Research-Practice Partnership Workshop for Doctoral and Early Career Researchers

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Abstract: This NSF-funded workshop is designed to support early career and doctoral students in STEM research to work with district and school leaders, formal and informal educators, and community coalitions in order to build and sustain *research-practice partnerships* to improve STEM education.

Workshop Leaders

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Mentors

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Focus of the Workshop

This workshop is designed to support a community of STEM researchers, district and school leaders, formal and informal educators, and community coalitions engaged in building and sustaining *research-practice partnerships* to improve STEM education. Research-practice partnerships are long-term collaborations between practitioners and researchers that are organized to investigate problems of practice and solutions for improving the outcomes of educational systems (Coburn, Penuel & Geil, 2012). In STEM education, Mathematics-Science Partnerships funded by the National Science Foundation are examples of design partnerships that bring together subject matter experts in higher education, mathematics and science education researchers, and school districts. There are also funded partnerships in which a network of formal and informal education organizations are linked together and with researchers to organize more robust and equitable learning ecologies for youth (Bang, Medin, Washinawatok, & Chapman, 2010; Falk et al., 2013).

Our aim for building a network of such partners is to *increase the capacity of the field for continuous improvement in STEM education.* Our specific objectives for this workshop are to: (1) Build knowledge and skill of a network of doctoral and early career researchers who can form and maintain long-term partnerships with districts, informal education organizations, and community coalitions focused on STEM improvement; (2) Develop knowledge about effective partnership strategies and about how best to support a network of scholars focused on partnership work and a network of research-practice partnerships.

References

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