

Greetings Alumni and Local STEM Industry Representatives

On behalf of the *California Central Coast Community College Collaborative* (C6), a collaboration of eight community colleges from Ventura to Santa Cruz Counties, we invite you to join our Alliance including Allan Hancock, Cabrillo, Cuesta, Monterey Peninsula, Moorpark, Oxnard, Santa Barbara City, and Ventura Colleges. C6 is a National Science Foundation Louis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation Bridge to the Baccalaureate project (NSF/LSAMP/B2B). Two primary goals are to increase the success rates of underrepresented minority (URM) STEM students, and to increase the number transferring to 4-year universities – please see abstract.

As you may know, many Central Coast community college STEM students are Hispanic (Latino/Latina), and primarily first-generation college students. Few have any role models who are STEM professionals. One of the pillars of support we wish to strengthen concerns professional development, in particular: **mentorships** and **networking**.

We think our community college STEM alumni, as well as local STEM industry professionals, would be excellent resources to connect students with. Such connections will enable students to see potential paths for their future, and provide them with role models and motivation to persevere.

We would like to gather your interest in being a volunteer mentor. To do so, we have created a Google form available here: https://forms.gle/NxJV5FyDhDmPoZPb6

Note that even if you are not living in the Central Coast, zoom mentoring is a viable option. Or perhaps you are in a field that is fairly unique to your location on the Central Coast, but would like to help interested students at C6 colleges that are at distance.

Some mentoring options in the Google form (choose all that apply):

- Mentee/Mentor Ratio: (1) one mentee; (2) several mentees (one-on-one meetings);
 (3) several mentees (in a group setting); (4) several students meeting in a round table with several mentors.
- Mentoring: (1) solo; (2) as part of a mentor team.
- Modality: (1) face-to-face (F2F); (2) Zoom.
- *Mentee Location*: (1) only from your college; (2) students from another C6 college, not in your field; (3) students from any C6 college, any STEM major.

If you have questions, please reach out to Christine Reed, Project Direct, at creed@hancockcollege.edu.

Thank you for your interest.