



Alabama Commission on Higher Education

NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND (NCLB)
P.L. 107-110, TITLE II, PART A/SUBPART 3
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM
IMPROVING TEACHER QUALITY: MASTERY OF CONTENT

PROJECT DIRECTORY
FISCAL YEAR 2008-2009



Alabama Commission on Higher Education
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**Alabama Commission on Higher Education
No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB)
P. L. 107-110, Title II, Part A/Subpart 3
Professional Development Program
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**PROJECT DIRECTORY
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Under authority of Public Law 107-110, the Alabama Commission on Higher Education (ACHE) is awarding a total of \$1,195,000 Fiscal Year 2008-2009 federal funds to Alabama institutions for K-12 teacher professional development. Of that amount, \$867,000 is awarded to continue long-term projects that received FY2007-2008 professional development grants; \$328,000 is awarded to two new projects in this program. Seven public universities were awarded these grants to support partnerships between universities and high-need school districts. One of these grants also includes co-project leadership with a non-profit agency. Another one provides direct support for the state-wide Alabama Math, Science, and Technology Initiative (AMSTI). All are designed to provide long-term, statewide professional development to improve teaching in Alabama public and private schools. A major objective is to achieve high student performance standards, with emphasis on serving high need local school districts.

These projects provide K-12 teachers with individual hands-on training in the most current technology and proven learning strategies. Projects also include follow-up sessions and technical assistance during the academic year after summer workshops to refresh, reinforce, and re-establish principles and techniques learned. Follow-up varies by project but usually includes one-day workshops during the school year and on-site observation/assistance visits to teachers in their schools. In addition, projects typically maintain continuing communication with on-line contact by e-mail, print material, and internet websites. Expenses for administering these projects and for providing project materials are covered by the ACHE NCLB program along with support from the host institutions, private corporations, and government agencies. One ACHE NCLB grant supports teachers' independent research, including study abroad. Travel and related expenses for teachers participating in other projects are provided by sources other than ACHE NCLB funds.

Information on the objectives, schedules, and activities of these projects may be obtained from the project directors listed in this directory. Information on the overall higher education NCLB Program in Alabama is available from either Dr. Elizabeth French at (334) 242-2179 [Elizabeth.French@ache.alabama.gov] or Dr. James Conely at (334) 242-2235 [Jim.Conely@ache.alabama.gov] in the Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Planning at ACHE, P. O. Box 302000, Montgomery, Alabama, 36130-2000. The Project Directory and additional information on this program are available online at <http://www.ache.alabama.gov/NCLB/Index.htm>.

* Projects with FY 2008-2009 funding are active from spring 2009 through spring 2010.

**ACHE NCLB PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM
IMPROVING TEACHER QUALITY:
MASTERY OF CONTENT**

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Auburn University (AU)

Strategic Teaching for Improved Performance of Students (TIPS) in Reading

Partners: College of Liberal Arts, Auburn University
College of Education, Auburn University
School of Education, Auburn University at Montgomery
Public School System: Chambers County

Auburn University and Auburn University Montgomery are collaborating with the Alabama Reading Initiative for high school educators in Chambers County to improve adolescent literacy. The program reinforces efforts by the Alabama Adolescent Literacy Advisory Council by building knowledge of reading and writing processes that teachers need to effectively engage secondary students in strategic reading for English language arts and other core academic subjects. Objectives are: (1) provide on-going professional development that informs teaching based on Alabama Course of Study Standards for English Language Arts and reading in other core subjects; (2) involve educators in practicing research-proven methods for improving reading instruction and achievement across the curriculum; (3) increase reading achievement of secondary students; and (4) provide opportunities for teachers to use this professional development as partial fulfillment of credit toward re-certification and graduate course work. The program includes summer sessions, school-based sessions throughout the year, and online access to teaching materials and book discussions.

