

# **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**

**CONTINUATION AWARDS  
FISCAL YEAR  
2016-2017**

# **PROJECT DIRECTORY / CONTINUATION AWARDS<sup>a</sup>**

**Fiscal Year (FY) 2016-2017<sup>b</sup>**

Under authority of Public Law 107-110, the Alabama Commission on Higher Education (ACHE) is awarding a total of \$895,962 federal funds to Alabama institutions of higher education for K-12 professional development. FY 2016-2017 funding continues long-term projects for six public universities that were awarded FY 2015-2016 ACHE grants. The continuation awards support partnerships between higher education and high-need school districts, with one including a non-profit agency in co-project leadership and another providing direct support for the statewide 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 high-need local school districts as partners.

These projects provide K-12 teachers, administrators, and para-professionals with content knowledge in individual hands-on training using the most current technology and proven learning strategies. After initial sessions, projects also include follow-up sessions and technical assistance during the academic year to refresh, reinforce, and re-establish content knowledge and teaching techniques. Follow-up varies by project but typically includes multiple one-day workshops during the school year and on-site observation/assistance visits to teachers in their schools. In addition, most projects maintain support and service to participants by e-mail, voice contact, and online technology.

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 participants 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 Dr. Elizabeth French at (334) 242 2179 [Elizabeth.French@ache.alabama.gov] and 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. Additional information on this program is available online at <http://www.ache.alabama.gov/NCLB/Index.htm>.

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<sup>a</sup> In December 2015 the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) replaced No Child Left Behind (NCLB). Unlike NCLB and its predecessor programs, ESSA does not provide funding to State Agencies for Higher Education (SAHE) for competitive grant awards. However, the United State Department of Education authorized FY2016-2017 funding for a final year of SAHE awards for NCLB K-12 professional development.

<sup>b</sup> Projects with FY 2016-2017 funding are active from spring 2017 through spring 2018.

**Project Directory /  
CONTINUATION AWARDS**

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

College Partners	High-Need School District Partners*		Other School District Partners	
College of Arts and Sciences College of Education & Professional Studies	Albertville Anniston City Bibb County Blount County Chambers County Cherokee County Chilton County Coosa County Cullman City DeKalb County Fayette County Franklin County	Gadsden City Jacksonville City Leeds City Marion County Marshall County Oxford City Pell City Piedmont City Russellville City Talladega County Tallapoosa County Walker County	Alabama School for the Blind Arab City Attalla City Baldwin County Boaz City Calhoun County Clay County Cleburne County Cullman County Elmore County Etowah County Fort Payne City Guntersville City	Haleyville City Jackson County Jefferson County Lauderdale County Lawrence County Lee County Limestone County Madison City Madison County Randolph County St. Clair County Tuscumbia City

IMPACTSEED addresses two pressing problems: Over 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 correlates 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 gives 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

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\* High-need school district partners are those that meet NCLB criteria for 20% percent or more of students in poverty households estimated in the U. S. Census Bureau’s most recent report *and* high number of non-highly qualified teachers.

**E-mail:** [nzettili@jsu.edu](mailto:nzettili@jsu.edu)

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**Session Dates:**

Summer Institute:  
June 5--16, 2017

**Location:**

Martin Hall, Jacksonville State University

Technology workshops:

Five School-Year Saturdays [Dates TBA]

## Troy University–Dothan Campus

### *Wiregrass Math, Science, and Technology Leadership Academy (WMSTLA)*

University Partners	High-Need School District Partners*
College of Education College of Arts and Sciences	Dothan City Geneva County Ozark City

This Leadership Academy promotes inquiry-based math and science instruction highlighting the application of technology. Language Arts/Writing and cross-curriculum cultural enrichment strategies are presented to demonstrate the need for integrating all content areas. The Academy encourages professional development that has significant and meaningful math and science content that models research-based instructional strategies. Teachers in non-affiliated AMSTI schools are provided materials and equipment to implement instructional strategies to improve achievement in math and science. On-going support is provided to sustain their instructional strategies.

