National Science Education Leadership Association

2015 Professional Development Institute

LEADING FOR EQUITY Wednesday, March 11, 2015
Hyatt Regency McCormick Place Hotel – Chicago

7:00-4:30
Hyde Park
Registration, Hyatt Conference Center, Hyde Park Foyer (Level 1)

7:30-8:30
Prairie B (Level 2)
Breakfast and Networking, Sponsored by Vernier Software and Technology

8:30-9:30
Hyde Park
Welcome and Opening Introductions, Craig Gabler
Keynote Presentation
Megan Bang
University of Washington, Assistant Professor, Education, Equity, and Society
“Towards Equitable Science Teaching and Learning: Seeing and Engaging Students’ Diverse Ways of Knowing”

9:45-11:45
Breakout Sessions (selected during registration, complete information at back of program)
Grant Park A
(1) “Coordinating Scientific Argumentation, the Next Generation Science Standards, and the Common Core State Standards through the Argument-Driven Inquiry Instructional Model”
Jonathon Grooms, Victor Sampson
Grant Park B
(2) “English Language Development Opportunities for ELL Through Meaningful Integration of NGSS and CCSS”
Jerry D. Valadez, Maria Simani, Ana G. Lopez, Dawn O’Connor, Joanna Totino
Grant Park C
(3) “Implementing the Vision of the Framework and NGSS: A Professional Development Pathway”
Sally Crissman, Sara Lacy
Grant Park D
(4) “iHub: A Research-Practice Partnership to Design New NGSS Curriculum”
William R. Penuel, Sam Severance, Heather Leary, Patricia Kincaid, Jeffrey Miller

12:00-1:30
Hyde Park
Luncheon, Sponsored by Ergopedia
Keynote Speaker + Award Presentations, Led by Nancy Kellogg
Michael Lach
University of Chicago
Director of STEM Education and Strategic Initiatives
“Lessons Learned From Leading Science Education Reforms, and Implications For The Future”

1:45-3:15
Breakout Sessions Continued

3:30-4:30
Hyde Park
Sense Making Session + Networking, Led by Keri Randolph

As of January 12, 2015

NSELA Professional Development Institute (PDI) – 2015 – Chicago (Tentative, as of January 14)
INFORMATION ON FEATURED SPEAKERS AND BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Dr. Megan Bang
University of Washington; Assistant Professor, Education, Equity, and Society
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Megan Bang has been appointed assistant professor in the area of educational psychology. Bang received her Ph.D. in 2008 from the Northwestern University School of Education and Social Policy. A Spencer Graduate Fellow at Northwestern, Bang specialized in cognitive science, a discipline within the learning sciences. Not only did she receive a cognitive science graduate fellowship for interdisciplinary research projects, she was also awarded a Spencer Dissertation Fellowship for her dissertation, which was titled, “Understanding Students’ Epistemologies: Examining Practice and Meaning in Community Contexts.”

Bang’s academic work, specifically her dissertation, “explored the kinds of explanations, arguments, and attentional habits Native American children are exposed to and learn in community settings as they relate to school science learning.”

Dr. Michael Lach
University of Chicago Urban Education Institute; Director of STEM Policy and Strategic Initiatives
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Michael Lach is the director of STEM policy and strategic initiatives at the University of Chicago Urban Education Institute. He provides local, regional and national leadership on STEM education and policy initiatives while working with the leadership at UEI and the University of Chicago Center for Elementary Mathematics and Science Education (CEMSE) to develop and implement a strategic plan for expanding programs in science education.

Prior to joining UEI, Lach was appointed by Secretary Arne Duncan to lead science and mathematics education efforts at the U.S. Department of Education. Lach began his professional career teaching high school biology and general science at Alcée Fortier Senior High School in New Orleans in 1990 as a charter member of Teach For America. After three years in Louisiana, he joined the national office of Teach For America as Director of Program Design, developing a portfolio based alternative-certification system that was adopted by several states. Returning to the science classroom in 1994 in New York City Public Schools, and then to Chicago in 1995, he was chosen as one of Radio Shack's Top 100 Technology Teachers, earned National Board Certification, and was named Illinois Physics Teacher of the Year. He has served as an Albert Einstein Distinguished Educator Fellow, advising Congressman Vernon Ehlers (R-MI) on science, technology and education issues. He was lead curriculum developer for the Investigations in Environmental Science curriculum developed at the Center for Learning Technologies in Urban Schools at Northwestern University and published by It's About Time, Inc. As an administrator with the Chicago Public Schools, he led the district’s instructional improvement efforts in science and mathematics in a variety of roles between 2003 and 2009 and ultimately served as CPS Officer of Teaching and Learning, overseeing curriculum and instruction in over 600 schools.

Lach earned a B.A. in physics from Carleton College, an M.A. in science education from the Teachers College of Columbia University, and an M.S. in education leadership from Northwestern University.

