Research Experience for Teachers (RET)
Engineering for People and the Planet:
Research Experiences for Teaching Integrated STEM

- **Target Audience:** 6-12th grade science, math, engineering or computer science educators in the Central MA area
  (Teachers of color, teachers that serve a large number of students from underrepresented groups, and teachers from WPI practicum placement schools are strongly encouraged to apply)
- **Dates:** July 6 – August 16, 2023; and up to 6 follow-up sessions during the academic year for continued PD as a cohort *(dates TBD)*
- **Time:** 8 am – 5 pm *(with lunch break)*
- **Format:** In-person lab work during the Summer with weekly PD sessions *(academic year sessions may be virtual)*
- **Stipends:**
  - **In-service educators** = $9,250
    ($8000 paid for full 6-week summer session + $1250 paid following the academic year sessions)
  - **Pre-service educators** = up to $9,750
    ($7000 paid for full 6-week summer session + optional $1500 paid for an extended 1.5 weeks of summer research + $1250 paid following the academic year sessions)
  - **Materials** – In-service educators will also receive $500 for classroom materials that support project
  - **Travel** – Each educator will receive $250 in support of registration or travel to conferences to disseminate their research and/or teaching results from the program
- **PDPs:** 28 professional development points will be awarded at the end of the academic year

Description: WPI was awarded a grant by the National Science Foundation (NSF) to offer a Research Experience for Teachers (RET) program for pre- and in-service teachers. The experience focuses on the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals for an integrated approach of learning and doing science, math, and engineering through real-world problems that focus on people and the planet.

Five *pre-service* and five *in-service teachers* will be paired to do summer research for *six-weeks* in a lab with a WPI faculty mentor on topics such as healthy lives, clean energy, and climate action. More information about each of the 2023 projects can be found our website. In addition, the teachers will participate in professional development workshops to translate their research experience into lesson plans and classroom activities, as well as present their work to broader audiences during the academic year.

Expectations:
- Participate in 6 full weeks of research, including weekly PD workshops *(Summer 2023)*
- Create a poster of the research experience for a poster symposium at the end of RET *(Summer 2023)*
- Develop a lesson plan based on research experience and PD workshops *(Draft - Summer 2023)*
- Implement, share, modify and submit lesson plan *(2023-24 Academic Year)*
- Participate in cohort activities and PD sessions (6 TBD) *(2023-24 Academic Year)*

Visit our website to **APPLY**

Timeline:

- Pre-Service teacher applications due 2/5/23; notifications by the end of March
- In-Service teacher applications due 2/26/23; notifications by the end of March

For questions, contact Kathy Chen, kcchen@wpi.edu