**Flagstaff STEM Connections Executive Summary**

**February – December 2013**

Business-School Connections

Fifty-one Connections were made during the 2013 calendar year. These Connections included 30 businesses, government agencies or organizations. Thirty teachers and almost 1,400 students were affected through long-term class mentorships, one-day class programming, or STEM club activities and fieldtrips. Approximately half of the Connections are monthly business mentors in 6th, 7th, and 8th grade science classes at Sinagua Middle School (SMS) through the “Scientists in the Classroom” program developed by Jillian Worssam. Ms. Worssam is an 8th grade science teacher at SMS who was also Flagstaff’s first STEM teacher of the year in 2012. Mentorships were established by Ms. Worssam, Mindy Bell (STEM City Center), or April Gavin (Greater Flagstaff Chamber of Commerce) with the “Skills for Workplace Success” program. Most of the teachers and students in this program have completed the pre-surveys established by Science Foundation Arizona, and will complete the post-surveys in May, 2014.

NAU- School Connections

Many NAU students were engaged in partnerships with teachers. Five students assisted with the “Engineering is Elementary” curriculum at Killip Elementary School, and five others assisted with the “Future City” program at Sinagua Middle School. Two NAU students served internships with STEM City Center. One worked at a variety of schools and the other established ecology curriculum to be used by schools that are proximal to Arizona Watchable Wildlife Sites. Other NAU students volunteered with the FIRST robotics competitions, the “Imagine Engineering” event, the STEM 1st Saturdays at Kinsey Elementary School, the “Future City” competition, and the first community “Toy-Fixing Event” where broken toys were fixed and cleaned so they could be re-used.

Curriculum-related Connections

With funding from APS and the Flagstaff Community Foundation, STEM City partnered with TGen North and the Center for Science Teaching and Learning to offer BioScience Education Enhancement Kits (BioSEEK) along with two half-day professional development opportunities for middle and high school teachers. Three more kits and associated PD’s are planned for this spring.

Community Engagement and Collaborations

STEM City Center also met and collaborated with many people and organizations involved in STEM-related programming. Examples include:

* Girl Scout’s Cactus-Pine Council - providing monthly “STEM 1st Saturdays” and a full-day “Imagine Engineering” event at NA
* Arizona Project WET Water Festival – annual event for all 4th grade students in Flagstaff
* Coconino County Education Services Agency - securing funds for a Flagstaff STEM Education Report
* Coconino County Career Center – “Manufacturing Matters” grant outreach and LEGO robotics redistribution
* Women in Science and Engineering – organized Flagstaff’s first “Toy-Fixing Event” with local businesses, NAU engineering students, and the community
* Flagstaff Unified School District – helping organize the Flagstaff Community STEM Celebration, the first-ever, all-schools, all-community celebration scheduled for April 2, 2014