

SIUE teacher candidates named Noyce Scholars, empowered to lead

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EDWARDSVILLE - A new cohort of eight Southern Illinois University Edwardsville undergraduates, who aspire to be math and science educators, have been named Noyce Scholars through the Noyce Math and Science Scholarship Programs. Through the program, the students will have the opportunity to participate in an enhanced curriculum and engage in a professional learning community.

The teacher candidates include math scholars Nicole Dowell, of Cahokia, and Mona Tedder, of Granite City. The science scholars are Lucas Meyer, of Staunton, Amanda Parga, of Greenview, Holly Owens, of Edwardsville, Amelia Teare, of Kirkwood, Mo., Marie Gipson, of Creal Springs, and Breanna Blackwell, of New Berlin.

“Noyce scholars are empowered to be leaders in their field, influencing, facilitating, and inspiring the next generation of scientists, mathematicians, educators and critical thinkers,” said Jessica Krim, EdD, associate professor in the Department of Teaching and Learning, and Noyce Science Scholarship program director.

The SIUE Robert Noyce Scholarship Program was created with two grants totaling \$2.2 million from the National Science Foundation. Scholars receive \$11,500 for educational expenses annually for up to two years, along with additional support through mentoring by expert teachers, travel to professional conferences and other resources.

“This program graduates and certifies qualified, confident secondary STEM teachers to serve in high-needs rural and urban communities in the southwestern Illinois region,” added Liza Cummings, PhD, assistant professor in the Department of Teaching and Learning, and Noyce Math Scholarship program director.

The program is a partnership of the SIUE College of Arts and Sciences, the School of Education, Health and Human Behavior, and the SIUE STEM Center, along with master teachers, community-based organizations, and cooperating school districts. Its goals include:

- Recruiting highly qualified STEM students who demonstrate an aptitude for teaching mathematics and science
- Providing the students with an enhanced experience in STEM education and research
- Supplying high-needs middle and high schools with exemplary science educators
- Increasing outreach in southwestern Illinois communities
- Disseminating project findings for use in other STEM education settings

Both the math and science programs are now accepting applications for students who will be juniors and seniors in fall 2017. For more information, visit SIUENoyce.org.

The [SIUE School of Education, Health and Human Behavior](#) prepares students in a wide range of fields including public health, exercise science, nutrition, instructional technology, psychology, speech-language pathology and audiology, educational administration, and teaching. Faculty members engage in leading-edge research, which

enhances teaching and enriches the educational experience. The School supports the community through on-campus clinics, outreach to children and families, and a focused commitment to enhancing individual lives across the region.

Central to SIUE's exceptional and comprehensive education, the [College of Arts and Sciences](#) has 19 departments and 85 areas of study. More than 300 full-time faculty/instructors deliver classes to more than 8,000 undergraduate and graduate students. Faculty help students explore diverse ideas and experiences, while learning to think and live as fulfilled, productive members of the global community. Study abroad, service-learning, internships, and other experiential learning opportunities better prepare SIUE students not only to succeed in our region's workplaces, but also to become valuable leaders who make important contributions to our communities.

The Southern Illinois University Edwardsville [Center for STEM Research, Education and Outreach](#) comprises an independent group of researchers and educators, innovating ways to engage students and the public in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). Within the SIUE Graduate School, the Center brings together research faculty, graduate students and practitioners to conduct education research. Center staff develop and teach hands-on STEM programming as well as online citizen science and astronomy initiatives. The Center contributes educational expertise to SIUE undergraduate classes and provides professional development for K-12 teachers. The Center boasts a significant library of equipment and resources, which are available for loan at no cost to campus and regional instructors. For more information, visit stemideas.org or contact STEM Center Director Sharon Locke at [\(618\) 650-3065](tel:6186503065) or stemcenter@siue.edu.