



Volume 1, Number 1

December 6, 2013

Newsletter **INAUGURAL ISSUE**

[Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship Program Webinar](#)

Jan 7 2014 3:00PM to Jan 7 2014 4:30PM **About the Webinar:**

Online seminars are scheduled on Tuesday, January 7, 2014, from 3:00-4:30 pm EST and Tuesday, January 14, 2014, from 3:00-4:30 pm EST . The webinars will provide information about submitting proposals to the National Science Foundation (NSF) Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship Program.

Who Should Participate?

Universities and 2- or 4-year colleges (including community colleges). More at http://www.nsf.gov/events/event_summ.jsp?cntn_id=129781&WT.mc_id=USNSF_13&WT.mc_ev=click

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New estimates on the price and net price of attending postsecondary institutions are now available from the National Postsecondary Student Aid Study.

- The average “sticker” price of attendance for undergraduate students in 2011–12 was \$8,700 for public 2-year institutions and \$21,100 for private for-profit 2-year institutions. The First Look report and data files are products of the National Center for Education Statistics at the Institute of Education Sciences, part of the U.S. Department of Education.

To view the full report, please visit <http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2014166>.

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The Call for Proposals for the 2014 Culturally Responsive Evaluation Conference is now open. Please see below for more information, or go to the CRE website <http://education.illinois.edu/crea/conference>

International comparison results, student achievement:

New PISA 2012 First Look Report Shows U.S. Student Performance in an International Context



Performance of U.S. 15-Year-Old Students in an International Context: First Look at PISA 2012 presents U.S. results from the 2012 Program for International Student Assessment (PISA). The goal of PISA is to assess students' preparation for the challenges of life as young adults. The assessment measures mathematics, science, and reading literacy of 15-year-old students around the world. In 2012, 65 education systems—including the 34 member countries of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)—participated in PISA. In addition, three U.S. states—Connecticut, Florida, and Massachusetts—participated in PISA 2012.

Key findings include:

- Overall, there was no measurable change in U.S. average scores in mathematics, science, or reading literacy between 2012 and any of the previous U.S. PISA results.
- U.S. 15-year-old students remained below the OECD average score in mathematics literacy and not measurably different from the OECD average in science and reading literacy.
- In mathematics literacy, the U.S. had a higher percentage of low-performing and lower percentage of high-performing 15-year-old students than the OECD countries on average.
- Average scores for Massachusetts were above the OECD average in all three subjects, and only three education systems had higher average scores in reading literacy than Massachusetts.
- Connecticut had higher average scores than the OECD average in reading literacy and science literacy and was not measurably different from the OECD average in mathematics literacy.
- Florida's average scores were below the OECD average in mathematics literacy and science literacy, but not measurably different from the OECD average in reading literacy.

The report and additional resources are available on the NCES website at: <http://nces.edgov/surveys/pisa/>

The Women’s Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor, in collaboration with the American Association of University Women, invite you to join a FREE webinar discussion on getting women into STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) fields. To register, click below.

When: December 12, 2013, 11 a.m.-12 p.m. EST / 10 a.m. – 11 a.m. CST

Where: [Online](#)

Cost: Free

Event Description: Although women in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) careers **earn nearly 33% more** than those in non-STEM careers, women are **significantly underrepresented** in STEM fields. In this webinar, you will learn about available resources, current research, and specific strategies that you can use to help women open doors to careers in the STEM fields. This webinar is for those on the front lines of preparing women for their careers. Speakers include the Women’s Bureau, the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the Society of Women Engineers, the National Institute for Women in Trades, Technology, & Science, and the AAUW. A live Q&A will follow.

Questions? Call the Women’s Bureau at 646-264-3789.

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The Obama administration on Wednesday unveiled a new web portal aimed at the people who help students and families prepare for college.

The site aggregates a range of Education Department resources and promotional material meant to encourage students to attend college and take advantage of federal student aid programs. Guidance counselors and other mentors are able to search a database containing infographics, fact sheets, videos, and other presentation materials relating to the financial aid process.

Read more: <http://www.insidehighered.com/quicktakes/2013/12/04/education-department-launches-site-aimed-guidance-counselors#ixzz2mVwgGN8a>

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The U.S. Department of Education is submitting its request for information to the Federal Register this week, looking for experts and researchers to help develop its new college rating system. And it's looking for advice on how to use its experimental sites authority - giving colleges some flexibility on financial aid regulations if they participate in controlled experiments - to spread innovation from campus to campus. The department has also created a new website

to help navigate the financial aid process, aimed at counselors and others who work with students. The site: <http://financialaidtoolkit.ed.gov>.

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Something of interest for the educational psychology faculty (my peeps): The deadline for submitting applications to become a Fellow in Division 15 of the American Psychological Association is **December 16, 2013**. Visit the APA Fellows website at <http://www.apa.org/membership/fellows/> for complete details on the process. For initial Fellow applications, that site has a link to the online application platform (as well as a link to the statement of criteria for Division 15 Fellow status). The application process is entirely online, and that two of your three endorsers must be Fellows of Division 15.

Current Fellows in other divisions may also become Fellows in Division 15 without approval from the APA Fellows Committee. Those application materials—including a CV and self-statement describing the applicant’s outstanding and unusual contributions to the field of educational psychology—should be submitted directly to the Division 15 Fellows Committee Co-Chairs, Cynthia Hudley (hudley@education.ucsb.edu) and Adele Gottfried (adele.gottfried@csun.edu).

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My sincere thanks to the faculty members who completed the recent online survey regarding your research activities/funding, interests in future funding etc. The survey generated a wealth of data that my graduate assistant, Will Little, and I are pouring over. I hope to use the information that you've provided to: (1) create an online, searchable database on faculty topical expertise, (2) target specific grant opportunities to individuals and groups of faculty in a more timely, efficient manner, (3) offer workshops on topics where you have indicated a desire for more training; and (4) promote the excellent work of our faculty on our college website and through other means, and help establish collaborations across colleges.

And, finally, here in the Research Office, we're anticipating the launch of the new-and-improved Research Office website where you will find all of the tools, resources, and information necessary to prepare grant applications. I anticipate (hope?) that the website will be up and operational before the end of the calendar year. More information to follow soon!