



NMSI In the News

Fall 2009

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LETTER FROM CEO TOM LUCE

Dear Friends -

It has been a busy fall for the National Math and Science Initiative. We are racing forward with our work as an agent of change in the U.S. public education system.

We've established something very important with our first year of results: **Replication works.**

The results of our Advanced Placement Training & Incentive Program (APTIP) were outstanding, proving that replicating proven programs to more students can exponentially increase the impact. Equally important, our results show that students will succeed when we equip them with the right tools and provide them high-quality teachers.

As we look to the future, we are ready to bring on more partners in our work. We currently have more than 20 states on a waiting list for APTIP and some 40 universities that would like to offer UTeach, our high-impact teacher preparation program.

As a result, it will take the commitment and investment of all of us -- nonprofit organizations, the business community, the philanthropic community and state and federal government entities -- to continue to effect the change we have already witnessed in just the first two years.

The current White House administration has already demonstrated its commitment to educational reform by making available \$4.3 billion in funding for innovative nonprofit organizations and state educational consortiums. The goal is to support and invest in highly effective science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) programs, as well as teacher quality initiatives. It will take this kind of broad-based national effort to improve our public education system, and NMSI is



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proud to be a partner in this mission.

Our aim at NMSI is to significantly raise the bar in American education. We believe we are paving the way for our young people's success today and in the future. We look forward to your continued involvement in and support of our efforts.

Sincerely,

Tom Luce
President and CEO
National Math and Science Initiative, Inc.

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NMSI TESTIFIES BEFORE PROMINENT NATIONAL COMMITTEES

Tom Luce testified before the U.S. House Committee on Science and Technology on Sept. 14.

NMSI Board members Bruce Alberts and Carl Wieman and NMSI Program Director John Winn testified before the President's Advisory Council on Science and Technology (PACST) in Washington, D.C. on Oct. 22 and 23. They provided the advisory council with

NMSI CORE PROGRAMS SPOTLIGHTED BY TEXAS GOVERNOR

In mid-October, Texas Governor Rick Perry announced a \$160 million plan to expand science, technology, math and engineering (STEM) education in the state of Texas, including two programs being replicated nationwide by NMSI.

Gov. Perry recommended the expansion of the UTeach program, a teacher preparation program that NMSI is replicating at 14 universities in the United States, to five additional university sites in Texas. The governor estimated the expansion would produce 2,000 new math and science teachers for the state.

In addition, he proposed expanding the Advanced Placement Strategies (APS) program, which is the model for NMSI's Advanced Placement Training and Incentive Program (APTIP), to 50 additional high schools in Texas.

"The Governor's support for expanding successful programs in the STEM arena, such as AP Strategies and UTeach, is a critical step toward maintaining our global competitiveness," said Tom Luce, CEO of NMSI. "Our economic future depends on innovation -- and innovation depends on math and science proficiency."



information on how science education needs to be improved from early grades through higher education.

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
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Officer, Lockheed
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former Chairman and
Chief Executive
Officer, PepsiCo

+ **Nancy Grasmick**
Superintendent,
Maryland State
Department of
Education

+ **Bernard Harris,
Jr., MD**
President and
founder, the Harris
Foundation, Inc.,

Texas Gov. **Rick Perry** is joined by State Rep. **Angie Chen Button**, Texas Education Commissioner **Robert Scott** and students from the T-STEM Academy at Berkner High School in Richardson, Texas, as he announces a \$160 million STEM education initiative.

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NMSI PARTICIPATES IN HECHINGER INSTITUTE WEBINAR ON AMERICA'S MATH AND SCIENCE CRISIS

The Hechinger Institute on Education and the Media at Columbia University Teachers College hosted a webinar, *America's Math & Science Crisis: How to Fix It*, for education reporters in November. NMSI CEO Tom Luce joined panelists Steven Robinson, special advisor on math and science at the Department of Education, and Michelle Cahill, vice president of national programs and program director of urban education at the Carnegie Corporation, for a discussion about the state of math and science instruction in the U.S. They discussed how to get the nation back on track through necessary reforms, changed perceptions and implementation of common national standards.

The webinar was attended by more than 30 education journalists from across the country, including reporters from the Associated Press, Bloomberg News, the *Los Angeles Times*, NPR and the *Wall Street Journal*.

