Become a Member of the Leadership Team for:
MiTEP – Michigan Teacher Excellence Program

A Mathematics and Science Partnership of Grand Rapids Public Schools and Michigan Tech

Goals of the Program:

- Use earth system science to strengthen science education
- Improve student learning in science
- Develop science teacher leaders
- Reform earth science education

Roles of MiTEP participants:

- Participate in courses, workshops, and other program activities
- Collaborate with colleagues to implement and support project goals
- Help design professional development activities
- Assist in all components of program evaluation and assessment
- Evaluate usability and effectiveness of instructional resources
- Support and lead colleagues from other districts

Who should participate?

- All science teachers, especially grades 5-9
- ESL and Special Education teachers interested in science teaching and learning

Perks for MiTEP participants:

- Leadership role in reform of science curriculum and instructional practice
- Up to 20 graduate credits at no cost
- Stipends ($1000/week for summer courses; smaller amounts for online courses & How the Earth Works)
- Funds for supplies and equipment
- Access to science experts on call
- Release time for Professional Development
- Science education leadership skill development
- Travel funds to present at national conferences

For More Information Contact:

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Project website: http://mitep.mspnet.org/

Overview of MiTEP Activities:

Program	*Timeframe*	*Location*	*Duration*
Scientists on Call	Ongoing	GRPS/Online	
Earth Systems Institute I	Summer 2009	Michigan Tech	2 weeks - dates TBD
Pedagogy Workshops	2009-2010	Grand Rapids area	4-5 PD workdays
Science Inquiry & Assessment	Spring 2010	Online	
Earth Systems Institute II	Summer 2010	Grand Rapids area	2 weeks
How the Earth Works	Fall 2010	Grand Rapids area	TBD
Action Research	Spring 2011	Online	
Science Leaders Internship	Summer 2011	Midwest Nat'l Park	3 weeks
Lesson Study	Fall 2011	Grand Rapids area	~3 PD workdays
Scaffolding Workshops	Fall 2011	Grand Rapids area	PD workdays

Opportunities offered through MiTEP:

Opportunity	*Description*	*Location*	*Timing*	*Credit*
Scientists on Call	Graduate students will visit GRPS (2 weeks minimum), followed by web-based communication. Graduate students and the Project Coordinator will respond to teachers' requests for information/assistance. The result will be a searchable web-based database (*How the Earth Works Resources*).	Grand Rapids Area/Online	Fall and Spring	
Earth Systems Institute I	Course conducted at Michigan Tech. Meals and lodging included. Using the scientific method in earth system science to make observations, develop hypotheses, collect data, test hypotheses, and communicate results. Also, an intensive one-day professionally led leadership training experience.	Michigan Tech	Summer 2 weeks	4 + stipend
Pedagogy Workshops	Combining science content, pedagogy, and personal effectiveness to connect to experiences of diverse students. Topics include visualization tools, earth system science data sources, inquiry-based instruction, teaching for understanding, and strategies for engaging diverse and special-needs learners.	Grand Rapids Area	Fall and Spring	1 + sub pay
Science Learning Materials Inquiry and Assessment	Web-based course covers the design, selection, and evaluation of materials that support inquiry-based learning. It examines alternative and authentic assessment techniques for evaluation science learning, using national and state standards to measure outcomes.	Online	Spring	2 + stipend
Earth Systems Institute II	Course is similar to Earth Systems Institute I but taught in the Grand Rapids area where natural phenomena interact with human populations. The goal of the course is to develop local, place-based activities to illustrate science processes.	Grand Rapids area	Summer 2 weeks	4 + stipend
How the Earth Works	Course provides follow-up content in support of Earth Systems Institute I and II and is tied to HSCE. The goal is to ensure that teachers from multiple science disciplines have the content-area expertise required to effective teach science inquiry units.	Grand Rapids Area	Fall	2 + stipend
Action Research	In-depth study of education research methods pertaining to classroom practice, curriculum standards, and program evaluation. Linking classroom instruction with research about learning is a key area of emphasis. Learn about data presentation, action learning, and developing students into communities of science.	Online	Spring	2 + stipend
Science Leaders Internship	Three-week-long intensive hands-on experience in which teams of teachers work with National Park interpreters near their home to learn more about engaging diverse learners in scientific inquiry based on the natural environment. Teachers will prepare a technology-rich informational module.	Midwest National Park	Summer 3 weeks	3 + stipend
Lesson Study	This course guides teacher teams through the process of improving instruction by examining the effectiveness of lessons in engaging students in meaningful learning. Teams will plan a lesson that one team member will teach, while others observe and analyze to identify strengths and weaknesses.	Grand Rapids Area	Fall	1 + sub pay
Curriculum Scaffolding Workshops	These workshops will be led by GRPS teacher leaders and will focus on system-wide change in science curriculum, connecting science curricula across grade levels, scaffolding middle and high school science learning, and linking science courses and curricula with university-level science instruction. Special education and ESL teachers can participate.	Grand Rapids Area	Fall and Spring	1 + sub pay