

Testimonies

Noyce Scholars

Amber Lim
Chemistry



"I'm grateful for the Robert Noyce teachHOUSTON Scholarship for Physics and Chemistry because it gives me a chance to focus on my studies. It tells me that people do care about STEM education in public schools, and the desire to invest in the future through rising teachers like us. Thank you for the opportunity, and I hope to pay it forward in my teaching."



Jasmine Lee
Biology/Chemistry

"It is an incredible honor to have received the Noyce Teacher Scholarship for Physics and Chemistry! My family has always struggled financially and I am the first to attend college. Because of this scholarship and the TeachHouston program, I am able to pursue my dream of becoming a teacher and to build up future generations. Words cannot describe how thankful I am to have received this scholarship that will allow me to continue my education!"

Physics By Inquiry Course

This is the only course in which I experienced real inquiry-based instruction, rather than occasional model lessons in other courses" (participant).

"It proved that the inquiry-based classroom, if established as such from the beginning (as my student teaching placement was not), is possible. The breadth of the content may be less, but the understanding will be robust to a degree previously unknown. I have said, time and again, if I can be taught physics in this way, anyone can." (participant).

"This was the first time during my teacher training that I was put in the seat of one of my pupils, experiencing the struggles that they may face during inquiry-based education. This granted me an excellent view into the mindset of a student of science, working hard and often failing to tease apart the complexities of a concept I don't fully understand. This has helped me to empathize with my students and to encourage them during the process of learning in a meaningful and personal way" (participant).

Make a Difference!

UNIVERSITY of HOUSTON

*teach*HOUSTON
and Department of Physics

Robert Noyce Scholarship Program

Secondary Physics and Chemistry Teacher Preparation
Donna W. Stokes, Paige K. Evans, Simon Bott and Cheryl Craig



Thank you so much for providing me with an amazing opportunity to attend and present at the WRNC this year. All of the seminars were extremely beneficial and helped me become a better teacher. Kudos to the NSF and Fresno State team for making this conference happen.

-Tri Duong

The WRNC helped me connect with other teachers from around the country. My list of resources grew as well as my available opportunities.

-Kameron McCall

I was really impressed with the high energy that was found in a lot of the sessions. High energy in the classroom is what we need to get students fired up for learning. These sessions definitely got me fired up for teaching. Very rejuvenating, and I can't wait to pass it along!

-Caitlin Luper

I'm really grateful for my experience at this year's WRNC. It was my first time going to a national conference. I got to hear from quite the amazing array of speakers and enjoyed connecting with educators from other states. Thank you for organizing the event!

-Amber Lim

Thank you so much for putting together such an amazing, informative conference last weekend. I cannot wait to start implementing all that I've learned into my own classroom one day. This conference has given me so many new strategies and ideas on how I can be the best STEM educator I can possibly be. Furthermore, due to the various great keynote speakers, I am ready to commit to the challenge of transforming STEM education and really emphasizing diversity as much as I can. Additionally, presenting at the conference will be an experience I will never forget. Thank you so much for the unforgettable memories and the priceless knowledge gained from this conference. I hope to come back again soon.

-Shruti Hariyani

Thank you for the opportunity to interact with like-minded people. This conference provided me with an incredible opportunity to grow as a teacher and to passionately continue this incredible journey. After this conference, I commit myself to continue working hard for my students everyday

-Carlos Perez

It was very encouraging to me to see and interact with so many other STEM teachers who value giving their students a good education enough to work at bettering themselves.

-Amy Taylor

This conference was a learning opportunity that went above and beyond what I expected. I went in as a Noyce Scholar, but I came out as part of a community. I learned how to be a better teacher, peer, and colleague. I met some amazing individuals and witnessed wonderful presentations that introduced new aspects of being a teacher. I am so grateful to have been able to absorb the knowledge of like-minded people while also being able to share what we have discovered in our experiences in the classroom. Thank you for everything you did to make this wonderful opportunity happen!

