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Motivational perspectives on issues of equity in STEM education

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Abstract

Curricular policy initiatives worldwide call for science education reform aimed at expanding the workforce for scientific, engineering, and technical fields. Equity in the selection and retention of students in STEM fields is a critical goal of these educational reform efforts. How will educators achieve the objective of equity in STEM fields? The keynote session will focus on two crucial questions: “*What are the personal, contextual, and cultural factors associated with the promotion of gender equity in STEM fields? What curricular perspective and pedagogical strategies are likely to promote equity and diversity in scientific, engineering, and technical workforce?*” The keynote speaker will be joined by a group of researchers who will present their findings on personal characteristics and learning environment associated with student engagement and persistence in STEM fields.