



CSU Bakersfield

## NEWS FROM CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, BAKERSFIELD

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **CSUB Professor Awarded \$4.8 Million Grant To Develop Citizen Scientist Residency Pathway**

**October 3, 2018** -- Dr. Brittney Beck from California State University, Bakersfield's Department of Teacher Education has been awarded a five-year, \$4,871,033 Teacher Quality Partnership grant from the U.S. Department of Education to develop a Citizen Scientist Residency Pathway.

"The Citizen Scientist Project addresses the need for highly qualified STEM-C educators who are able to create and facilitate interdisciplinary STEM-C lessons that engage local issues and help students translate STEM-C concepts into civic action, with an emphasis on the development of digital civic infrastructure. In other words, we're preparing K-12 teachers and students to apply their budding competencies in STEM-C fields to address real community issues, enact real community change, and cultivate the scientific literacy needed for full participation in democratic citizenship," Dr. Beck said.

STEM-C represents Science, Technology, Engineering and Math, with an emphasis on Computer Science.

The project has three core goals:

- Develop a pathway to increase the capacity of elementary, middle, and high school teachers to design, facilitate, and assess high-quality, civic-focused STEM-C curricula and pedagogy in high-needs schools;
- Sustain a pipeline of credentialed teachers who are committed to teaching civics-focused STEM-C curricula and pedagogy in high-needs school districts by creating tailored recruitment, retention and induction processes;
- Co-create and co-implement curriculum, pedagogy, and sustainable multi-stakeholder partnership structures for professional development to support teacher leaders, site administrators, superintendents, and university faculty's use of research-based best practices for teacher education, recruitment, retention, and induction.

“Through efforts like this, Dr. Beck and the Department of Teacher Education model and extend excellence in the School of Social Science and Education,” said Dean of Social Sciences and Education Steve Bacon.

This will be the third TQP grant awarded to CSUB faculty in the Department of Teacher Education. As has been the case with the other TQP grants, this project will enrich the training of future teachers in our region. Teachers from the Greenfield Union School District, Bakersfield City School District, and Kern High School District; faculty from the Department of Teacher Education, Department of Computer and Electrical Engineering and Computer Science; and the Kegley Center of Ethics at CSUB will contribute to this project.

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### **About CSUB**

California State University, Bakersfield is a comprehensive public university committed to offering excellent undergraduate and graduate programs that advance the intellectual and personal development of its students. An emphasis on student learning is enhanced by a commitment to scholarship, diversity, service, global awareness and life-long learning. The University collaborates with partners in the community to increase the region’s overall educational attainment, enhance its quality of life, and support its economic development. The University was founded in 1965 and opened for classes in fall, 1970. Its vision is to be the leading campus in the CSU system in terms of faculty and academic excellence and diversity, quality of the student experience and community engagement. The University’s faculty is world-class, with nearly 75% holding the highest degrees in their respective fields.

The University serves more than 10,000 students between the main campus in Bakersfield and CSUB Antelope Valley and counts more than 50,000 alumni from its four schools: Arts and Humanities; Business and Public Administration; Natural Sciences, Mathematics and Engineering; and Social Sciences and Education. The University offers undergraduate, graduate, and post-graduate and credential programs, and a Doctoral Program in Educational Leadership (Ed.D). CSUB's Extended Education and Global Outreach serves the community by offering additional professional development, certificate, and degree programs.

For more information about CSUB, please visit [www.csub.edu](http://www.csub.edu).