSS, the 3 dimensions, how they’re combined in Performance Expectations, and the basics of how to enact the NGSS in the classroom. If you need a refresher, just want a review, or still don’t have all those acronyms straight in your head, this is the presentation for you, given by the Institute for Quality Science Teaching team at MSI.

Presenters: Lauren Slanker, Karin Klein

Room: 244
Audience: Assessment, 9-12
Making sense of summative transfer tasks

OpenSciEd curriculum includes summative transfer task rubrics, but figuring out how to provide student feedback with them may be tricky. Learn how to effectively use the rubrics to guide student feedback and examine how to use them to inform standards-based grading. Examples from OpenSciEd HS units will be shared.

Presenters: Amie Noll, Dawn Novak, Nicole Vick

Room: 236
Audience: Biology, 9-12
Coyote Track: Exploring Real Science Data In Your Classroom

Explore Coyote Track interactive visualization tool. This online site centers around coyote ecology and behavior related to data collected from radio-collared coyotes in urban and rural areas of Illinois. Using real data, this workshop will guide participants through the visualization data tool and standard-based lessons that support the unit.

Presenter: Lorna Shuman

Room: 163
Audience: Physical Science, 9-12
There’s Been a Fire1: Thermal Runaway in Batteries

The (free!) Xplorlabs: Science of Thermal Runaway online pathway uses outcomes from overcharging an e-scooter at Underwriters Laboratories Fire Safety Research Institute to support learning about hazards facing lithium-ion batteries. In this workshop participants plan and carry out investigations using lithium batteries and then ideate solutions as part of an engineering challenge.

Presenters: Jessica Sparacino, Amy Gilbert
3:00 - 3:50

Room: 118
Audience: STEM, 6-8
Candy Collector - Renewable & Nonrenewable Energy Sources
Candy Collector is a fun game to introduce students to the terms “renewable” and “nonrenewable”. Students will get a closer look at how long energy sources will last when using only nonrenewable sources, and when incorporating renewable sources of energy.
Presenters: Cori Nelson, Kimbely Swan

Room: 123 CANCELED
Audience: Chemistry, 9-12
Productive talk moves for distributing agency
Students should have the epistemic agency to contribute to what happens during learning and hold others in the community accountable. Chemistry often does not position students with the authority to grapple with uncertainty as scientists would, limiting student engagement in scientific practices. Our PLC investigates classroom events for productive means of distributing agency.
Presenters: Adam Schafer, Jennifer Timmer

Room: 155
Audience: STEAM, k-12
Bite-Size Inquiry in the STEAM Classroom
Participants will walk away with “bite-sized” or small scale inquiry-based strategies and examples of activities that can be incorporated within any of the content areas represented in the STEAM classroom. Give your students voice and choice in your classroom, no matter the content or grade level you teach!
Presenter: Anna Vandrevala

3:55
Raffle in the Atrium

2023 Exhibitors

American College of Education
Amplify
Armfield Inc.
BIOZONE Corporation
Environmental Ed. Association of IL
Engineering Tomorrow
Foss Pathways Science
Hand2mind
Illinois Agricultural Education-FCAE
Illinois EPA
Illinois Department of Natural Resources
Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant
Illinois Mathematic and Science Academy
Illinois Need Project
Imagine Learning
Inquisitive
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Kognity
MicroTech Microscope Sales & Service
National Anti-Vivisection Society
National Geographic Learning | Cengage
National Science Teaching Association
Savvas Learning Company
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