

ENTHUSE Celebration Awards

SSERC was delighted to host the Scottish ENTHUSE Celebration Awards 2019 [1] at the Engine Shed in Stirling on 14th May 2019. These awards celebrated excellence in STEM education in Primary & Secondary schools, in school leadership and for technicians and support staff. The event allowed SSERC to commend the commitment of the winners to professional learning and the impact that it has had on them, their pupils and their school.

All winners were invited to attend the National ENTHUSE Celebration event at the Royal Society in London in June 2019.

While the highlight of the event was the awarding of prizes, the day also included updates on the opportunities that SSERC supports and facilitates through a range of wider STEM engagement programmes.

Kevin McKeever, Manager of the STEM Ambassador programme in the east of Scotland provided an update, highlighting the wealth of knowledge and experience that is available to schools and community groups through this volunteer programme. It is noteworthy that in the findings of the Education Scotland STEM CLPL Survey Findings (June 2017) [2] this bank of approximately 6000 active individuals are regarded as key providers of professional learning for teachers.

In 2018/19 SSERC facilitated 22 STEM Insight placements, allowing teachers and technicians time in industry to gain experience about the world of work and potential employment opportunities that they could then share with pupils in their schools on their return. Such opportunities recognise that those in regular contact with young people can influence subject choices, future study options and career pathways. Whilst in a privileged position to inspire and direct, many recognise they do not always have the appropriate knowledge to do this



From left to right in picture: Derek Boath, Monifieth High School (winner Excellence in STEM Teaching Secondary), Martin McKenna, Holy Cross Primary School (winner Excellence in STEM Teaching Primary), Angela Barclay, Monifieth High School (winner School Leadership in STEM), Alastair MacGregor CEO SSERC, Karthika Paranthaman, Boroughmuir High School (winner Excellence in STEM Teaching Technician), Mark McShane and Graham Armstrong, Kinross High School (Joint winners School Leadership in STEM), Heather Reid OBE.

effectively. Such placements provide the opportunity for educators to increase their own STEM capital. Helen Winton, Head of STEM Engagement SSERC provided an overview of these placements while contributions from Karen Alexander, STEM Manager Dumfries House and Sarah Morgan, Jacob's highlighted the benefits of teacher placements to businesses.

Heather Reid, OBE Meteorologist & Education Consultant provided an inspiring Keynote 'The importance of Excellent STEM Education' in which she highlighted how her passion for physics was kindled

by an inspirational teacher. She emphasised how those in the teaching profession can inspire the questioning and inquiry skills in young people, thereby increasing their scientific literacy. She also shared the enjoyment she has had from being involved as a Polar Ambassador over the last 2 years, supporting the Polar Explorer Programme [3]. The build, launch and operation of RRS Sir David Attenborough brings an exciting context to the teaching of STEM subjects. The associated education programme encourages and supports schools that are keen to raise aspirations and attainment >>>

in STEM and aims to inspire the next generation of scientists and engineers. 47 schools across Scotland have benefitted from this opportunity over the last 2 years.

Graeme Rough, Project Manager for the Young STEM Leader Programme provided an update on the development of this exciting opportunity. With a pilot currently underway, the programme will be available to all young people across

Scotland in 2020 through school and community groups. The key aim of the Young STEM Leader (YSL) programme will be to facilitate the development of peer STEM role models to inspire more young people to develop an interest in STEM and pursue the study of STEM subjects and relevant future careers.

SSERC are very grateful to the Engine Shed who gifted the use of their facilities for this event. <<

References

- [1] <https://www.stem.org.uk/enthuse-celebration-awards>.
- [2] <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/glowblogs/STEMcentralinmotion/2018/08/27/stem-professional-learning-survey-2017/>.
- [3] <https://www.stem.org.uk/welcome-polar-explorer-programme>.

SSERC professional learning courses

Our professional development courses range from twilight events, day-courses through to residential meetings lasting up to 6 days in total. Our curriculum coverage spans both primary and secondary sectors and we offer events for teachers as part of their career long professional learning, newly qualified teachers and technicians. Many of our events receive funding from the ENTHUSE Bursary scheme or the Scottish Government.

Courses available for online booking include:

COURSE NAME	RESIDENTIAL?	DATES	CLOSING DATE	SECTOR
STEM CLPL for Early Level	No	30 August 2019	23 August 2019	Primary
SSERC_Meet: Light Shades & Shadows	No	26 September 2019	30 August 2019	Primary
SSERC_Meet: Fun with Forensics	No	2 October 2019	6 September 2019	Primary
Creativity	Yes	28-29 October 2019	27 September 2019	Primary & Secondary
SSERC_Meet Pneumatics & Hydraulics	No	12 Nov 2019	18 October 2019	Primary
Super Science & Terrific Technology	Yes	15-16 November 2019 20-21 March 2020	1 October 2019	Primary
SSERC_Meet: Further Fun with Forensics	No	18 November 2019	18 October 2019	Primary
STEM CLPL for Early Level	No	22 November 2019	8 November 2019	Primary
SSERC Conference	No	6 December 2019	8 November 2019	Primary & Secondary
SSERC_Meet: Teddy in the Park	No	26 February 2020	31 January 2020	Primary
SSERC_Meet: Science Inquiry: Observing, Exploring & Classifying	No	4 March 2020	7 February 2020	Primary

Please check our website pages at <https://www.sserc.org.uk/professional-learning/calendar/> for the most up-to-date details on our career long professional learning calendar.

