**UNL STEM Writing Retreat – Save the Date!**

Do you need a large chunk of uninterrupted time to finish a paper or a proposal? Find the time and the space at ADVANCE-Nebraska's 4th annual week-long Writing Retreat, May 14 – 18th. This year the retreat will be held on East Campus at the Law College, with wireless access, unstructured writing time, breakfasts, lunches, and snacks. Office of Research and Economic Development will host a workshop to help demystify the art of writing effective proposals, and professional writing coaches will be on-hand this year for workshops and one-on-one help. The rest of the week is writing time, away from the distractions of your office. Past participants have finished up to three papers apiece!

Find applications at ADVANCE-Nebraska and send to advance2@unl.edu.

**Big Ten STEM Writing Retreat coming to UNL**

In addition to the UNL STEM Writing Retreat, UNL has received a grant from the Elsevier Foundation to host a Big Ten STEM Writing Retreat on City Campus from June 17 – 22. This writing retreat will focus on bringing collaborators from the Big Ten together to provide large blocks of unstructured writing time, peer feedback and social networking opportunities, and opportunities to write with a collaborator on campus. Travel, food, room and board are included. Kids are invited to attend as well. A Special themed day camp for school and pre-school age kids will be provided at the Lincoln’s Children’s Museum. Deadline to apply is March 31 with a $200 registration fee. As an additional bonus, all UNL faculty who attend the May writing retreat will have the $200 registration fee waived. So Apply Now!

**Colleges are urged to Cooperate to bring in more Women and Minorities into Science**

By Paul Basken, Chronicle of Higher Education, February 27, 2012

Two leading science and educational advocacy groups set out a strategy Monday for producing more science and engineering graduates by bringing research universities into student-centered alliances with two-year, liberal arts and minority-serving institutions. The plan essentially calls on colleges from all sectors to work harder at ensuring that students at institutions with few or no science offerings have a lot more options for getting quality science training at nearby campuses. [Read article](summary_of_the_article). If you do not have full access to the Chronicle of Higher Education, email jhochstein2@unl.edu to send you the full article.
We’re on the Web!
See us at:
Advance.unl.edu

Issues for Women in STEM Brown Bag Lunches

There will be a series of brown bag lunches this semester on the UNL campus for faculty wishing to come discuss issues for women in STEM. Bring your lunch and get to know other women in STEM on campus. All faculty are invited to attend.

Meeting dates are as follows:
Friday, March 16th, Noon – 1:00pm, 3rd Floor Board Room, Whittier Building
Wednesday, April 18th, Noon- 1:00pm, A211 Animal Science Building, East Campus
Tuesday, May 8th, Noon-1:00pm, Beadle Center room N263

I3 Grant Reviewers Needed

The Investing in Innovation (i3) competition is one of the U.S. Department of Education’s signature initiatives. The i3 program currently supports 72 grantees across the country, and the Department has just announced a new competition for i3 applicants (please see http://www2.ed.gov/programs/innovation/index.html for more information on the newly announced i3 grant competition).

To apply to be an i3 peer reviewer, please follow the instructions at http://www2.ed.gov/programs/innovation/index.html. You will be asked to register and submit your resume. When the system prompts you for your areas of specialization, please ensure you select at least one of the i3 Absolute Priorities: teacher/principal effectiveness, STEM education, standards/assessments, parent/family engagement, school turnarounds and/or rural achievement.

Study Finds that Women leave Math & Science Fields Voluntarily to have Children

WIA Report, February 29, 2012

A study by two scholars at Cornell University finds that the primary reason that large numbers of women do not advance to leadership positions in STEM fields in the academic world is because they voluntarily drop out to raise their families. The study found no evidence women in these fields were leaving because they believed that their work was not valued. Nor did they find widespread discrimination in the hiring or promotion process.

The study, published in the journal American Scientist, was co-authored by Wendy Williams and Stephen Ceci, professors of human development at Cornell.

The authors note that women in mathematics and science fields face their most important academic hurdles at a time that coincides with their peak childbearing years. Their data showed that women in these fields who did not have children were just as likely to advance and gain tenure as men. But women in these fields who had children and stayed in academia were not as successful. Read the full article.

Send us your input & articles

If you have anything of interest to the Advance community, please send us your news and articles. Thanks!