

2022-2023 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Reconnecting for Student Success

FEBRUARY 10-11, 2023
UNIVERSITY OF IOWA
IOWA CITY, IOWA

For more information : <https://www.regcytes.extension.iastate.edu/iinspire/>



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation

Grant No HRD-2207350, January 2023- December 2027

This material is based upon work supported by the National Science Foundation under Grant No HRD-2207350. Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the National Science Foundation.





**Office of the Executive
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February 2023

Welcome to the IINSPIRE LSAMP 2023 Annual Conference: Reconnecting for Student Success

Dear Conference Participants:

The University of Iowa (UI) is pleased and honored to host the Iowa Illinois Nebraska STEM Partnership for Innovation in Research and Education (IINSPIRE) LSAMP 2023 Annual Conference. The participants in this conference represent 16 academic collaborating institutions from 2-year and 4-year colleges and universities. On behalf of the UI, I wish all the conference participants a warm welcome.

The IINSPIRE LSAMP Alliance is funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF) to advance the NSF goal of broadening participation and success of underrepresented minorities in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education in the Midwest. The goal of the IINSPIRE LSAMP Alliance aligns with UI core values that include excellence, creativity, integrity, community, and inclusion. The IINSPIRE LSAMP Alliance is a welcome partner in our 2022-2027 Strategic Plan priority areas that include excellence in teaching and learning, innovative research and creative discovery, welcoming and inclusive environment, holistic well-being and success, and transformative societal impact.

The LSAMP programming on our campus and at Alliance Institutions provides participating students' with professional development opportunities and exposure to undergraduate research; these high impact practices are well documented to support meaningful learning.

I wish to thank the LSAMP Steering Committee and Conference Planning Committee and other individuals who were involved in organizing the conference. The pandemic has brought a major disruption to the way that students access research opportunities. We are grateful for the opportunity after several years of virtual conferences to "reconnect to support student success."

Once again, welcome to the UI and best wishes for a successful conference!

Sincerely,

Kevin C. Kregel, PhD
Executive Vice President and Provost

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KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



Beronda L. Montgomery

Vice President for Academic Affairs and

Dean at Grinnell College

Lessons from Plants: Insights for Human Thriving

Beronda L. Montgomery is Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean at Grinnell College. Beronda came to Grinnell after 18 years on the faculty and more than 5 years as an administrator at Michigan State University. She is a scholar, writer, and science communicator with research interests in plant biochemistry, equitable mentoring, and progressive leadership. She recently won the 2022 Adolph E. Gude, Jr. Award for outstanding service to the science of plant biology for writing the book *Lessons from Plants* (Harvard University Press), among other plant-based writings.



Queenster Nartey

Co-Founder, IINSPIRE LSAMP Alumni Committee, and

Clinical Research Coordinator, The Feinberg School of Medicine, Northwestern University

The Scenic Route

Queenster Nartey, a Ghanaian American, holds a B.A. in Biological Chemistry from Grinnell College. At Grinnell, she conducted a Mentored Advanced Project with Dr. Shannon Hinsale-Leasure. Their work led to national recognition, conference awards, and her first journal article publication. After Grinnell, she was appointed as an Oak Ridge Institute of Science and Education (ORISE) Research Fellow at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Queenster served as a Research Program Coordinator at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine and is currently a Clinical Research Coordinator at the Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center of Northwestern University. In 2017, she co-founded the IINSPIRE LSAMP Alumni Committee (ILAC) with Paul Faronbi, which evolved into a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. In 2021, she co-founded STEMtelligent with Myra James. Their mission is to transparently share practical advice, experiences, difficulties, and triumphs in STEM to encourage and empower students to pivot, persevere, and prosper in STEM. Queenster is a pioneer, innovator, mentor, trailblazer, avid journaler, flight-catcher, and does not shy away from bold, unique, and radical ideas. She intends to live a fruitful, flourishing, and fulfilling life and empowers others to do the same.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Friday, February 10		
TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
11:00 AM	REGISTRATION OPENS	
12:00-1:00 PM	RESEARCH POSTER SET-UP	BENSON
12:00-1:00 PM	LUNCH OPENING REMARKS	MAIN HALL (WAYNE
1:00-1:45 PM	CONCURRENT SESSIONS Session 1A Demystifying the Graduate School Application Process Jodi Graff – University of Iowa	HOAK
	Session 1B Rebuilding Connections in the Wake of COVID Doug Mupasiri – University of Northern Iowa	WAYNE D
2:00-2:45 PM	KEYNOTE SPEAKER Queenster Nartey Co-Founder, IINSPIRE LSAMP Alumni Committee, and Clinical Research Coordinator, The Feinberg School of Medicine, Northwestern University The Scenic Route	WAYNE D
3:00-3:45 PM	CONCURRENT SESSIONS	
	Session 2A – Student Oral Presentations	HOAK
	Session 2B – Student Oral Presentations	WAYNE D
	Student Opportunities Fair	
1:00-4:00 PM	STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES FAIR	LOBBY
4:00-5:30 PM	STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES FAIR	BENSON
6:00-10:00 PM	STUDENT EVENING SESSION: DINNER & NETWORKING IINSPIRE LSAMP Alumni Committee	OLD CAPITOL CENTER, ROOM 2520D

