

>>> Siemens STEM Academy <Siemens_STEM_Academy@discovery.com> 8/22/2014 1:51 PM >>>

Hello Dr. Johansen,

We personally wanted to reach out to congratulate you on the excellent STEM educator you have in Bill Heeren. As you know, Bill was selected as one of our 50 Siemens STEM Institute Fellows, and participated in the 2014 Siemens STEM Institute two weeks ago at the Discovery Communications Headquarters in Silver Spring, Maryland.

Now in its fifth year, the Siemens STEM Institute connects teachers with the tools and best practices they need to inspire today's students to pursue STEM education. The week-long professional development program put our STEM Institute Fellows together with leading scientists, thought-leaders, personalities and innovators whose work across STEM disciplines shape and define the world today.

From August 3-8, the STEM Institute Fellows heard from guest speakers including education pioneer Dr. Lodge McCammon, as well as astrophysicist Dr. Hakeem M. Oluseyi. They also had the opportunity to take field trips to leading institutions of STEM innovation, including the National Air & Space Museum, the National Building Museum and the White House Office of Science & Technology Policy. At the White House, fellows met with Marisa Bold, Chief of Staff for Innovation and Development at the U.S. Department of Education, to discuss STEM strategic planning and how to incorporate STEM learning through interactive activities with their students.

We have attached Bill's customized press release for your reference. Our communications team is busy promoting Bill's achievement to your local community and beyond.

We know that Bill and the entire group of 2014 STEM Institute Fellows will continue to build on their learning from the Institute, becoming STEM ambassadors in their schools and communities. We commend you and the dedicated staff of D.C. Everest High School for inspiring growth in educators like Bill to explore the importance of STEM instruction and learning in today's education landscape.

Sincerely,
Kate McNally & Kyle Schutt
Co-Leads, Siemens STEM Academy Team
Discovery Education

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