UTeach*Engineering and CACHE*

Preparing Secondary Teachers to Deliver Design-Based Engineering Courses with Chemical Engineering Content

Engineering Education Nationally

- Each year there are now more high school students enrolled in year-long (+) engineering programs in high schools than there are B.S. engineering graduates in the United States
- Great degree of heterogeneity among approaches to delivering K-12 engineering, summarized in recent NRC report
- High school engineering programs will transform engineering education

State of Texas Initiatives (4x4)

- □ 4 x 4 Math and Science Requirement
- Greater emphasis in the STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) disciplines
- One of the fourth year science courses is a year long course in engineering

Engineering Education in Texas

- □ Texas has taken a lead with the "4 x 4" requirement
- Engineering as a fourth-year science course
 - 270,000 students in grade 12
 - 18 approved fourth-year courses (including engineering)
 - 15,000 students per year in Texas engineering courses
- □ How do we develop teacher leaders (in both the long term and short term) and curricula to support the emerging field of secondary engineering education?

A Unique Partnership









UTeachEngineering

Preparing Secondary School Teachers to Deliver Design-Based Engineering Courses



UTeach Engineering's First 5 Years

- \$12.5 million partnership grant from NSF
- A model high school engineering curriculum
- 650 teachers across Texas and beyond
 - 570 current science and math teachers prepared to teach high school engineering
 - 80 new teachers prepared to teach STEM
- A model for preparing secondary engineering educators



High School Curriculum

Overview of Year: Fall Semester

- First 6 Weeks: Energy
 - Wind turbine design challenge
- Second 6 Weeks: Reverse Engineering
 - Customer Needs
 - Design Parametrics
 - Product Redesign
- ☐ Third 6 Weeks: Robotics

Overview of Year: Spring Semester

- Three Week Design Challenge
- Twelve Week Open-ended Design Challenge:
 - Teaching the Design Process
 - Problem Identification
 - Concept Generation
 - Embodiment Design

Application

- Design Scale and Full Scale Models of an emergency shelter and solar power system
- Project can include solar tracking and/or solar concentrating, energy storage, shelter material selection, and other components, and will be evaluated based on cost and performance

Development Process

- Goal: Develop a low-cost, year-long, design-based high school engineering science course to be piloted in 2010-2011
- Monthly development meetings from September through May comprised of teachers and administrators from Austin ISD and UTeach Engineering project team
- Developed core teams to focus on specific 6 week units

Development Process, Con't

- Iterative process; reviewed by many groups
- Piloted in 7 schools beginning Fall 2010
- Affords us the opportunity to gather data and revise before additional implementation

Preparing Teachers

- Undergraduate Program
 - How do we prepare new teachers to deliver secondary engineering courses?
- Professional Development (Summer Institutes and MA programs)
 - How do we prepare current teachers to deliver secondary engineering courses?
- New engineering courses required



New Engineering Courses

- Graduate courses for in-service teachers seeking MA in Science and Engineering Education
- Undergraduate courses for natural science (physics, chemistry) and mathematics undergraduates preparing to become science, math and engineering teachers
- Degree pathways for engineering students preparing to become science, math and engineering teachers
- Prototypes for all of these courses are being offered at the University of Texas

UTeach*Engineering and CACHE*

Preparing Modules with Chemical Engineering content for High School Engineering Courses and Universitybased Courses

UTeach Engineering and CACHE

- CACHE Program is just emerging; suggestions welcome;
- Possible model for activities
 - Teacher MA projects
 - Modules for courses
 - Broader impacts activities for federally funded projects

Questions and Discussion

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