The First Annual NISMEC / Murgatroyd Science Foundation
Indiana STEM Teacher Technology Awards 2016

Three Awards to provide Classroom Measuring Equipment
for Indiana STEM K-12 Teachers

To celebrate the 10 year anniversary of the founding of NISMEC (the Northern Indiana Science, Mathematics and Engineering Collaborative), we are initiating an annual competition open to all Indiana STEM K-12 teachers.

The three grants will allow successful awardees to use their award “to buy” from our listing of in-house Vernier and other measuring equipment.

The “prices” for the Vernier items will be at 50-70% of the standard Vernier pricelist (Vernier, Inc, at http://www.vernier.com/) Other items will be similarly marked at reduced prices. The listings of the (approx. 600) items and their prices are available at the NISMEC website: All items are “new” (unused) or in excellent “like-new” condition.

Note Important Change: The items in the awards will remain property of the University of Notre Dame. (a new legal requirement [20 Dec 2015]). The winning teacher(s) will keep the chosen items on extended loan for a period of one year, extendable for two further 1year periods.

1st prize: $5000 - choice of up to 6 Labquest II, and 6 Labquest I or Labquest-mini interfaces, plus (1st) choice of NISMEC-listed Vernier probes and other listed items.

2nd prize: $4000 - choice of up to 6 Labquest I, and 4 Labquest-mini interfaces, plus (2nd) choice of NISMEC-listed Vernier probes and other listed items.

3rd prize: $3000 - choice of up to 4 Labquest I, up to 4 Go!Link interfaces, plus (3rd) choice of NISMEC-listed Vernier probes and other listed items.

Application Deadline: 5 p.m. Friday, 8 January 2016, electronic or hard copy submission. The three successful awardees will be listed in the order of merit as decided by the judges. The list of winners will be announced at the HASTI conference in Indianapolis, 4-5 February 2016.

NISMEC (http://www3.nd.edu/~nismec/nismec11.htm) was founded in 2005 to provide support for STEM teachers and professional learning development with a focus on hands-on, experiential methods for founded the following year with funding principally from the Lilly Foundation of Indianapolis. In the past 10 years we have procured funding to provide professional learning summer Academies across the state (Notre Dame, Evansville, Indianapolis and north-west Indiana) - for teachers in all K-12 grades. The Murgatroyd Science Foundation (MSF) is a small private group, coordinating with NISMEC to provide extra funds for supporting K-12 science teachers in needy urban areas. These programs continue as we develop on-line opportunities for further STEM teacher professional learning to benefit all Indiana teachers and students and to enhance science and technology awareness for our citizens.
Details for applications:
(For all information, see also the NISMEC website: http://www3.nd.edu/~nismec/nismec11.htm)

Application Deadline: 5 p.m. Friday, 8 January 2016, electronic or hard copy submission

1 – up to two-page description of how you will use your award and how it will enhance guided inquiry learning in your classroom; which includes your signature and that of your school principal.
2 - Each award will include 3 hours of individual training in the use of Vernier measurement technology and suggestions for its use in your classroom.
3 - The items in the awards will remain property of the University of Notre Dame. (a new legal requirement [20 Dec 2015]). The winning teacher(s) will keep the chosen items on extended loan for a period of one year, extendable for two further 1-year periods.
4 - Available items for the awards are listed on the NISMEC website:
5 - The proposals will be evaluated by the judges on how well they fit into a guided inquiry classroom, as described below:

(a) K-8 guided inquiry classrooms use the SIP [Satisfying, Intentional Problem-Solving] principles to reach the goal of quality intellectual student work
   Satisfying: the quality intellectual work must be engaging, intrinsically rewarding, and develop competence and confidence for the student
   Intentional: students constructing models and strategies leading to the students’ realization that they are building competence
   Problem-solving: students developing their own progress milestones, accomplishing them and explaining their own achievements. See: Hynes-Berry (2011) Don’t Leave the Story in the Book; Using Literature to Guided Inquiry In Early Childhood Classrooms. Pp. 112-119.

(b) 9-12 guided inquiry classrooms: use Modeling (also SIP and similar) principles as described by American Modeling Teachers Association http://www.modelingteachers.org/.

Submission details: Submit your application by one of the following to:
(a) electronic - hgberry@nd.edu   (b) Fax - 574-631-5952   (c) Hardcopy – by US mail, etc to - Professor Gordon Berry, Physics Department, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame IN 46556

Awards Announcement:
The three successful awardees will be listed in the order of merit as decided by the judges. This list of winners will be announced at the HASTI conference in Indianapolis, 7-8 February 2016.

For further questions on this award program, contact Gordon Berry, at hgberry@nd.edu

Program to be announced 20 November 2015
Announcement: To: All STEM K-12 teachers of Indiana
From: The Murgatroyd Science Foundation (MSF) and The Northern Indiana Science, Mathematics and Engineering Collaborative (NISMEC)
The First Annual Murgatroyd Science Foundation/NISMEC
Indiana STEM Teacher Technology Awards 2016

Name of Applicant: ____________________________________

Contact information: email, address, phone number: ________________________________

Name & Address of School: ______________________________________________________

Grades and subjects you have taught in the past 2 years: ______________________________

Principal: Name_________________________ Signature ___________________________

Narrative: (signed by applicant at the end)