

Dr. Julia Olsen, Director of Teacher Development

Teachers in Industry

(520) 621-5682

jkolsen@email.arizona.edu

http://teachersinindustry.arizona.edu

Dear STEM Educator,

I would like to introduce you to the highly innovative and successful business-education partnership that helps retain quality science, technology, engineering or math (STEM) teachers by providing summer industry work experiences. The University of Arizona College of Education’s Teachers in Industry programs connect STEM classroom teachers with opportunities to join the STEM workforce during the summer. Businesses gain from the professionalism and expertise of a science, technology, engineering or math teacher. Teachers engage in meaningful, relevant coursework designed to help them take their real world experience back to the classroom. Teachers gain proficiency in content, skills and practices leading to improved classroom practices. Teachers in Industry participants hone their teaching skills as they become reflective, highly skilled practitioners who more effectively prepare students to enter the future workforce. Teachers in industry is recognized as one of the nations most effective STEM programs by Change the Equation/STEMworks, and offers both a master's degree and professional development options.

Teachers in Industry is currently recruiting middle- and high-school STEM teachers from Flagstaff schools and Flagstaff STEM City is assisting me in bringing this opportunity to Flagstaff.

To introduce you to Teachers in Industry, I am attaching the program’s education brochure, which describes how the program works for teachers, and it is suitable for distribution via email or print.  Here is a link to an article on the program that was recently published in Arizona Education News. <http://azednews.com/2015/07/14/teachers-in-industry-program-gives-educators-hands-on-experience-in-tech/>.

Teachers in Industry has a strong track record for teacher quality and retention: I encourage you to look at the program website, <http://teachersinindustry.arizona.edu/> for complete information.  If you have questions about any aspect of the program, please contact me directly.

Finally, I am attaching descriptions of projects the teachers have worked on, which are sorted by industry, to provide you a sense of the valuable work experiences teachers have been engaged in since the program was founded in 2009.

Sincerely,

*Julia*

Julia Olsen, PhD.