Project Information

Our proposed grant, Strengthening Physics in Secondary Education (SPINSEED), has been accepted for funding by the Alabama Commission on Higher Education (ACHE). Through this project, we will offer comprehensive training (professional development) in physics for 30 in-service secondary education teachers. We intend to cover both contents and methods that are effective in teaching physics. The various components of the program will be addressed in a hands-on, inquiry-based setting that meets state (Alabama Course of Study (ACOS)) and national standards. The program of SPINSEED will be implemented in three phases:

1. Summer Institute: two weeks of summer training from June 03—14, 2002 from 8:30am—3:00pm with a lunch break midday.
2. Five Physics-Technology Workshops during the 2002—2003 academic year to be offered on Saturdays.
3. On-site visits to the schools to provide technical support.

We invite secondary education science instructors who will be teaching physics during 2002—2003 to apply for this project. As space is limited to 30 participants, acceptance for the program will be on a first-come, first-serve basis. Although at least 15 seats will be offered to “Entry-Level” teachers, we encourage all instructors to apply. We will select the entry-level teachers from three pools: (a) pre-service or novice teachers, (b) in-service or veteran teachers who will be either new to their school systems or who will have a change of assignment (i.e., teachers who will be asked to teach physics for the first time), and (c) mid-career changers (i.e., those becoming teachers after a non-teaching profession). Teachers from high-poverty schools and from minority or underrepresented groups are particularly encouraged to apply.

The Summer Institute will be located in Martin Hall, the newly renovated science building at Jacksonville State University (JSU). At the Summer Institute, physics topics selected from the AL Course of Study will be addressed in a hands-on, inquiry-based setting. Activities will consist of a mixture of lectures, class demonstrations, labs and computer simulations. JSU will offer two official CEU certificates, one to every teacher completing the program of the Summer Institute, and the other for the Physics-Technology workshops.

To apply for the project, you can

(a) either complete the Registration Form below and return it by mail or fax to
Dr. Nouredine Zettili
Department of Physical and Earth Science
Jacksonville State University
700 Pelham Road North
Jacksonville, AL 36265
Fax: (256) 782-5336

(b) or complete the Registration form below and then send it as an email attachment to nzettili@jsucc.jsu.edu in lieu of the paper form.

For more information, contact Dr. Nouredine Zettili (project director), by phone at (256) 782-8077 or through email at the above address, or Dr. Laura Weinkauf, by phone at (256) 782-5743 or through email at weinkauf@jsucc.jsu.edu.
JACKSONVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY
Department of Physical and Earth Sciences

SPINSEED (Strengthening Physics in Secondary Education) Project

Registration Form

Name: __________________________________________________

Mailing Address: _________________________________________

___________________________________________

___________________________________________

E-mail Address (if available): _______________________________

Daytime Phone: __________________________________________

Evening Phone: __________________________________________

School: _________________________________________________

Are you an entry level teacher*?

Will you be teaching physics during 2002—2003?

If yes, please specify the course name and its grade level:

Which science courses do you typically teach? Please indicate the grade level as well as the name of the course:

*An “Entry-Level” teacher is anyone belonging to these three categories: (a) pre-service or novice teachers, (b) in-service or veteran teachers who will be either new to their school systems or who will have a change of assignment (i.e., teachers who will be asked to teach physics for the first time), and (c) mid-career changers (i.e., those becoming teachers after a non-teaching profession).