Project Director: Dr. Edna Brabham, Associate Professor

Address: College of Education, Curriculum and Teaching
5040 Haley Center
Auburn University
Auburn, AL 36849-5212

Telephone: (334) 844 6793 **FAX:** (334) 844 6789

E-mail: brabhed@auburn.edu

Project Dates:

In-School Training:

February 25, 2009

March 2, 2009

April 6, 2009

April 9, 2009

Summer Institute

July 13-17, 2009

Leadership Team Sessions:

Monthly, August 2009-April 2010

Location:

LaFayette High School

Valley High School

Valley High School

LaFayette High School

Valley High School

LaFayette and Valley High Schools

***IMPACTSEED:
Improving Physics And Chemistry Teaching
in Secondary Education***

Partners: College of Arts & Sciences
College of Education and Professional Studies
Public School Systems: Anniston City; Attalla City; Blount County; Boaz City; Calhoun County; Cherokee County; Clay County; Cleburne County; Etowah County; Fort Payne City; Gadsden City; Guntersville City; Jacksonville City; Jefferson County; Pell City; Piedmont City; Randolph County; Roanoke City; St. Clair County; Talladega City
Private School: Westbrook Christian School

IMPACTSEED addresses two pressing problems: About 83% of chemistry teachers and 94% of physics teachers are teaching out of field, and regional student achievement in physical sciences is much lower than the state average. To resolve these problems, the project helps teachers to make physics and chemistry understandable and fun to learn within a hands-on, inquiry-oriented setting, and also to overcome the fear-factor for these subjects among students and teachers alike. Five major components comprise the project: (1) an intensive two-week summer professional development program; (2) five technology workshops during the academic year; (3) sustained, year-round on-site support to the teachers; (4) year-round physics and chemistry hotlines to offer immediate support to the teachers when needed; (5) a website to disseminate the results of the project and to list useful resources. IMPACTSEED offers hands-on, inquiry-based instruction with a strong correlation to the Alabama Course of Study and national standards with primary emphasis on having students discover rather than memorize and with teachers questioning rather than telling. The project is paying special attention to entry-level teachers throughout the state, notably those from high-poverty schools, minorities, and underrepresented groups.

Project Director: Dr. Nouredine Zettili, Professor

Address: Department of Physical and Earth Sciences
Jacksonville State University
700 Pelham Road North
Jacksonville, AL 36265

Telephone: (256) 782 8077 **FAX:** (256) 782 5336

E-mail: nzettili@jsu.edu

Internet: <http://www.jsu.edu/depart/pes/physics/impactseed/>

Project Dates:

Summer Institute:
June 1-12, 2009

School-Year Followup: Five Saturdays: TBA

Location:

Jacksonville State University

***Project TIMES II:
Technological Integrations
of Mathematical Environments and Studies II***

Partners: College of Arts & Sciences
College of Education and Professional Studies
Public School Systems: Attalla City; Albertville City; Boaz City; Cleburne
County; Etowah County; Jacksonville City; Calhoun County; Pell City;
Piedmont City; Sylacauga City; Talladega City

TIMES II continues a professional development program for secondary education mathematics teachers as they strive to improve student achievement by increasing their own mathematical, technological, and pedagogical knowledge. Objectives include gaining (1) understanding of mathematical concepts, (2) awareness of applications of mathematics, (3) ability to use the technology to enhance student learning, and (4) competence in using a variety of instructional strategies. TIMES II focuses on integrating the use of technology into the understanding and development of mathematical concepts. Workshops address classroom instruction, group inquiry learning opportunities with hands-on manipulatives and technologies, and computer lab learning sessions.

Project Director: Dr. Jan Wilson, Professor and Head

Address: Department of Secondary Education
Jacksonville State University
700 Pelham Road North
Jacksonville, AL 36265

Telephone: (256) 782 5852

FAX: (256) 782 8308

E-mail: jwilson@jsu.edu

Project Dates:

Summer Institute:

June 22-26, 2009

School-Year Proposed Followup dates:

September 14, 2009

October 12, 2009

Classroom visits: TBA

Location:

Jacksonville State University

*Physical Science in the 21st Century:
Improving Teacher Quality and Mastery of Content*

Partners: College of Education
College of Arts and Sciences
Public Schools: Hale, Marengo, Bibb, and surrounding counties

This project provides professional development for secondary school science teachers in rural and small city schools. During 2009-2010 the science content involves basic concepts in physical science including electricity and magnetism, additional topics in mechanics - motion, dynamics, and energy – along with other physical science topics important for high school and middle school teachers of physics and physical science in rural schools. The project is aimed at enhancing the teaching of 21st century physical science through technology using student inquiry. Objectives are to (1) acquire and demonstrate deeper 21st century content knowledge on key focus concept themes in the physical sciences found in national and state standards, (2) acquire, demonstrate, and implement effective instructional pedagogy aimed at facilitating students’ meaningful understanding of physics and physical science concepts, (3) use laboratories and interactive inquiry approaches in which computer-based data interpretation, data sensors, and related 21st century technology is used to model the conceptual themes., (4) throughout the summer and academic year provide continuous professional development of both science content and pedagogy during the school year via four face-to-face Institute days accompanied by regular online training and resources to acquire and maintain their practice as highly qualified professionals. Teachers are instructed in, and have opportunities to use, interactive 21st century technology to construct lessons and units utilizing inquiry to deepen students’ understanding. They share and critique each other’s lessons and units and assess students’ understanding of academic content.