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Saturday, February 11		
TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
7:30-8:30 AM	BUFFET BREAKFAST INFORMAL	MAIN HALL (WAYNE A-C)
8:30-9:15 AM	ALL STUDENT SESSION LinkedIn and Online Networking for Undergraduates Jahnvi Pandya – University of Iowa	MAIN HALL (WAYNE A-C)
9:30-10:15 AM	KEYNOTE SPEAKER Beronda Montgomery Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean, Grinnell College Lessons from Plants: Insights for Human Thriving	MAIN HALL (WAYNE A-C)
10:30-11:15 AM	CONCURRENT SESSIONS Session 3A REU Workshop: Searching for Summer Opportunities Mary Darrow – Iowa State University	WAYNE D
	Session 3B Graduate Student Panel Discussion Theresa Ho – University of Iowa	HOAK
11:30-12:15 PM	CONCURRENT SESSIONS Session 4A Alumni Panel on STEM Journeys IINSPIRE LSAMP Alumni Committee	HOAK
	Session 4B Using Research Measures as Learning Tools: The Development and Use of Student Profiles Halin Chung – University of Iowa	WAYNE D
12:30-1:00 PM	AWARDS CEREMONY	MAIN HALL (WAYNE A-C)
1:00-2:00 PM	LUNCH	MAIN HALL (WAYNE A-C)

EXHIBITORS

Graduate College, Iowa State University

**NSF REU Computing for Health and Well-being,
University of Iowa**

McNair Program, Iowa State University

Bio Neos

ICRU, University of Iowa

Integrated DNA Technologies

Graduate Program, University of Iowa

Arconic

Microbiology REU, University of Iowa

Iowa Lakeside Laboratory, Iowa Board of Regents

**Biomedical Science Graduate Program,
University of Iowa**

IINSPIRE LSAMP Program, Iowa State University

Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, University of Iowa
PhD program in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

ILAC/NALA, LSAMP

Experimental Therapeutics (PSET), University of Iowa

Health Services Research, University of Iowa

**Computational Bioengineering REU Program,
University of Iowa**

A 10-week summer undergraduate research experience that introduces students to fundamental concepts of computational bioengineering and how to apply those concepts to solve challenging biomedical problems.

**Tippie College of Business PhD Programs,
University of Iowa**

**Tippie College of Business Graduate Programs,
University of Iowa**

The University of Iowa's Tippie College of Business has 1 part-time MBA program, 2 full-time MS degrees, a part-time Business Analytics MS degree, and several graduate certificates for working professionals

Department of Computer Science, University of Iowa

Computer Science Graduate Programs and Interdisciplinary Graduate Programs in Informatics

Department of Political Science, University of Iowa

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

(Listed alphabetically by last name)

Annual Conference Planning Committee

Conference Co-Chairs:

Lori Adams, University of Iowa

Vincent Rogers, University of Iowa

Diane Rover, Iowa State University

Local Chair:

Laura Kowalski-Bliss, University of Iowa

Finance Chair:

Lisa Volk, Iowa State University

Committee Members:

Mary Darrow, Iowa State University

Alice Nadeau, IINSPIRE LSAMP Alumni Committee

Sunday Tim, Iowa State University

Kristina Venzke, University of Iowa

Iowa State University Conference Planning and Management

Amanda Ruckdaschel

Additional Thanks:

*IINSPIRE LSAMP Campus Directors and Teams,
<https://www.iinspirelsamp.org/campus-directors/>*

Alexis Marti, University of Iowa

Venkata Naga Surya (Sri) Kompella, Iowa State University

Poster and Presentation Judges

This conference and work presented are supported in part by the National Science Foundation under Grant No HRD-2207350.



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