



NMSI In the News

Spring 2010

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LETTER FROM CEO TOM LUCE

Dear Friends -

NMSI hit the ground running in 2010, gaining recognition in Washington as a leading agent of change in public education and expanding our programs around the country.

Our mission remains the same: to improve dramatically math and science education for our young people. We increase access to - and success in - Advanced Placement courses, as well as foster a new generation of highly qualified, inspired math and science teachers who will equip our students with the tools to succeed in these fields.

Our results in the first full year of our AP Training and Incentive Program (APTIP) demonstrated how we can increase the number of exams passed by AP students, particularly among minority and female students:

- Schools in our program produced a 52 percent increase in AP exams passed in math, science and English, nine times higher than the national average.
- There was a 71.5 percent increase in exams passed in math, science, and English by African-American and Hispanic students, compared to 13 percent nationally.
- There was a 47.6 percent increase in AP exams passed in math and science by female students, who are traditionally under-represented in math and science. The national increase was only 4.4 percent.

Reducing the achievement gap among under-represented student groups is a major goal of ours and, with AP success directly correlating to college graduation rates, the future looks bright for these APTIP



[NMSI Mission](#)

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NMSI'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS

+ **Tom Luce**
NMSI Chief Executive Officer, former Assistant Secretary, U.S. Department of Education

+ **Bruce Alberts**
Former President, National Academies

+ **Norm Augustine**
Lead Director, NMSI, former Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Lockheed Martin Corporation

+ **Gaston Caperton**
President, College Board, and former Governor of West Virginia

+ **Roger A. Enrico**
Chairman of DreamWorks Animation SKG, and former Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, PepsiCo

+ **Nancy Grasmick**
Superintendent, Maryland State

students.

In January, NMSI and our UTeach teacher preparation program received national recognition by President Barack Obama at a White House event focused on STEM education. Our UTeach programs were cited by the President for being at the forefront of preparing the next wave of highly skilled teachers necessary to help American students excel in STEM fields.

At the White House event, we announced the expansion of UTeach to a total of 20 universities. Demand for the UTeach program continues to grow around the country and the fact that enrollment numbers have more than doubled in one year confirms that more college students will seek careers as math and science teachers if you provide an approach that makes sense.

The President remarked that: "America's leadership tomorrow depends on how we educate our students today, especially in science, math and engineering." Every day we can be proud that the work of our UTeach graduates is improving education for the next generation and setting the stage for their future success.

We are seeing the fruits of our labor and investments. We have already impacted tens of thousands of young students' lives. We are winning the commitment every semester of a new generation of teachers. We have demonstrated that replicating proven programs works. With the application of performance metrics, accountability, and data-based decision making, our results prove effective programs can be scaled nationwide.

What we must do now is fully engage both the private and public sectors in committing the resources necessary to expand these successful programs across the nation.

We invite and encourage your continued partnership in this endeavor. Together, we can make a difference.

Sincerely,

Tom Luce
Chief Executive Officer
National Math and Science Initiative

NMSI RECOGNIZED AT WHITE HOUSE STEM EVENT

Department of
Education

+ **Bernard Harris,
Jr., MD**

President and
founder, the Harris
Foundation, Inc.,
former NASA
astronaut, first
African-American to
walk in space

+ **Shirley Malcom,
Ph.D.**

Head of education
and human resources
for the American
Association for the
Advancement of
Science

+ **Sally Ride**

President and CEO,
Sally Ride Science,
former NASA
Astronaut, first
American woman in
space

+ **Arthur F. Ryan**
Chairman, CEO, and
President, Prudential
Financial, Inc.

+ **Beverly Daniel
Tatum**

President, Spelman
College

+ **Roy Vagelos, MD**
Former Chairman
and CEO, Merck &
Co., Inc.

+ **Charles M. Vest**
President, National
Academy of
Engineering,
President
Emeritus,
Massachusetts
Institute of
Technology



President Barack Obama speaks in the East Room of the White House as he honors teachers who received awards for excellence in mathematics and science teaching and mentoring during an Educate to Innovate event. Photo:Charles Dharapak/AP

President Barack Obama spotlighted the importance of teachers in shaping our country's future at a special STEM event held at the White House on January 6. Specifically, the President recognized the National Math and Science Initiative (NMSI) and its UTeach program for preparing a new generation of highly qualified math and science teachers.

President Obama pointed out that new public-private partnerships, like the national UTeach program, will help move American students from the middle to the top of the pack in science and math achievement over the next decade. He said, "America's leadership tomorrow depends on how we educate our students today, especially in science, math and engineering," a theme that resonates loudly for the dedicated supporters of NMSI.

The President announced a \$250 million, public-private effort to improve science and mathematics instruction, aiming to help the nation compete in key fields with global economic rivals. The White House also announced NMSI's expansion of the highly successful teacher-training program, UTeach, to 20 universities across the country. The new sites include the University of Texas at Arlington, the University of Texas at Tyler, Middle Tennessee State University, the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, Cleveland State University and the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs.

[Click here to read more...](#)

**CORNELL RESEARCHER FINDS AP INCENTIVES
IMPROVE ACADEMIC SUCCESS**

+ **Carl E. Wieman,**
Ph.D.

Director of the Carl
Wieman Science
Education Initiative at
the University of
British Columbia

A recently released study by Cornell University researcher, C. Kirabo Jackson, confirms that Advanced Placement (AP) incentive programs can significantly increase the number of students, particularly minority students, attending and graduating from college.

"This is welcome validation of the work we are doing as our AP Training and Incentive Program is modeled on the program that Dr. Jackson studied," said Gregg Fleisher, National Director of the NMSI AP Training and Incentive Program (APTIP).



