



Spring 2015 Newsletter

Meet Our N-STEAD Scholars

The Hendrix Noyce STEM Teacher Education in the Arkansas Delta (N-STEAD) program aims to prepare high-achieving Hendrix College science and mathematics students to become effective teachers. The program is funded by a \$1.1 million grant from the National Science Foundation and consists of two programs: an Intern program for freshman and sophomore students and a Scholar program for junior, senior, and post-baccalaureate students.

Students in the Intern program can test drive a career in teaching by helping local youth learn about the wonders of science at the *Ridin' Dirty with Science* summer camp.

Students in the Scholar program not only train to become licensed science and mathematics teachers but they also work to become teacher leaders as part of the national community of Noyce Scholars.



M. Vincent Gammill

I grew up in Little Rock, Arkansas. I am a 2010 graduate of Wilbur D. Mills High School and a 2014 graduate of Hendrix College, with a bachelor's degree in physics. During my senior year I decided I wanted to teach and applied to and was accepted into the Hendrix N-STEAD program. I am passionate about education (including and beyond science and mathematics), and enjoy cooking with my wife Mary and working on my chess game.



Kevin Spatz

I grew up in Conway, Arkansas. Last spring, I graduated *summa cum laude* from Hendrix College with a bachelor's degree in biology. I am currently pursuing teaching licensure (grades 7-12) in life science with an endorsement in earth science. I believe that science education is essential for preparing students to be democratic citizens and future leaders.

Fun with area students

Visiting Partner Schools

Last spring the Scholars completed the first part of their program — the apprenticeship.

Cloverdale

They jumped right in and taught 7th grade science classes for a day at Cloverdale Middle School in Little Rock.



Dumas

They had the opportunity to both assist Ms. Ivory's 7th grade class in frog dissection and teach them a lesson on the seasons.

Ridin' Dirty with Science

In June they had the opportunity to work with four N-STEAD Interns and Hendrix student volunteers at the week-long

Ridin' Dirty with Science camp for Conway-area elementary students.

McGehee

The team completed a two-day trip to the Delta and enjoyed touring and meeting teachers and administrators at McGehee Junior and Senior High School.



Student Teaching

After an intensive semester of course-work the Scholars are student teaching in both Conway and Little Rock and excited to find their first teaching position.

Partnership

By Dr. Dionne Jackson, Hendrix N-STEAD Principal Investigator

Partnerships — “an arrangement where parties, known as partners, agree to cooperate to advance their mutual interests.”

Our Delta partners include Cloverdale Aerospace Technology Conversion Charter Middle School and Dumas and McGehee School Districts, and we are pleased to announce our new partnership with Marion School District. These partners are vital to Hendrix N-STEAD’s mission to recruit, develop, and support outstanding science and mathematics students to become teacher leaders in Arkansas Delta schools. Hendrix N-STEAD is important to our partners as they work to attract highly qualified teachers to their schools. We continue

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to work to fulfill our mutual interests by providing opportunities for Hendrix N-STEAD Scholars and Interns to connect with students and educators as they tour, observe, and teach at partner schools. These experiences have developed their teaching skills, while also allowing them to learn more about schools and communities in the Arkansas Delta. We look forward to continuing these connections, and will be scheduling our May and June experiences in the near future. Thank you partners for your continued support!

www.hendrix/n-stead.edu



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- *Scholar Induction Program*
- *Where Are They Now?*