**Project Directors:** Dr. Shawn Plash  
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Troy University-Dothan Campus  
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Dothan, AL 36304-1575

**Telephone:** (334) 983-6556, Ext. 1397

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**Session Dates**  
**July 13-14, July 17-19, 2017**

**Location:**  
Troy University- Dothan

**Follow-up Dates**  
**Oct. 20, 2017**  
**Feb. 20, 2018**

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## The University of Alabama (UA)

### *Physical Science in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (PS-21): Improving Teacher Quality and Mastery of Content*

University Partners	High-Need School District Partners*	Other School District Partners
College of Arts and Sciences College of Education	Chilton County Cullman City Gadsden City Montgomery City Saraland City Talladega City	Athens City Autauga County Baldwin County Elmore County Haleyville City Madison County Pickens County Tuscaloosa City Tuscaloosa County

PS-21 provides professional development on four content themes: First is analyzing patterns and constructing models within the periodic table to illustrate the structure, composition, and characteristics of atoms and simple and complex molecules. Second is predicting motion in one and two dimensions. Third is describing oscillations and applications. Fourth is investigating electric circuits and materials. The project structures professional development activities and discussion to deepen focus on key physical science concepts at each of four institutes to provide deeper content knowledge from physics and chemistry focuses on using emerging technologies; relate concepts to the new Alabama Course of Study-Science (ACOS) and relevant content in the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS); actively engage teachers with these concepts; and assist teachers in implementing key concepts in their own classrooms.

**Project Director:** Dr. Dennis W. Sunal, Professor

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**Internet:** <http://ps21pd.weebly.com/>

**Session Dates:**  
Fall 2017; Winter-Spring 2018 [dates TBA]

**Location:**  
UA Tuscaloosa Campus  
3408 Science and Engineering Complex

Continuous Online Professional Development with individual activities, communication, mentors.

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## University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB)

### *ALAHASP 2017-2018: Alabama Hands-On Activity Science Program*

University Partners	High-Need School District Partners*	Other School District Partners	Other Partners
College of Arts & Sciences School of Education Center for Community OutReach Development (CORD)	Birmingham City Dale County Fairfield City Gadsden City	Homewood City Mountain Brook N.E. Miles Jewish Day School, Birmingham Vestavia Hills City	The Private Eye

ALAHASP is an inquiry-centered, hands-on science program that provides on-going teacher and administrator professional development aligned with state and national science education standards, teacher leadership development, guidance to school system administrators on research-based classroom materials, and consultation services to system administrators. The primary focus is providing public and private school teachers with instruction firmly grounded in science content and research-based best practices in order to improve student understanding. External evaluation of previous work shows significant gains in content knowledge for teachers participating in ALAHASP workshops, as well as increased confidence in teaching science. Program objectives are to provide (1) K-8 teachers with advanced, on-going professional development in science education content and pedagogy, including access to the UAB Center for Community OutReach Development's STEM education opportunity, (2) assistance to selected teachers in implementing science curriculum through partnerships with UAB STEM students and faculty, and (3) guidance and professional development for school system administrators.

**Project Co-Directors:** Dr. J. Michael Wyss: Director, Center for Community OutReach Development

Katie Busch: Director: ALAHASP

**Program Coordinator:** Kay Garcia

**Administrator:** Shirley Ginwright

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Birmingham, AL 35294-2041

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[sginwig@uab.edu](mailto:sginwig@uab.edu)

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**Project Dates:** View the ALAHASP website or call/e-mail the ALAHASP staff for schedules.

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

<b>University Partners</b>	<b>High-Need School District Partners*</b>	<b>Other School District Partners</b>	<b>Other Partners</b>
College of Arts and Sciences School of Education	Birmingham City Fairfield City Macon County Midfield City	Bessemer City Jefferson County Leeds City Shelby County	McWane Science Center, Birmingham

The BioTeach program in cell and molecular biology offers fifteen 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 provides a three-week summer classroom experience with additional sessions during the school year. Mentoring during the academic year unites BioTeach teachers to craft “best practices” for Alabama science classrooms, and educational class trips to the GENEius Lab in Birmingham’s McWane Science Center to facilitate state-of-the-art science education.

**Project Director:** Dr. J. Michael Wyss, Director  
Center for Community OutReach Development

**Education Directors:** Dr. Patrice Capers, BioTeach  
Kevin Jarrett, GENEius

**Administrator:** Shirley Ginwright

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**BioTeach Session Dates (Subject to Change):**    **Location:**  
**June 5 - June 23, 2017**                                      All sessions McWane Science Center (GENEius  
Lab)  
Three late summer/fall 2017 sessions  
with dates TBA.

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## University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH)

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

University Partners	High-Need School District Partner*	Other School District Partners
College of Education Institute for Science Education	DeKalb County	<i>Depending on available space, other school districts may become partners.</i>

The STAR Project provides a limited number of independent study scholarships to meritorious teachers. The scholarships are provided for independent research to enhance subject-matter expertise and teaching effectiveness in ten core subjects. Administered by the UAH College of Education, this year's partnership consists of the DeKalb County School System as well as personnel from the arts and sciences at UAH. The school district identifies teachers from the system's schools who meet minimal criteria of excellence and invites them to apply for a STAR scholarship of up to \$4,200 each. Scholarships for teachers in the partner school district are awarded for well thought-out and carefully planned individual research projects. The program also includes teacher mentors as well as follow-up assistance throughout the academic year as the teachers apply newly acquired content knowledge and other benefits of their study programs. If space becomes available, applications from teachers in other Alabama school districts are accepted.

