

Second Quarter
2022

LAB MISSION NEWS

*“Chance favors the
prepared mind”.*

Louis Pasteur

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 Uni faculty at recent Faculty Meetings:

Cyndi Smyser recapped her Lab Mission activities with WYSE, Crop Sciences, and student teachers.

Andy Wilson highlighted his journey with Lab Mission including his work with CITL, VR in the classroom, and student teachers.

Chris Guyotte summarized his recent Lab Mission including his updates to technology in theatre productions, and his work to expand awareness of Uni by developing relationships with local theatre practitioners. Uni students have found opportunities to work on community shows where he has been the director, set, or lighting designer.

Ben Leff shared ideas for Lab Mission based on his experiences as a cooperating teacher for students in U of I education classes, publishing articles in history education journals, presenting at conferences, serving on an Education Advisory Committee, and working on curricular projects for the American Archive for Public Broadcasting. Additionally, he talked about the Clarksdale trip’s connection to service learning and community engagement.

Lisa Evans gave a presentation about [Uni Design Lab](#) at the [Illinois Art Education Association conference](#) in St. Charles, IL in November. Uni Design Lab is a collaboration with Prof. Shin from the School of Art and Design for Uni students that was held at Siebel Center for Design last summer. Students designed, built, and marketed lighting products.



Uni students making lamps



Missouri Historical Society

Rachel Banke presented her paper entitled “Imperial Hubris on the British Mississippi Boundary” at the Society for the History of Discoveries Conference in St. Louis. “**The photo shows us examining original correspondence and journals from the Lewis & Clark expedition at the Missouri Historical Society.** On the final day of the conference, we toured the Cahokia Mounds site guided by an archaeologist currently doing excavation work at the site”. Banke says, “I learned a huge amount about cutting-edge research on Mississippian culture and archaeology, which I was able to integrate into my World to 1500 course this semester. “

In November, Banke presented “The Foot Soldiers of Empire: British Consolidation, Colonial Violence, and the 28th Regiment of Foot” at the North American Conference on British Studies Conference in Chicago. She is currently working on expanding this paper into an article for publication in an academic journal.

Opportunities:

The Champaign Public Library is planning a [vast expansion](#) of its teen maker space. **Kathie Kading** kkading@champaign.org is leading the expansion and would like to collaborate with Uni teachers to create after school programming.

[Professional Learning Communities](#) will be explored in future faculty meetings and in-services. The administration is eager to introduce PLCs to help teachers collaborate and develop their lab mission.

[Booker T. Washington Stem Academy](#) is very open to collaborating with Uni teachers. Contact Jennifer Jamison.

[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.



Outreach as Promotion Worthy Lab Mission guidelines have been discussed by Valerie O’Brien, Karl Radnitzer, Elizabeth Majerus, and Lisa Evans...but the meeting for teachers went unattended (probably due to hectic time of year). Look for a rescheduling of this meeting in the second semester.

The [Interdisciplinary Health Sciences Institute Community-Academic Scholars Program](#) is seeking community-engaged research projects. Faculty and researchers investigating a range of topics related to health, poverty, food or resource insecurity, or social inequity are invited to apply. Deadline: Jan. 8, 2023.

Teaching Research:

Uni is working with **Siebel Center for Design** to create an “Immersion” presentation event for local teachers who are incorporating Human Centered Design theory into their curriculums tentatively scheduled for May 30 and 31.

[Siebel Center for Design](#) has many workshops available both in person and via Zoom. Also, SCD’s Saad Shehab will be leading the February In-Service.

Share your lab mission/activities/photos/links for inclusion in the faculty meetings/newsletter. Contact levans@illinois.edu.