

Office of Congressional & Legislative Affairs - January 2015 Constituent Newsletter

Summer STEM Opportunities at NIST for Middle School Teachers & Undergraduates

NIST is soliciting applications from eligible public school districts and accredited private educational institutions in the U.S. and its territories nominating middle school science teachers to participate in the 2015 NIST Summer Institute Program. The two week workshop will provide selected middle school teachers hands on activities, lectures, tours, and visits with NIST scientists and engineers at the NIST Campus in Gaithersburg, Maryland. More information on the NIST Middle School teachers program is available [here](#). The Federal Funding Opportunity (FFO) Notice is posted [here](#). Deadline for submitting applications is 11:59 p.m. EDT Friday, March 13, 2015.

Undergraduates and their colleges or universities are invited to apply to participate in NIST's 2015 [Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship](#) (SURF) Program for students majoring in science, mathematics and engineering. Applications for participation in the SURF program are only accepted from colleges or universities, and not from individual students. NIST anticipates providing meaningful research opportunities for approximately 130 students at their Gaithersburg, Maryland campus. The NIST site in Boulder, Colorado, also operates a SURF program with a distinctly separate application. The SURF Programs are anticipated to run between May 26 – August 9, 2015 or June 8 – August 9, 2015 at the Gaithersburg campus; and May 18 to July 31, 2015 at the Boulder campus. Adjustments may be made to accommodate specific academic schedules. The FFO Notice for both programs is posted [here](#). The deadline for application submissions is February 13, 2013.

NIST & DOJ Announce Members of Forensic Science Digital Evidence Subcommittee

To support development of standards and guidance for digital forensics, NIST and the U.S. Department of Justice have named 20 experts to the [Digital Evidence Subcommittee](#) of the Organization of Scientific Area Committees (OSAC). The subcommittee's experts in digital forensics and technology will develop and vet standards for test methods, techniques and protocols, training and more— all related to evidence stored or transmitted in binary form. The members of the Subcommittee are posted [here](#). The five Scientific Area Committees will hold public meetings on Feb. 16 and 17, 2015, during the annual meeting of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences, in Orlando, Fla.

Upcoming NIST Conference on Biometric & Forensic Technology

One of the biggest challenges facing the advancement of forensic science and biometric technology is the development of large data sets available for use by researchers. The lack of sufficient research data is a major limitation to research, the development of new technology, and informed policy decisions in forensic science and biometrics. On January 26th and 27th 2015, NIST will hold a symposium to discuss the needs and adequacy of existing publicly-available datasets, as input for developing a multi-agency roadmap for collection and dissemination of datasets in the future. The domains addressed will include both biometric and forensic aspects of finger/palm prints, iris, face, person at a distance, voice, and handwriting. Complete information on the Symposium including a link to required online pre-registration is posted [here](#).



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