



Summer Academy Workshop for Middle School Teachers at Eastern

Willimantic, CT – More than 28 teachers from eight school districts across eastern Connecticut will participate in the Summer Academy Workshop at Eastern Connecticut State University from June 26–July 7.

The workshop is the result of a Teacher Quality Partnership grant from the Connecticut Department of Higher Education (CDHE) entitled, “Summer Academy for Integrated Science, Social Studies and Mathematics,” that is designed for middle school teachers.

“My experience with the Summer Academy for Integration of Math and Science helped to enliven and enhance my classroom studies in the area of science,” said Diane Jennings, science teacher in Somer Public Schools and a 2005 participant. “It is not often we have the opportunity to work with and establish long-term relationships with university professors.”

During the two-week workshop teachers will participate in several sessions focusing on the interconnections between Connecticut geology, biology and history. Participating faculty from Eastern’s School of Arts and Sciences include James A. Hyatt, Peter Drzewiecki and Ross Koning. They will be working closely with Education faculty members Jeanelle Day, Hari Koirola and Leslie Ricklin, and professor emeritus Shirley Ernst, to provide participants with content and materials for classroom instruction.

This is the third year that Eastern has received funding from the CDHE to provide staff development in science and mathematics for regional teachers. Participating districts include Windham, East Windsor, Windsor, Coventry, RHAM, Griswold, Madison, and New London.

“This year should be particularly interesting as I think the crossover between science, mathematics, and social studies will introduce a new perspective to the program, particularly as we are planning to include more field activities,” said Drew Hyatt, professor of environmental earth science and a participant all three years of the grant.

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