

Events for Educators

Professional Development Opportunities for Educators

IP-STEM Professional Development for K-12 Teachers

Connecting Innovation and STEM in the Classroom

A Project-Based Learning Approach

Purpose of IP-STEM Workshops: To provide K-12 teachers and administrators with strategies to connect students to real world experiences with intellectual property (IP), the process of innovation and creativity in STEM fields.

Scope of IP-STEM Workshop: STEM, intellectual property, and innovation are found in our everyday lives and can be a powerful vehicle to inspire and motivate student learning. This professional development workshop covers a broad range of topics in IP (patents, trademarks, copyright and trade secrets) and explores how to connect an understanding of IP and STEM using project-based learning. Teachers learn about USPTO resources and tools that will help students gain experience with the creative process of invention and innovations while learning STEM content. Teachers have the opportunity to explore methodologies to support student-centric activities in research and discovery learning, scientific writing, prototyping, design fabrication, and market research. In addition, teachers learn about the latest innovation and STEM curriculum developed by the USPTO in collaboration with NBC Learn, the National Science Foundation and the National Science Teachers Association. The Science of Innovation is an eleven-part video series developed with customized lesson plans for each video and student activities that connect innovation to student learning. This kind of specialized training helps teachers make STEM innovation come alive with engaging projects, classroom-ready tools and lesson strategies designed to motivate and inspire student learning in STEM.

Coming Soon: IP-STEM Teacher Professional Development Workshops

Los Angeles, California, Great Minds in STEM and the Los Angeles Unified School District Professional Development Program for Middle and High School Teachers (June 26th 2014)

New Orleans, Louisiana, National Science Teachers Association, 2014 STEM Forum and Expo – Integration for Innovation, May 16th 2014

Summer of 2014: IP-STEM Summer Teacher Institute Locations

West Coast: Silicon Valley, California (Date TBD)

East Coast: Washington, D.C. United States Patent and Trademark Office (Date TBD)

IP-STEM In The News

USPTO and UT–Dallas Train High School Teachers on Innovation and STEM

The USPTO and the Center for Science, Technology, Engineering and Math Education and Research at the University of Texas, Dallas delivered a first-of-its-kind professional development workshop on how intellectual property, STEM, and the process of innovation can serve as powerful vehicles to inspire and motivate students in the classroom. The half-day session September 22, gave teachers a basic understanding of IP, provided USPTO resources to help students engage in the creative process of innovation, and engaged teachers in practical hands-on activities to help connect the principles of IP and STEM education. “Teacher inventors” left the workshop energized about igniting student learning through project-based learning strategies that foster advances in STEM and IP education.

USPTO Hosts Training Sessions for High School Teachers Intellectual Property and STEM Education at the Georgia Institute of Technology

On Friday and Saturday, November 9 and 10, USPTO partnered with the Center for Education Integrating Science, Mathematics, and Computing (CEISMC) at Georgia Institute of Technology to deliver two professional development workshops for high school educators on how intellectual property (IP) and STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) can be used to inspire and motivate students to innovate in the classroom. Each session was designed to give teachers a basic understanding of IP and help make the connection between IP, STEM and the process of innovation. Teachers became inventors for the day and worked in teams to create IP and present their new innovations to a panel of USPTO judges at the workshop. In addition, USPTO representatives met with university leaders at Georgia Tech and with officials at the Georgia State Department of Education to discuss opportunities for collaboration with the USPTO on advancing IP and STEM education and the development of a new state curriculum standard on IP. For more information on Georgia Tech’s CEISMC, please visit <https://www.ceismc.gatech.edu>.

Past events for educators

National Campaign Schedule of IP-STEM Professional Development Workshops Offered by Office of Education and Outreach at the USPTO

Dallas, Fort Worth Texas: University of Texas at Dallas, in collaboration with the Center for STEM Education and Research at UTD – September 22, 2012

Atlanta, Georgia: Georgia Institute of Technology, in collaboration with the Center for Education Integrating Science, Mathematics, and Computing – November 9th & 10th 2012

Detroit, Michigan: Engineering Society of Detroit, in collaboration with the Detroit Public Schools Office of Science Education – December 5th 2012 and March 10th 2014.

Washington, D.C.: In collaboration with the Siemens STEM Foundation and Discovery Education, (August 7th 2013)

Silicon Valley, California: Foothill College, in collaboration with the Krause Center for Innovation, December 2013.

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania: In collaboration with Philadelphia Public Schools (May 21st 2013)

New York City, New York: Columbia University Teachers College and the New York City Department of Education Chancellors Day for Professional Development (June 6th 2013)

Brooklyn, New York, New York University Polytechnic School of Engineering (April 2013)

Los Angeles, California: Great Minds in STEM (June 27th 2013)

Dallas Texas, 7th Annual Dallas STEM Conference, in collaboration with the Texas STEM Center Coalition (February 7th 2014)