C. Kirabo Jackson,
Cornell University
Researcher

The study shows that for schools participating in an AP incentive program, there was an 8 percent increase in the number of students going on to college and a 22 percent increase in the number of students who stayed in college. For African-American and Hispanic students, the results were even more profound as Dr. Jackson found that African-Americans enrolled in AP incentive programs were 69 percent more likely to graduate from college and Hispanics were 83 percent more likely to graduate from college.

[Click here to read more...](#)

UTEACH TO HOST SPRING SYMPOSIUM

Each spring, NMSI and the UTeach Institute at the University of Texas at Austin host the NMSI-UTeach Institute Annual Conference. This year's conference will take place May 25-27 at the AT&T Executive Education and Conference Center in Austin. The conference will provide an opportunity to learn more about the highly successful UTeach program for preparing secondary math and science teachers, to learn more about the work of the UTeach Institute and the national replication of UTeach, and to network with university faculty, administrators and others currently implementing UTeach programs across the country.



For more details on the conference, click [here](#).

YOUNG LEADERS PROGRAM BRINGS WOMEN TOGETHER



In 2008, NMSI, ExxonMobil and *FORTUNE* launched the Young Leaders program, an initiative designed to address the gender gap in science, technology, engineering and math-related educational programs and career paths. Participants - female college juniors majoring in STEM fields - were given a unique opportunity to receive mentoring sessions with top female executives from *FORTUNE* 500 companies where women currently constitute 46 percent of the U.S. workforce, but hold just 26 percent of the nation's jobs in science, technology and engineering.

Due to the success of last year's program, over 20 executives signed up to participate in the 2010 Young Leaders Program, including executives from Ebay, Intel, and the Dow Chemical Company. In addition to the summer Capstone event, NMSI has organized a webinar series for the students in the Young Leaders program that focuses on topics such as "Showcasing Women in STEM."

The first webinar, which was held in late February, was presented by three high-level executives: Dr. Uma Chowdhry, senior vice president and chief science and technology officer at Dupont; Roberta Luxbacher, vice president of industrial and wholesale at ExxonMobil Fuels Marketing Company; and Margaret Wear, senior vice president and chief actuary at Prescription Solutions. The young women heard the personal stories of each speaker, including how they chose a career in a STEM field, and then had the opportunity to ask them questions about their experiences.

[Click here to read more...](#)

TOM LUCE APPEARS ON PBS'S MCCUISTION PROGRAM

On February 7, NMSI CEO Tom Luce was a guest on the first segment in a six-part series of the *McCuiston* program, an issues-oriented television show that examines business, social, economic and public policy concerns and challenges.



The series, hosted by Dennis McCuiston, is being broadcast in celebration of *McCuiston's* 20th anniversary. All of the episodes are a retrospective of representational programs on specific issues from the last 20 years. As part of the first program, "Education and Our Children," Tom Luce discussed what is necessary for the U.S. to remain competitive today in education. The program can be seen [here](#).

UTEACH HOSTS OPEN HOUSE AT UTEACH INSTITUTE IN AUSTIN



Jessie Krakosky with the UTeach Institute in Austin and Amy Parlo the Virginia STEM Outreach Coordinator and Clinical Associate Professor at Virginia Tech.

On February 23-24, the UTeach Institute hosted an Open House at the University of Texas at Austin campus for students interested in learning more about the UTeach program and seeing the teacher preparation program in action. Twenty-one university representatives participated in the successful Open House which contained:

- An overview of the UTeach program
- UTeach course observations
- Presentations on the UTeach Natural Sciences program, the new UTeach Engineering program, and UTeach program replication
- A Q&A with UTeach faculty, staff, and students

For more details on the UTeach Institute visit its website [here](#).

NMSI CALENDAR

April 7, 2010 - Sally Ride Roundtable in Atlanta, GA.

April 13, 2010 - Kentucky: AdvanceKentucky, in Frankfort, KY. A presentation and announcement to be made before the KY Board of Education meeting.

April 29, 2010 - NMSI Board of Directors Meeting in Washington, DC.

April 30, 2010 - Sally Ride Roundtable at the office of Jones Day, Washington, DC.

May 19, 2010 - APTIP Teacher of the Year Award Ceremony in Washington, DC.

May 25-27, 2010 - UTeach Institute Conference at the AT&T Conference Center in Austin, TX.

July 25-29, 2010 - Sally Ride Roundtables at the Sally Ride Academy in Washington, DC.

October 28, 2010 - NMSI Board of Directors Meeting in Washington, DC.

AP TRAINING AND INCENTIVE PROGRAM GRANTEES

Alabama

A+ College Ready

Arkansas

Arkansas Advanced Initiative for Math and Science

Connecticut

Project Opening Doors

Kentucky

AdvanceKentucky

Massachusetts

Mass Insight's Massachusetts Math and Science Initiative

Virginia

Virginia Advanced Study Strategies

UTEACH GRANTEES

Arizona

Northern Arizona University

California

University of California at Berkley

University of California at Irvine

Colorado

University of Colorado at Boulder

University of Colorado at Colorado Springs

Florida

Florida State University

University of Florida

Kansas

University of Kansas

Kentucky

Western Kentucky University

Louisiana

Louisiana State University

Ohio

Cleveland State University

Pennsylvania

Temple University

Texas

University of Houston

University of North Texas

University of Texas at Austin

University of Texas at Dallas

University of Texas at Arlington

University of Texas at Tyler

Tennessee

Middle Tennessee State University

University of Tennessee at Knoxville

NMSI MISSION

To advance math and science education in the United States by expanding programs with proven results on a national scale in order to have a positive impact on America's 50-million-student public school system.

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www.NationalMathandScience.org