



**Undergraduate STEM Education Initiative
AAU STEM Network Conference
February 8-9, 2022**

Eastern Standard Time Agenda

TUESDAY, February 8

- 12:00 – 12:10 p.m.** **Welcome and Orientation to the Virtual Conference**
[Emily Miller](#), Deputy Vice President for Institutional Policy, AAU
- 12:10 – 12:30 p.m.** **Introductions**
An opportunity for conference participants to introduce themselves in small groups. To facilitate introductions, we request that each participant create a single [Google Slide in this deck](#) in advance of the meeting.
- 12:30 – 1:30 p.m.** **Future of Undergraduate Education**
The National Academies hosted a [symposium](#) on imagining the future of undergraduate STEM education. The symposium featured idea competition essays for the vision and priorities for 2040, commissioned papers, and robust discussions among innovators from a diverse range of colleges and universities together with policy makers, funders, and representatives from associations and industry. [UERU](#) has convened a commission of national thought leaders to develop a Boyer 2040 Report. This session will preview the forthcoming reports and engage participants in a discussion on how to achieve the aspirations desired for the future.
- Moderator:** [Barbara R. Snyder](#), President, AAU
- Panelists:** [Barbara Schaal](#), Mary-Dell Chilton Distinguished Professor, Washington University in St. Louis
[Steve Dandaneau](#), Executive Director, UERU
- 1:30 – 1:45 p.m.** **BREAK**
- 1:45 – 2:45 p.m.** **Breakout Groups – Time for Ideas to Travel**
During this ongoing dynamic time for teaching and learning, participants will be placed into small breakout groups to share emergent strategies and approaches for facilitating effective institutional- and department-led reforms interventions for excellence and equity in undergraduate STEM education and increasing diversity and community in STEM fields.
- Presenter:** [Stacey Lawrence](#), Senior Associate Director for STEM Initiatives, Brown University

2:45 – 3:30 p.m.

How Department Context and Institutional Elements Shape Undergraduate STEM Education Reform

This session will highlight key findings from an AAU project aimed at examining the complex institutional environment in which innovations to undergraduate STEM education take place. Presenters will (1) describe the relationship between the academic department and the institution, a relationship that is critical to understanding what needs to be addressed to bring about sustained undergraduate education reform, and (2) identify key institutional contextual elements that influence STEM departments' values, behaviors, and actions, and ultimately shape the implementation of undergraduate STEM reform efforts.

Introduction: [Jill Nelson](#), Program Director, IUSE, National Science Foundation

Presenters: [Mary Dean Sorcinelli](#), Consultant, AAU Undergraduate STEM Education Initiative, and Senior Fellow, University of Massachusetts Amherst
[Tara King](#), Higher Education Project Manager, AAU
[Emily Miller](#), Deputy Vice President for Institutional Policy, AAU
[Jim Fairweather](#), Co-PI, AAU Undergraduate STEM Education Initiative, and Professor Emeritus, Michigan State University

3:30 – 3:55 p.m.

BREAK

3:55 – 4:55 p.m.

Building Leadership Capacity

The panel session will be framed by current research focused on helping leaders better understand their own leadership capacity, team leadership capacity, and resources to help leaders make the move(s) to achieving systemic change outcomes. Each panelist holds a new and innovative senior administrative leadership role dedicated to achieving excellent and equitable undergraduate education on their campus. Panelists will provide reflections and address participants' questions.

Moderator: [Susan Elrod](#), Chancellor, Indiana University South Bend

Panelists: [Michael Dennin](#), Vice Provost for Teaching and Learning, and Dean, Division of Undergraduate Education, University of California, Irvine
[Julia Thom-Levy](#), Vice Provost for Academic Innovation, Cornell University

4:55 – 5:00 p.m.

Day 1 Wrap-up

[Emily Miller](#), Deputy Vice President for Institutional Policy, AAU

WEDNESDAY, February 9

1:00 – 1:05 p.m.

Welcome & Overview of Day 2

[Emily Miller](#), Deputy Vice President for Institutional Policy, AAU

1:05 – 2:00 p.m.

Developing a Better System to Evaluate Teaching

During this session participants will learn about the national and international efforts focused on creating more equitable and effective means to recognize and assess faculty members' use of high-quality, evidence-based, inclusive teaching practices as part of the faculty rewards structure. The session will feature numerous university-led efforts working to transform how academic departments value, recognize and reward contributions to achieving their collective responsibilities for undergraduate education.

Introduction: **[Emily Miller](#)**, Deputy Vice President for Institutional Policy, AAU

Presenters: **[Ann E. Austin](#)**, University Distinguished Professor and Interim Dean, College of Education, Michigan State University
[Ruth Graham](#), Director, R.H. Graham Consulting Limited

2:00 – 2:15 p.m.

BREAK

2:15 – 3:00 p.m.

AAU STEM Department Demonstration Projects on Teaching Evaluation

AAU will provide an update on the AAU STEM Department Demonstration Projects and the five selected departments will provide flash talks on their strategy and approach to transforming teaching evaluation within their departments.

Moderator: **[Carl Wieman](#)**, Cheriton Family Professor and Professor of Physics and of Education, Stanford University

Presenters: Representatives from Selected Departments

3:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Transforming the Evaluation of Teaching Breakout Groups

Participants will be placed into breakout groups to discuss approaches to evaluative effective and inclusive teaching. Breakout groups will be moderated by leaders from campuses engaged in funded projects working to improve the evaluation of teaching at research universities.

4:00 – 4:15 p.m.

BREAK

4:15 – 4:55 p.m.

AAU Student Polling Project

AAU's polling work produces insight for our members on issues crucial to their relationship with the public and policymakers. Currently in development is a survey of undergraduate students at AAU campuses, and we are seeking ideas to inform this project. What would be beneficial to ask undergraduate students? What information would be useful to understand from a sample of students from across America's leading research institutions?

Presenter: [Ken Goldstein](#), Vice President for Survey Research and Institutional Policy, AAU

4:55 – 5:00 p.m.

Closing Remarks

[Emily Miller](#), Deputy Vice President for Institutional Policy, AAU

The Association of American Universities extends its gratitude to the Sarah Gilbert & Carl Wieman Charitable Fund, the National Science Foundation, and the Northrup Grumman Foundation for making this convening possible through their financial support.