To view the webinar, please visit:
<http://hechinger.tc.columbia.edu/default.aspx?pageid=3522>.

NMSI TO EXPAND UTEACH PROGRAM TO UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT TYLER

The University of Texas at Tyler will become the 15th campus nationwide to implement the UTeach program. NMSI announced today that grants totaling \$1.4 million from the Michael & Susan Dell Foundation and Texas Education Agency have been awarded to expand the program.

In its first year, NMSI, in partnership with the UTeach Institute, enrolled more than 1,100 new math and science majors in the UTeach program. That enrollment has already nearly doubled for the fall 2009 semester.

"Demand for the UTeach program continues to grow around the country,

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

+ Carl E. Wieman, Ph.D.

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

and we are seeing immediate results," said Tom Luce, CEO of NMSI. "The fact that enrollment numbers have nearly 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. We are confident UT Tyler is going to play an even more significant role in preparing and motivating the math and science teachers that our country desperately needs. We look forward to watching their program grow in the years to come."

Dr. Rodney H. Mabry, President of UT Tyler, said at the Dec. 14 announcement event, "The University of Texas at Tyler has a tradition of graduating teachers who stay in the classroom. UTeach will complement and reinforce the high quality and caliber of our graduating teachers in the science, math and computer science fields."

FIRST UTEACH COMMUNITY COLLEGE LINK IN THE NATION ESTABLISHED

Johnson County Community College in Overland Park, Kansas, will become the first community college in the nation to participate in the UTeach program, thanks to a new agreement with the University of Kansas. KU and JCCC announced Sept. 25 that they are partnering to make UKan Teach, which is part of the national UTeach replication supported by NMSI, available to community college students.



The expansion to community college students will help bring more math and science students into teaching careers, said Steve Case, director of the Center for Science Education at KU. UKan Teach has offered the teaching program to KU math and science majors for the last three years.

The UTeach program was started in 1997 by The University of Texas at Austin. NMSI is partnering with the UTeach Institute at UT-Austin to replicate the program around the country as a way of addressing the nation's severe shortage of math and science teachers. The UTeach program currently is being implemented in 14 universities.

The agreement between KU and JCCC means that math and science majors at the community college can enter the UKan Teach program. The students will be able to spend one or two years at JCCC and the finish their degrees at KU.

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

SALLY RIDE SELECTED FOR WHITE HOUSE MATH AND SCIENCE AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

President Obama recently named NMSI board member Sally Ride to help lead a national campaign to encourage education in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM), saying the U.S. needs to make a new push to excel in sciences, as evidence shows American students continuing to fall behind other countries in science and math.



Dr. Ride, a former NASA astronaut and president of Sally Ride Science Inc., and former Intel Chairman Craig Barrett have agreed to recruit private sector leaders to advocate math and science education, scale up innovative science and math education programs and raise public awareness of the importance of math and science education.

As part of the effort, called "Educate to Innovate," government and private industry have committed to donating more than \$260 million in new support to education projects. The money will be spent through five public-private partnerships, which the White House said would leverage 100,000 volunteers, media and interactive games to reach more than 10 million students by the end of 2013.

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NMSI BOARD MEMBER BRUCE ALBERTS NAMED ONE OF THE FIRST U.S. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY ENVOYS

NMSI board member Dr. Bruce Alberts has been named one of the first U.S. Science and Technology Envoys to Muslim communities around the world by Secretary of State Hillary Clinton.

Secretary Clinton announced a new initiative on Nov. 3 to bolster science and technology collaboration with Muslim communities. The Secretary named Dr. Alberts, Dr. Elias Zerhouni and Dr. Ahmed Zewail as the first three U.S. Science and Technology Envoys and announced that the State Department will expand positions for environment, science, technology and health officers at U.S. embassies.

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NMSI DIRECTORS VISIT DALLAS HIGH SCHOOL

AP students at W.T. White High School in Dallas received a surprise visit from three NMSI board members after the organization's board meeting in October. Dr. Roy Vagelos, former chair and CEO of Merck & Co. Inc., Nobel Prize winner Carl Wieman and Bruce Alberts, former president of the National Academies, joined Gregg Fleisher, National AP Training and Incentive Program Director for NMSI, for a tour of the school and had the opportunity to meet with some of the students and faculty.

