

SPANNING SILOS

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Cultivating Student Connections Through the Use of Mentoring in STEM Educational Programming

This presentation will discuss the benefits of mentoring in STEM educational programming. The Developing STEM Identity in Rural Audiences through Community-based Engineering Design (DeSIRE) project is a National Science Foundation-funded series of courses for underrepresented middle school students in rural N.C. The course employs near-age mentors (college engineering students from the Women and Minority Engineering Program at NCSU) a few times a week. Mentors assist with course lessons and work with students one-on-one. They also share their experiences along their pathway to studying STEM. Mentors foster meaningful connections with participants and show students that they are capable of pursuing a STEM career.

Presentation Target:

Higher Education and High School

Presenter(s):

1. Dr. LaTricia Townsend, Consultant, N.C. State University
2. Dr. Tameshia Baldwin, Assistant Teaching Professor, N.C. State College of Engineering
3. Micaha Dean Hughes, Graduate Assistant and Research Associate (Arenas), N.C. State University
4. Aaron Arenas, Graduate Assistant and Research Associate (Arenas), N.C. State University