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**Independent Study Dates and Locations:**

Varies by teacher and study program

**Follow-up Session:**

Spring 2018 [Date and Location TBA]

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

*Comprehensive Arts Education: Alabama*

<b>University Partners</b>	<b>High-Need School District Partners*</b>	<b>Other School District Partners</b>	<b>Other Partners</b>
College of Arts and Sciences College of Education	Mobile County Montgomery County Selma City	Baldwin County	Alabama Shakespeare Festival Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts Southeast Center for Education in the Arts St. James School, Montgomery

Comprehensive Arts Education: Alabama provides sequential, intensive professional development grounded in the academic goals of the state curriculum. Teacher-participants experience music, theatre, visual art, and dance as (1) essential subjects and disciplines and (2) vehicles for delivering active-learning instruction in English, math, science, and social studies. Providing the only statewide comprehensive arts education professional development program in curriculum development and arts education advocacy, arts integration specialists – university faculty, nationally recognized teaching artists, and master teachers – deliver instruction, which is followed by site visits and/or mentoring. As the arts are essential to the development of a well-rounded student, CAE offers follow-up training throughout the year. The project centers on national and state curriculum standards reflecting best practices.

**Project Directors:** Dr. Jeannette Fresne, Professor, USA  
Martha Lockett, Grants Manager

**AiE Administrator:** Jessica Freeland

**AIEA Executive Director:** Randy Foster

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University of South Alabama  
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AIEA:  
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[Foster]

**Internet:**

<http://www.southalabama.edu/colleges/music/artsined.html>

<http://www.artseducation.org>

**Arts in Education Session Dates:**

**Location:**

ARTS IN EDUCATION: Kindergarten through 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade  
June 12-15, 2017  
September 9, 2017  
October 28, 2017

Mobile

ARTS IN EDUCATION: 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade through 6<sup>th</sup> Grade  
June 26-29, 2017  
October 14, 2017  
November 11, 2017

Mobile

ARTS IN EDUCATION: Reunion  
for All Grades and Subjects  
January 27, 2018

Mobile

**AIEA Session Dates:**

**Location:**

SUMMER INSTITUTE 2017  
June 12-16, 2017

Saint James School,  
Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts

SUPERDAYS  
January-March, 2018

TBA

FOLLOW-UP Site Visits  
September 2017-April 2018

State-wide

ACES for Students  
September 2017-April 2018

Vaughn Road Elementary School

## University of South Alabama (USA)

### *Alabama Math, Science, and Technology Initiative (AMSTI) Lead Teacher Enhancement Project*

University Partners	High-Need School District Partners*	Other School District Partners
USA Center for Integrative Studies in Science Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (CISSTEM). Includes the College of Education, College of Arts and Sciences, and College of Engineering.	Greene County Leeds City Birmingham City Bessemer City Selma City Dallas County Lowndes County Clarke county Thomasville City	Tuscaloosa City Tuscaloosa County Tarrant City Washington County

The AMSTI Enhancement Lead Teacher Project provides teachers with professional developmental to improve (1) a deep knowledge and understanding of a rigorous mathematics curriculum, (2) proficiency in instructional strategies and inquiry methods, and (3) use of various forms of assessment and assessment techniques to monitor student achievement and guide instruction. The project provides resources and support by partnering with AMSTI sites within the four key regions across the state to increase both teacher content and pedagogical knowledge. The professional development is hands-on, inquiry-centered, cooperative, and involve authentic assessment. The AMSTI Enhancement Lead Teacher Project is designed to emphasize content and process skills through real world applications while simultaneously increasing the teachers' effectiveness in teaching math by creating a more inquiry based learning environment.

**Project Director:** Dr. André Green, Executive Director  
CISSTEM

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**Initial Session Dates (Subject to Change):**

*Additional planning will take place the last day of the initial session at each site.*

April 24-28, 2017 *or* July 10-14, 2017  
University of South Alabama

May 1-5, 2017 *or* May 15-19  
Wallace State Community College;  
Alabama State University

May 1-5, 2017 *or* July 10-14, 2017  
University of Alabama;  
University of West Alabama

July 17-21, 2017 *or* July 24-28, 2017  
University of Alabama at Birmingham

**Location:**

Jackson, AL: Gilmore Elementary School

Selma AMSTI site or WCCU Central Campus

Tuscaloosa: UA In-service Center

TBA