-Alexis Clowtis

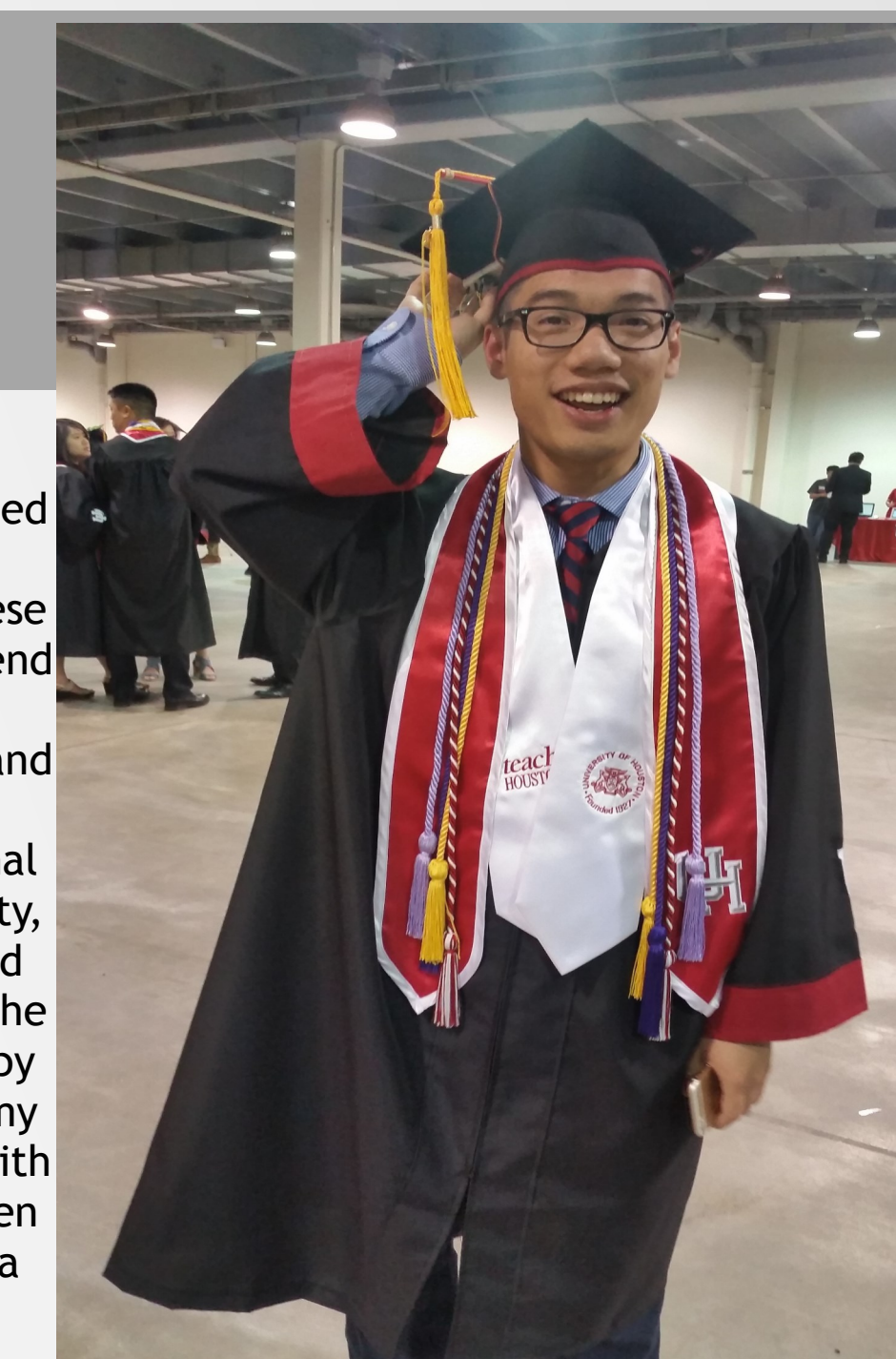
WRNC has provided me with invaluable information obtained from its workshops and has helped me develop professionally by allowing my group and I to present at the conference. I am incredibly grateful for this wonderful experience and would like to thank everyone for this opportunity.

-Jessica A. Itzep

Testimonies

Noyce Graduates

Alumni Tri Duong
Math/Physics
Physics Teacher: Cy-Fair ISD
Spring 2017 Graduate



"The Noyce program has definitely turned my college career around. ...I decided to participate in the teachHOUSTON program and minor in physics. Through these programs, I had many opportunities to attend and learn valuable information at the Western Regional Noyce Conference 2015 and 2017. ... As a Noyce scholar, I had an opportunity to do research at SLAC National Accelerator operated by Stanford University, through the STAR program at Cal Poly; and Brookhaven National Laboratory, through the SULL program from the DOE. inspired by the inquiry-based learning activities and my research project, I'm going to share this with my future minority physics students to open their eyes to see how fun and rewarding a STEM field can be."



Alumni Joshua Kehr
Physics
Physics Teacher: Spring Branch ISD

"Physics is the study of what makes the physical universe tick. I hope to leave UH with as much of a mastery of physics as possible and a solid foundation in teaching methodology which will benefit my future students. I encourage other students to definitely consider a STEM degree. The understanding of how we think the universe works and how to apply that knowledge is one of the greatest gifts of a STEM degree. The world literally becomes a big opportunity for you."

Alumni Jessica Itzep
Biochemical/Biophysical Sciences
Spring 2017 Graduate



"My love and journey towards a science degree was sparked by my middle school science teacher. Without her enthusiasm, encouragement, and dedication I would not have discovered or followed my passion for biochemistry. I am very grateful to have received the Noyce Scholarship and have access to all of the wonderful professional development opportunities that came along with being a Noyce scholar. With these experiences and my background in biology and chemistry I wish to transmit my passion for science and education to my students in order to nurture their desire to learn and introduce them to a world full of opportunities."



Alumni Geoffrey Hart

"Math is the tool of all science, and physics is the most direct science that pulls the resources acquired from mathematics and puts them into applicable scenarios. It's what keeps this world running. Ever since I took my first high school physics course, I believed it was the most ideal science course I'd ever taken. I was finally able to apply my knowledge in math to real life. To me, it's the easiest science to demonstrate and describe concepts."

2017 PhysTEC Local Teacher of the Year