

SF State's Math and Science Teacher Fellowship:



In 2008, the **Center for Science and Mathematics (CSME)** founded a fellowship to support future math and science teachers. Originally called the Math and Science Teacher Initiative (MSTI), it started with a cohort of 20 fellows. By 2011 the fellowship community

informed and give them assistance in submitting their applications. As a result, in 2009, over 80% of the Teacher Fellows were awarded additional scholarships CSME also provides learning opportunities designed for future STEM educators. CSME is the Northern



has grown to over 70 fellows and 640+ newsletter subscribers. Funding can be renewed for up to four years, which allows the senior fellows to serve as mentors to younger SF State students. In exchange for volunteering time in secondary school classrooms and performing other educational community service, fellows receive a stipend. To date MSTI fellows have performed over 6,700 hours of service learning.

Workshops and career panels are hosted to give students a better understanding of the professional lives of teachers. Speakers are selected to ensure a balanced view of both the challenges and benefits of teaching at urban schools.

Fellows receive support for applications to other scholarships and professional development opportunities. Many students fail to apply because they are unaware or are put off by time-consuming application procedures. To counter these issues, MSTI directors keep fellows well

California coordinator of Spaceward Bound, a field expedition for future STEM teachers, in partnership with the CSU Chancellor's Office and the CSU Desert

Research Station at Zzyzx, California. For a week in spring, future teachers study side-by-side with world-renowned planetary NASA scientists who study life in extreme environments. SF State undergraduates are able to explore the world of applied science and mathematics, and find ways to connect their own educational experiences to their future teaching.

In 2010, CSME opened a math education resource center and student lounge. The resource center offers math education tools, textbooks and a computer lab. More importantly it has been the place where friendships have been forged and support systems are built to strengthen their pre-service teaching experience.

Where Teachers Go To Grow

by Jamie Chan, MA in Biology, 2006 SF State CSME Program Director of the Teacher Fellows program

The MSTI is a program that is so much more than a scholarship... There are so many things I would have been lost trying to do on my own if I didn't have the direction I received from MSTI. They are a support and have provided a community for which I am proud to be a part of and a guide to get me through the next step in my goal to become a teacher.

[MSTI Fellow, Questionnaire]

Without the MSTI program, I wouldn't have gotten this national scholarship which now covers my tuition. So I can take breaks from work and concentrate on what's really important, which is school, and successfully go through my classes and not have to worry, constantly worry about having money to pay for tuition, or having money to pay for textbooks or whatnot.

[MSTI Fellow, Interview]



Pg. 52 Left to right Kien Ngo (BA Math '09, Credential '10) and Trevor Tetzlaff (BA Math '10, Credential '11) working in after school enrichment.

Emily McCullough (BA Math '09, Credential '10) leading student activities in the SF Math Circles in both photos. Photos by Aaron Wong

Pg. 53 Left to right Group of future teachers and scientists collect bacterial samples in the caves of the Mojave during Spaceward Bound. Photo by Jamie Chan

Amanda Chui (BA '10, Credential '11) and Brian Finley (BA '10, Credential '11) sign the visitor registry in a cave in the Mojave. Photo by Jamie Chan

Bill Taylor (BA '08) and Tony Dunn (BA Physics '10) collect thermography data with scientists. Photo by Jennifer Small



If you are interested in learning more, you can find CSME online at www.csmesf.org