Project Director: Dr. Dennis W. Sunal, Professor

Address: Department of Curriculum and Instruction
208A Graves Hall
P. O. Box 870232
Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0232

Telephone: (205) 348 7010 **FAX:** (205) 348 9863

E-mail: dwsunal@bama.ua.edu

Internet: <http://www.nicenet.org>

Project Dates: (Tentative)

Summer Institute:
June 11-12, 2009 (daily: 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.)
School-Year Followup:
September 18, 2009
January 22, 2010

Continuous Online Professional Development:
Individual activities, communication, mentors

Location:

Hale County High School

Online

***The University-School Partnership
for Secondary Science Education
("BioTeach")***

**Partners: Center for Community Outreach Development (CORD)
UAB School of Education
Public School Systems: Bessemer City; Birmingham City;
Jefferson County; Tarrant City
Non-Profit Agency: McWane Science Center**

CORD's BioTeach program in cell and molecular biology offers sixteen high school teachers a high level of content knowledge, hands-on research, teaching experiences and training in inquiry-based methods for science education. The project includes a three-week summer classroom experience and several additional sessions on professional development days during the year. Mentoring during the academic year unites BioTeach teachers to craft "best practices" for Alabama science classrooms, and educational class trips to CORD's GENEius Lab in Birmingham's McWane Science Center, which enhances their state-of-the-art science education. In past years BioTeach has enabled 250 Alabama high school teachers to provide cutting-edge science education to their students. It continues in school-year 2009-2010 to advance the mission of state standards and the Alabama Course of Study for science.

Project Director: Dr. J. Michael Wyss, Professor

Address: Center for Community Outreach Development
CH19, Fifth Floor
University of Alabama at Birmingham
933 19th Street South
Birmingham, AL 35294-2041

Telephone: (205) 934 5171 **FAX:** (205) 934 5158

E-mail: jmwyss@uab.edu

Internet: www.uab.edu/cord

Project Dates:

Summer Institute:
June 22 – July 10, 2009
School-Year Followup:
September 12, 2009
October 10, 2009
October 24, 2009
November 14, 2009
February 13, 2010
April 10, 2010

Location:

Birmingham: McWane Science Center

Project staff assistance visits to teachers in their classrooms: TBA

University of Alabama in Huntsville

The Success Through Academic Research (STAR) Project: The Independent Study Scholarship Program

Partners: UAH Office of International Programs and Services
UAH Department of Education
UAH Institute for Science Education
Public School System: Escambia County

STAR provides meritorious Alabama K-12 teachers in “high need” schools with an opportunity for independent research and study in the subjects they teach to increase their expertise and teaching effectiveness. The partnership consists of a working group of academics from all fields of teaching and research at UAH, under the guidance of the UAH Office of International Programs and Services and a school district which will identify teachers from the system’s schools who meet minimal criteria of excellence and invite them to apply for a limited number of independent research scholarships of up to \$4,000 each. Scholarships for teachers in the partner school district are awarded for well thought-out and carefully planned individual research projects in all core subjects. As space is available, applications from teachers in other Alabama school districts are accepted. All study programs include professional mentoring and follow-up throughout the teachers’ independent study.

Project Director: Dr. John R. Pottenger, Director

Address: Office of International Programs and Services
Madison Hall, Room 137
University of Alabama in Huntsville
Huntsville, AL 35899

Telephone: (256) 824 6055 **FAX:** (256) 824 6142

E-mail: pottenj@uah.edu

Independent Study Dates and Locations:
Varies by teacher and study program

Followup Session:
Spring 2010 [Date TBA]

University of North Alabama (UNA)

AMSTI Professional Learning Teams (Alabama Math, Science, and Technology Initiative)

