

Editorial

Dear Readers,

Welcome to our September edition Volume 22, Issue 3. We at JSTEM hope our readers and their families are staying safe and healthy.

In the first article of the publication, authors Alpaslan Sahin and Hersh C. Waxman focus on a four-year study that looked at high school students' STEM major selection patterns. The results can be found in the article, "Factors Affecting High School Students' STEM Career Interest: Findings from a 4-Year Study."

The next article "Student Interest and Performance in Dual Enrollment Engineering Courses," examines a program that allows regional high school students to take first-year engineering classes from a university. To learn more, visit the report written by Eugene Rutz.

The third article, written by Clement Ayarebilla Ali and Hans Kweku Anderson, is reporting on mixed methods research that explored pre-service teachers' pedagogical content knowledge in basic musical methods for teaching and learning basic fractions. You can find more about their research on the Vygotsky's Theory of Scaffolding in the article, "Pre-Service Teachers' Pedagogical Content Knowledge in Transferring from Basic Musical Notations to Basic Fractions."

The following article, "Critical Thinking in STEM: A Qualitative Study of Community College Teaching Techniques," is written by Christa Evangelisto. The article looks at community college teachers' methods and techniques in STEM disciplines to teach critical thinking skills.

The fifth article is written by author Lili Ma. This article, "Teaching Undergraduate Robotics Course Using Enhanced VEX Robots," dives into the author's experience with introducing students to the fundamentals of robotics while teaching robotics courses over the past ten years.

The following article explores course-based undergraduate research experiences, also known as CUREs. You can see the findings in Daniel M. Harris, Kristy Schlueter-Kuck, and Elizabeth Austin's article, "Course-Based Undergraduate Research in Upper-Level Engineering Electives: A Case Study."

We would like to thank our associate editor Eliza Banu, content editorial assistant Sarah Franklin, and format editor Wally Ridgway for their efforts throughout this publication.

We would like to extend a special thanks to Amy Clark, who has been with the publication since 2019. She started as the sole editorial assistant and then became layout editor. She is leaving us to move to San Diego, California for an exciting career opportunity. We wish Amy the best of luck and safe travels during her move.

If you have any comments or questions, please send them to jstemed@gmail.com. If you are interested in publishing your own research, please visit our website jstem.org for instructions.

Thank you,

P.K. Raju

Editor-in-Chief

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