2024 PREM PI Meeting
Hosted by Texas State University

Program Agenda

All events will be taking place at the LBJ Student Center Grand Ballroom
(3rd floor of LBJ Student Center)

Day 1 – Friday, January 26, 2024

8:30 am – 9:00 am  Coffee/Morning Snacks (provided) and Registration

9:00 am – 9:30 am  Welcome Remarks
  ▪  9:00 am – Dr. Tania Betancourt, Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry, NSF PREM CIMA, Texas State University
  ▪  9:05 am – Dr. Shreek Mandayam, Vice President for Research, Texas State University
  ▪  9:15 am – Dr. Germano Iannacchione, Division Director, NSF Division for Materials Research
  ▪  9:25 am – Dr. Shadi Mamaghani, Program Director, NSF PREM

9:30 am – 9:50 am  Q&A on Current PREM Solicitation (due Feb 2024)
  Solicitation came out 12/14/2023 and proposals are due March 12, 2024
  10-min introduction + 10-min Q&A
  Presentation by Dr. Shadi Mamaghani, Program Director, NSF PREM
  Q&A moderated by Dr. William Brittain

9:50 am – 10:20 am  Occupational artifacts that undermine STEM workforce diversity and what MSI research-active institutions (and therefore PREMs) can do to overcome these artifacts to increase STEM workforce diversity
  Dr. Omar Lopez, Professor of Organization, Workforce and Leadership Studies, Texas State University
  20-min talk, 10-min Q&A
  Introduced by Dr. Tania Betancourt

10:20 am – 10:55 am  NSF Opportunities for PREMs
  Panelists introduced by Dr. Ben Martin
  ▪  Dr. John Schlueter, Program Director, DMR DMREF - Designing Materials to Revolutionize and Engineer our Future
    o  NSF 23-530,
    o  Supplements for PREM PIs, seed funds
    o  15-min presentation + 5 min Q&A
• Dr. Souleymane Omar Diallo, Program Director, NSF MRI – Major Research Instrumentation Program (zoom)
  ○ 10 min presentation + 5 min Q&A

10:55 am – 11:10 am  Networking Break (15 min)

11:00 am – 12:00 pm  Round Table Discussion: How to Make the PREM and Partner Network Work for Your Students and Centers
  • Introduced and moderated by Dr. Jennifer Irvin
  • Format: Round table discussions (30 min) followed by reporting to group (20 min). Assign roles within each table: moderator, note taker, reporter.
  • Questions to guide discussion will be posted on the screen and printed
    ○ What opportunities are there for utilizing the PREM/MRSEC network (i.e. the contacts) to open opportunities for our students in academia, national labs and industry?
    ○ How can we better use the PREM website https://prem-dmr.org/, social media (X, LinkedIn), and other platforms to promote our students and connect them with opportunities?
    ○ How can we grow the PREM brand and facilitate inter-student networking for research, educational, social, professional purposes at regional and national level within and beyond PREM?
    ○ How does (or could) your PREM partnership connect students with STEM jobs or other opportunities?

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12:00 pm – 1:00 pm  Lunch (provided) and Networking

1:00 pm – 1:20 pm  Opportunities with EPSCoR Program
  Speaker: Dr. Hongmei Luo, Program Director, Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR), National Science Foundation
  • Introduced by Dr. Tania Betancourt
  • 10-min talk + 10min Q&A

1:20 pm – 2:10 pm  The Balancing Act: Research Productivity, Partnership, Student Engagement
  • Format: Round table discussions followed by reporting to group
  • Moderated by Dr. Demetris Geddis
  • Discussion on how to balance the multi-pronged mission of PREM and its impact on student success and campus infrastructure/productivity

2:10 pm – 2:20 pm  Networking Break
2:20 pm – 3:05 pm  
**Evolving your PREM**  
- **Format:** Short presentations by long-lived PREMs followed by Q&A panel  
  - Best practices for nurturing the evolution of your PREM with successful re-competition and sustainability in mind. Challenges and best practices for refocusing/reinventing research thrusts, managing personnel changes, improving center administration, invigorating educational activities, and refreshing the PREM/MRSEC partnership  
  - Two 15-min presentations + 7-8 min Q&A for each  
  - **Moderated by Dr. Karen Lozano**  
  - Presenters:  
    - Dr. Karen Lozano, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley  
    - Dr. Idalia Ramos, University of Puerto Rico Humacao