Partners: UNA College of Education
UNA College of Arts and Sciences
Troy University AMSTI
Wallace Community College Selma /
Alabama State University AMSTI
University of Alabama in Huntsville AMSTI
Auburn University AMSTI
University of Alabama at Birmingham AMSTI
Jacksonville State University AMSTI
Athens State University AMSTI
The University of Alabama / University of West Alabama AMSTI
University of Montevallo AMSTI
Multiple AMSTI School Districts around the state

This project fully implements professional learning teams (PLT) into participating Alabama Math, Science, and Technology Initiative (AMSTI) schools to build the leadership potential of AMSTI lead teachers. PLT activities include examining student work, participating in a lesson study, or participating in a book study to improve teacher knowledge of core academic subjects and increase student performance. A PLT expert will conduct one day of training with AMSTI schools with the administrators and two lead teachers. The training outlines the structure, use, and protocol of PLTs and activities. Subsequently, teacher leaders and administrators return to their schools and implement four days of PLT training (consisting of eight half days) with their faculties. PLTs also deepen teachers' content knowledge to impact student learning in math and science.

Project Director: Ms. Shelly Hollis, AMSTI-UNA Director

Address: University of North Alabama
1640 Tune Avenue
Florence, AL 35630

Telephone: (256) 765 6901 **FAX:** (256) 765 6909

E-mail: dmhollis@una.edu

Internet: www.amsti.org events link, then go to the UNA link.

Project Dates:

February 17: Athens State University
February 19: University of North Alabama
February 20: WCCS-ASU, Selma
February 24: Troy University
February 26: University of Alabama in Huntsville
February 27: University of Alabama at Birmingham
March 3: Auburn
March 5: Jacksonville State University
March 10: University of South Alabama
March 11: University of Alabama
March 12: University of Montevallo

School-Based PLT Meetings:

TBA by local schools

Locations: see www.amsti.org, events link

**University of South Alabama / (USA)
Alabama Institute for Education in the Arts (AIEA)**

Comprehensive Arts Education: Alabama

**Partners: College of Arts and Sciences
College of Education
Public School Systems: Baldwin County; Mobile County;
Montgomery County; Selma City
Private School: Saint James School
Non-Profit Agencies: Alabama Shakespeare Festival;
Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts; Mobile Museum of Art.**

Comprehensive Arts Education with its partner agencies and schools serves elementary and secondary classroom teachers statewide. While the arts are now part of Alabama’s core curriculum, most instruction falls to general classroom teachers. This program is the only statewide comprehensive arts education professional development provider and offers sequential and intensive instruction in comprehensive arts education along with training in curriculum development and arts education advocacy. Highly qualified university faculty, nationally recognized teaching artists, and master teachers provide instruction and mentoring in the individual classrooms, also assisting with guided practice in final projects developed in this program. On-going “SuperSaturday” and “*Arts in Education*” renewal sessions are conducted throughout the year. Project staff assures that all work is directly tied to appropriate national and state standards reflecting best practices identified in research and the *Alabama Arts Education Plan*.

Project Directors: Dr. Jeannette Fresne, Assistant Professor, USA
Ms. Linda Dean, Executive Director, AIEA

Address:	<u>AIEA:</u>	<u>USA Arts in Education (AiE):</u>
	Alabama Institute for Education in the Arts (AIEA) One Festival Drive Montgomery, AL 36117	Department of Music, Studio 1072 Laidlaw Performing Arts Center University of South Alabama Mobile, AL 36688-0002

Telephone:	(334) 396 2432 [Dean]	(251) 460 6697 [Fresne]
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E-mail:	lindadean@asf.net [Dean]	jfresne@usouthal.edu [Fresne]
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Internet:	http://www.artseducation.org	http://www.southalabama.edu/music/artsineducation
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Project Dates:

AIEA Summer Institute:

June 16-20, 2009

AIEA Curriculum Integration:

July 20-23, 2009

AIEA Curriculum Renewal

July 23, 2009

AIEA SuperSaturdays: Four to six sessions are scheduled throughout the year focusing on the specific art disciplines and on integrating the arts with other core academic areas.

AIEA Mentoring: Two or more site visits are conducted with participants in their schools.

Project Dates (cont'd.):

Arts in Education (AiE):

September 18-19, 2009

October 16-17, 2009

November 13-14, 2009

January 15-16, 2010

February 12-13, 2010

March 12-13, 2010

AiE Mentorship Dates:

Scheduled individually with program participants from September through April following each AiE session.

Locations:

Montgomery, AL

Montgomery, AL

Montgomery, AL

Locations:

Loxley, Mobile