

First Quarter
2022

LAB MISSION NEWS



*Arriving at one goal
is the starting point
of another.*

John Dewey

University Laboratory High School's mission is to enhance the lives of young people through innovative learning, discovery, and public engagement.

Lab Mission Updates

Lightening round of updates by three Uni faculty at the September Faculty Meeting:

Kathy Rodems shared her work with Dream House and her plans to expand to reach underserved kids by collaborating with clubs to create take home curricular Enrichment Kits. Kathy also collaborated with Sharlene Denos and College of Ed in a published study.

Matt DeVenecia is reaching out to Uni teachers to collaborate and utilize the Maker Space to support teachers' curriculum.

Juan Socarras emphasized research and his recent study of the impact of block schedule.

Uni is in discussion with **Siebel Center for Design** to create an event for local teachers involving project-based learning in combination with Human Centered Design. Please contact Lisa Evans to learn more.

Eight teachers took part in the **lab mission listening sessions** yielding some expected insights and some new ideas for invigorating teacher's lab mission. One of the ongoing concerns was the need for more lab mission communication.

Members of UFO and the administration met to create a faculty facing document of the Memo of Understanding to clarify the **promotion process** for teachers.

Mindy Tidrick is following up with a hot SCD tip and connecting with Ally Merrett to develop programming for HS teachers and students concerning the [molecule maker lab](#).

Opportunities:

The Champaign Public Library is planning a vast expansion of its teen maker space. Kathie Kading kkading@champaign.org (Noah and Jamie Blue's mom) is leading the expansion and would like to collaborate with Uni teachers to create after school programming.

[Professional Learning Communities](#) for collegial lab mission support can be a great way to collaborate and keep motivated, especially for long term projects, or perhaps negotiating the new promotion process. If you are interested in forming a group and need help finding colleagues, please let Lisa Evans know.

[Agora Days](#) offer a great way to reach out to the community on a short-term basis and might encourage a connection for sustained lab mission. Class proposal deadline Nov. 14.

[Professional Development funding](#) of up to \$1,000/teacher is available. This money can be used to fund joining professional associations or attend conferences. These associations typically encourage sharing of teaching methods amongst colleagues and can be a gateway to lab mission opportunities.

Upcoming Dates:

[Agora Class proposal](#) - Nov. 14

Teaching Research:

[CITL Art of Teaching Lunchtime series](#)

Let me know at levans@illinois.edu:

How you feel about having a Canvas site with lab mission and professional development info?

Share your lab mission activities for inclusion in the faculty meeting/newsletter.