3:05 pm – 4:00 pm  
**How to Nurture, Grow and Evolve the Partnership – the Partner Perspective**  
- NSF participants to excuse themselves from this session.  
  - **Format:** Short and honest presentations by Partners with accounts of what has and has not worked followed by Q&A panel and discussions. This session will occur in the absence of NSF participants. Recommendations will be collected and provided to the NSF.  
  - Best practices and challenges for growing and nurturing the partnership  
  - **Moderated by Dr. Edward Yu**  
  - **Four 7-min presentations back-to-back, followed by 25-min discussion**  
    - Dr. Edward Yu, The University of Texas at Austin Center for Dynamics and Control of Materials MRSEC (partner with Texas State University)  
    - Dr. Tim Lodge, University of Minnesota (partner with UTRGV)  
    - Dr. Eric Stach, University of Pennsylvania (Partner with UPR Humacao)  
    - Dr. Joan Redwing, Penn State University (partner with Florida International University)

4:00 pm – 4:10 pm  
**Networking Break**

4:10 pm – 4:20 pm  
Reporting back to NSF on discussion highlights of “How to Nurture, Grow and Evolve the Partnership” session  
**Oral report by Dr. Edward Yu; Written report by Dr. Tania Betancourt**

4:20 pm – 5:10 pm  
**Opportunities for Inter-PREM Networking and Connections**  
- **Format:** Short presentations followed by Q&A panel  
  - Discussion on how to use these partnerships to facilitate student/faculty networking for research, educational, social, professional purposes  
  - **Moderated by Dr. Tania Betancourt**  
  - 30-min (total) presentations + 20 min Q&A  
    - **15 min:** MRS/PREM Research Summit and Joint Puerto Rico Events – Dr. Idalia Ramos, University of Puerto Rico Humacao
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<td>5:10 pm – 5:15 pm</td>
<td>Day 1 Closing Remarks</td>
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<td>Dr. Tania Betancourt</td>
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<td>Day 2 – Saturday, January 27, 2024</td>
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<td>8:30 am – 9:00 am</td>
<td>Coffee/Morning Snacks and Networking</td>
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<td>9:00 am – 9:50 am</td>
<td>Opportunities at DMR Centers and Facilities</td>
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<td>Format: Presentations by program representatives focusing on opportunities for PREM to engage and utilize facilities</td>
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<td>Four 10-min presentations + 10 min Q&amp;A</td>
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<td>Moderated by Dr. Jorge Colón, University of Puerto Rico Rio Piedras</td>
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<td>Presenters:</td>
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<td>Dr. Jorge Colón, University of Puerto Rico-Rio Piedras (Introduces CHESS)</td>
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<td>Dr. Joel Brock, Cornell High Energy Synchrotron Source (CHESS), CHESS resources available and how to connect</td>
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<td>Dr. Daniela Radu, Florida International University (Introduces 2DCC MIP)</td>
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<td>Dr. Joan Redwing, 2D Crystal Consortium MIP, resources and how to connect</td>
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<td>Dr. Tatiana Timofeeva, New Mexico Highlands University (Introduces BioPACIFIC)</td>
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<td>Dr. Angela Pitenis, BioPACIFIC MIP, resources available and how to connect</td>
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<td>Dr. Yiyian Li, Fort Lewis College (Introduces STROBE)</td>
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<td>Dr. Sarah Schreiner, STROBE NSF Science and Technology Center for Real-Time Functional Imaging, University of Colorado, Boulder, resources available and how to connect</td>
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<td>9:50 am – 10:30 am</td>
<td>Closing the Gap Through Entrepreneurial Education</td>
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<td>Format: Short presentations followed by Q&amp;A session</td>
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<td>Two 15-min presentations + 10 min Q&amp;A total</td>
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<td>Moderated by Dr. Sean Kerwin</td>
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<td>Panel of entrepreneurs, PREMs and MRSECs that have successfully engaged their students in entrepreneurship</td>
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10:30 am – 11:30 am  **Leveraging PREM to Support Institutional Infrastructure Building**
- Short (~10 min) accounts by PREM PIs that have had success and/or MRSECs that can provide suggestions about how to do it, followed by discussions (20 min)
- **Presenters**
  - Dr. Thiagarajan Soundappan, Navajo Technical University
  - Dr. Ramana Chintalapalle, University of Texas El Paso
  - Dr. Tatiana Timofeeva, New Mexico Highlands University
  - Dr. Tania Betancourt, Texas State University
- **Presenters introduced and Q&A moderated by Dr. Chris Rhodes**

11:30 am – 11:50 am  **Annual Report Guidelines/Reminders**
- 10-min introduction + 10-min Q&A
- Presentation by Dr. Shadi Mamaghani, Program Director, NSF PREM

11:50 am – 12:50 pm  **Lunch (provided) and Networking**

12:50 am – 1:00 pm  **Closing Remarks**
- Dr. Tania Betancourt, Texas State University