Dr. Louis C. Glover, the AP Physics instructor, showed the group the school's award-winning solar car prototype, and they met with an AP Physics class. The NMSI directors were also introduced to Michael Watkins, associate principal and AP coordinator, and Pat Gage, the AP English Department Chair.

"I was blown away by the positive attitude of all the people we met," Dr. Vagelos commented after the special visit.



*Pictured during a surprise visit to W.T. White High School are (from left to right): **Gregg Fleisher**, NMSI APTIP Director; **Carl Wieman**, Nobel Prize winner and NMSI Board Member; **Michael Watkins**, associate principal and AP coordinator at W.T. White High School; **Dr. Roy Vagelos**, former chair and CEO of Merck & Co. Inc. and NMSI Board Member; and **Bruce Alberts**, former president of the National Academies and NMSI Board Member.*



*Visiting a classroom at W.T. White House School are (from left to right): **Dr. Roy Vagelos**, former chair and CEO of Merck & Co. Inc. and NMSI Board Member; **Bruce Alberts**, former president of the National Academies and NMSI Board Member; **Dr. Louis C. Glover**, AP Physics*

*instructor at W.T. White High School; **Lazaro Martinez**, student at W.T. White High School; and **Carl Wieman**, Nobel Prize winner and NMSI Board Member.*

WHAT IS A UTEACH STUDENT?

NMSI recently reached out to students who are actively involved in our teacher training program and asked them how they would define a UTeach student. Based on their collective feedback, a UTeach student is defined as someone who believes in the importance of math and science and is passionate about helping others.

Following are two profiles of UTeach students from two of the 13 universities that have adopted the UTeach program.

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Angela Snow
Temple University
Philadelphia, Pa.

As a former soccer coach and camp counselor, Angela Snow, a 19-year-old chemistry major at Temple University in Philadelphia, knew she liked working with kids. She got hooked on teaching when she had her first taste of practice teaching in the UTeach program. "I love seeing students learn, to watch them 'get it.' They feel a sense of accomplishment, and so do you," she says.



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

+++



Marc Duke
University of Texas at Austin
Austin, Texas

Marc Duke, a 27-year-old UTeach student from California, says, "The UTeach program challenges you to understand what you know -- and you find out you don't know as much as you think. It challenges you to become a life-long learner."

Duke, a scuba diver, was in the marine science program when he heard about

UTeach. A friend had suggested he might try teaching, since he liked science. He got into the UTeach program, he says, and was hooked. "The first time you see a kid light up when he or she understands something, that's when the passion comes in."

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

WHAT IS AN AP STUDENT?

Judging from the feedback from students enrolled in the Advanced Placement courses supported by NMSI grants, today's AP students come from all walks of life, but they all are hard-working and determined to succeed in college -- and life.

Here are some "snapshots" of two AP Training and Incentive Program students from East Hartford High School that participated in AP programs supported by NMSI and Project Opening Doors. Both are first-generation, college-bound students.



Tina Nguyen and Jimmy Nguyen

+++

Tina Nguyen
East Hartford High School
East Hartford, Conn.

Tina Nguyen passed AP courses in Statistics, Biology and English. She has received a full scholarship to the University of Connecticut, as well as a leadership scholarship. She hopes to major in neurobiology/physiology with the goal of becoming a medical doctor.

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Jimmy Nguyen
East Hartford High School
East Hartford, Conn.

Jimmy Nguyen took AP statistics, Biology and Psychology and has received a partial scholarship to the University of Connecticut. He plans to major in biology or biochemistry with the goal of becoming a researcher. He hopes to graduate in four years, help support his family and then continue work on a Ph.D.

NMSI CALENDAR

May 25-27, 2010 - UTeach Annual Conference in Austin. Information will be provided in early spring. To send a question, e-mail info@uteach-institute.org.

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 Berkeley

University of California at Irvine

Colorado

University of Colorado at Boulder

Florida

Florida State University

University of Florida

Kansas

University of Kansas

Kentucky

Western Kentucky University

Louisiana

Louisiana State University

Pennsylvania

Temple University

Texas

University of Houston

University of North Texas

University of Texas at Arlington

University of Texas at Dallas

University of Texas at Tyler

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.

AP and Advanced Placement Program are registered trademarks of the College Board.