



NSF Awards

14461372; # 0923799;
#749365

2006 Presidential Award
for Excellence in Science,
Mathematics and
Engineering Mentoring
(PAESMEM) winner



*Teresa Mourad
Director, Education and
Diversity Programs
Ecological Society of America*



Strategies for Ecology Education, Diversity and Sustainability (SEEDS)

Mission

To diversify and advance the ecology profession through opportunities that stimulate and nurture the interest of underrepresented students to participate, and to lead in ecology.



Success in STEM pathways

*O*r experiences that might have made a difference if they were available in high school



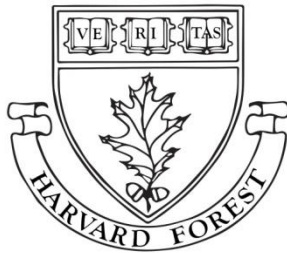
Success in STEM

- Hands-on field experience



Partnerships with

**CARNEGIE MUSEUM OF
NATURAL HISTORY**



Biological stations to
offer field
experiences:
half-day; weekend;
summer

**Florida Coastal Everglades
Long Term Ecological Research**





Success in STEM

- Exposure to scientists in a wide range of careers in research, policy, education, communications across public, private and nonprofit sectors





- **How can scientific societies support Middle and High School Career Counselors?**



SEEDS: Factors of Success

- COMMUNITY
- SELF-CONFIDENCE
- SAFE SPACES

..... *Through Mentoring*



Success in STEM

❖ Multiple layers of Mentoring

- Professional
- Near peer
- Peer

❖ Nurturing philosophy



Partnership: high schools, college and scientific societies

- Virtual mentoring – connect student research teams with scientists

are you taking part in the evolution?

planting science

join us, make a difference





Acknowledgments

*Fred Abbott-Torres, Diversity Programs
Coordinator, ESA*

Mark Brunson co-PI, Utah State University

Julie Reynolds, co-PI, Duke University

Catrina Adams, Botanical Society of America

Betsy Desy, Southwest Minnesota State University



Factors for Success

- ❖ Authentic Research Experiences
- ❖ Early exposure to wide range of STEM careers
- ❖ Multiple layers of Mentoring over time
 - ❖ in person or virtual
 - ❖ Individual or team based

Partnerships: scientific societies can help

- ❖ Connect to Research Sites
- ❖ Connect with MS and HS career counselors
- ❖ Mentoring programs that connect students with scientists

Learn more about SEEDS
www.esa.org/seeds