Breakout Sessions – 4 Options

(1) Coordinating Scientific Argumentation, the Next Generation Science Standards, and the Common Core State Standards through the Argument-Driven Inquiry Instructional Model

Summary: This session will engage participants in the Argument-Driven Inquiry instructional model to demonstrate an approach to addressing the NGSS and CCSS in science classrooms.

Overview: There is an increased presence in the role of argumentation across the NGSS and CCSS. This session will provide participants the opportunity to engage in the Argument-Driven Inquiry (ADI) instructional model to help them learn about how to incorporate scientific argumentation into their science classroom. The ADI instructional model also represents an approach that will allow teachers to coordinate the essential practices of science along with discipline specific reading and writing skills emphasized within the NGSS and CCSS. At the conclusion of this session participants will have a better understanding of what it means to teach using ambitious pedagogy and how to provide their students with more authentic and educative experiences in science.

Presenters: Jonathon Grooms, Research Faculty, Coordinator of Education Research in the Center for Education Research in Mathematics, Engineering, and Science, The Florida State University; Victor Sampson, Associate Professor, STEM Center, College of Education, The University of Texas at Austin
(2) English Language Development Opportunities for ELL Through Meaningful Integration of NGSS and CCSS

Summary: Participants in this session will learn how to effectively support ELL to develop science identities using NGSS and the scientific and engineering practices.

Overview: In this session classroom practices will be modeled that emphasize how the contextualized use of language in scientific and engineering practices helps English learners develop and practice complex language forms and functions leading to improved academic literacy. Modeling will be based on the use of scientific and engineering practices as a vehicle for promoting academic literacy. Evidence will be shared that shows how inquiry-based teaching that emphasizes the practices of science and literacy in science is an effective instructional strategy fostering opportunities for critical thinking, productive talking, writing and reading, as well as vocabulary development and deepening of conceptual understanding, and positive attitudes toward science. Practices-oriented science teaching is especially valuable for students that have been traditionally underrepresented in science disciplines.

Presenters: Jerry D. Valadez, Director, California Science Project; Maria Simani, Executive Director, California Science Project; Ana G. Lopez, Science Specialist, California Science Project; Dawn O’Connor, Science Director – Alameda County Office of Education; and Joanna Totino, Director of Bay Area Science Project, Lawrence Hall of Science, UC Berkeley

(3) Implementing the Vision of the Framework and NGSS: A Professional Development Pathway

Summary: Learn how to put the vision of the NRC Framework and the Next Generation Science Standards into action in the classroom.

Overview: The Framework for K-12 Science Education (NRC, 2011) and the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) (Achieve, 2013) present an exciting vision of science education. Enacting the vision will require a large shift in existing curricula and science pedagogy. Professional development (PD) providers are urgently seeking resources to help implement the vision.

TERC in collaboration with middle school teachers from a district north of Chicago will present a PD approach that draws on an existing PD system (Talk Science) and curriculum exemplar (Inquiry Project) that will enable teachers to begin implementing the NGSS vision in their classrooms. To bring the language of the NGSS to life, participants are immersed in an existing curriculum that exemplifies the three-stranded nature of the new vision and meets an NGSS Grade 5 standard. They will be provided with tools that highlight the framework of the curriculum and architecture of lessons where students use science practices to understand core ideas. This system relies on Professional Learning Communities to support teachers as they implement the vision. A group of teachers who have experienced this PD system will chronicle their experience and reflect on high points and challenges.

Presenters: Sally Crissman, Senior Science Educator, TERC; Sara Lacy, Senior Scientist, TERC, Cambridge

(4) iHub: A Research-Practice Partnership to Design New NGSS Curriculum

Summary: In this workshop, participants will experience and hear about collaborative design processes that help teachers learn about NGSS while developing or adapting coherent, aligned curriculum.

Overview: Many district leaders today are being asked to embark on ambitious efforts to adapt or develop new curriculum materials aligned to the NGSS. Partnerships with external organizations that include expertise in science learning and in curriculum can extend district capacity and build science leadership. In this workshop, participants will experience and hear about collaborative design processes that help teachers learn about NGSS. Participants will gain experience with processes involving the design of new curriculum and adaptation of existing curriculum to incorporate more opportunities for productive talk. By the conclusion of this workshop, participants will be prepared to: (1) identify expertise in their local area needed to design or adapt curricula that is aligned to NGSS; (2) organize a design process that includes teachers and that results in a coherent sequence of instructional experiences for students; and (3) lead activities that simultaneously develop teachers’ understanding of NGSS and new instructional materials.

Presenters: William R. Penuel, Professor of Educational Psychology and Learning Sciences, University of Colorado at Boulder; Sam Severance, Research Coordinator, University of Colorado at Boulder; Heather Leary, Research Associate, University of Colorado at Boulder; Patricia Kincaid, Grants Curriculum Coordinator, Denver Public Schools; Jeffrey Miller, Secondary Science Coordinator, Denver Public Schools
NSELA Registration, General Session Room (Hyde Park), Breakout Rooms (Grant Park)
First Floor – Main Entry North

NSELA Breakfast (Prairie)
Second Floor

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