Purpose and Overview:

The career of a productive scholar is advanced by having a clear research agenda, a supportive campus community, and, often external grant funding. Quality research and engagement with external partners can also enrich student learning, and support opportunities for interdisciplinary scholarship. The need for high quality STEM Education in the nation and in New Hampshire is a critical priority. President Huddleston has identified STEM Education as one of six key institutional initiatives for UNH.

The Office of the Senior Vice Provost (SVP) for Engagement and Academic Outreach, responsible for a number of faculty development programs, is offering a STEM Education Learning Community designed to support and advance STEM Education faculty. This Learning Community will help STEM Education faculty with networking opportunities with UNH faculty, staff and administration, orient you to the research culture and resources, and provide information to help advance your scholarship and engagement.

Each participant in the STEM Education Learning Community will gain:

- Assistance in identifying appropriate career goals and strategies to achieve these goals;
- Networking opportunities with senior STEM Education colleagues about potential collaborations and successful career strategies;
- Connections to the Joan and James Leitzel Center for Mathematics, Science and Engineering Education, the STEM Discovery Lab at UNHM and UNH Cooperative Extension;
- Familiarity with key funding agencies such as NSF and the U.S. Dept. of Education;
- An understanding of the resources and services that help support scholarship at UNH.

Participation in the STEM Education Learning Community is voluntary. However, if you decide to participate, we require you to commit to attend and fully engage in all four of the following workshops:
Workshop I: Learning about the US Department of Education (Optional/Strongly Encouraged) and Welcome Lunch/Sharing Your Research Questions
Date: Friday, September 26, Location TBA

US Department of Education Workshop (9 – 11:30) Pre-registration is required (Optional but strongly encouraged)
Register today to attend: https://www.events.unh.edu/RegistrationForm.pm?event_id=16941
Welcome Luncheon and Sharing Your Research Questions (Required 12:00 – 2:00)

Workshop II: Mapping and Prioritizing Your Scholarship
Date: Friday, October 24th, 2014, noon-2pm, Location TBA

Workshop III: Integrating into the UNH culture and Balancing Your Scholarly Commitments
Date: Friday, November 14th, 2014, noon-2pm, Location: TBA

Workshop IV: Looking Forward: Refining Your Next Steps
Date: Friday, December 12th, 2014, noon-2pm, Location: TBA

Application Process

To participate in the STEM Education Learning Community, please send an email (i) indicating your commitment to participate in all 4 workshops, and (ii) very brief description of 2-3 research questions driving your scholarship to: Lynne Cooper, Coordinator of Engagement and Academic Outreach at: Lynne.Cooper@unh.edu and Eleanor Abrams, Professor and Executive Director Eleanor.abrams@unh.edu on or before Tuesday, September 16, 2014.

STEM Education Faculty Chairs: Eleanor Abrams, Professor & Executive Director, Engagement & Faculty Development, Mihaela Sabin, Associate Professor and Director, STEM Discover Lab, and Ruth Varner, Associate Professor and Director, Joan and James Leitzel Center for Mathematics, Science and Engineering Education