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*Events – Announcements*

- The **Linus Pauling Memorial Lecture Series** kicks off October 2<sup>nd</sup> with Dr. Richard Leakey on “Rethinking Human Origins” -- <http://www.isepp.org/>.

*Weblinks*

- **FIRST** in the News: <http://www.usfirst.org/who/content.aspx?id=156> that’s FIRST For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology.
- **Engineer Your Life**: <http://www.engineeryourlife.org/> -- while this website is not new, it must be reaching some kind of critical mass as no less than 3 people have brought it to my attention in the last week. It’s squarely aimed at middle and early high school girls.
- **Celeste Baine on Marketing Engineering Education**: Check out the bullets! [http://www.engineeringedu.com/celestes\\_blog/2008/09/mindreading.html](http://www.engineeringedu.com/celestes_blog/2008/09/mindreading.html)

*Funding*

- **BestBuy Teach Awards** – I met with the District HR Manager at Best Buy, who wants to know why teachers are not beating down their doors to get this money for their classrooms – this year’s deadline is October 12, 2008 -- [http://www.bestbuyinc.com/community\\_relations/teach\\_awards.htm](http://www.bestbuyinc.com/community_relations/teach_awards.htm)
- **Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics Talent Expansion Program (STEP)** from NSF -- <http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2008/nsf08569/nsf08569.pdf>
  - First year of three year cycle; full proposals due September 30
  - ...“Program activities under the STEP Type 1 competition should be efforts aimed at adapting and implementing best practices that will lead to an increase in the number of students (United States citizens or permanent residents) obtaining STEM degrees at institutions with baccalaureate degree programs; or completing associate degrees in STEM fields or completing credits toward transfer to a baccalaureate degree program in STEM fields at community colleges. The goal of the project must be to increase the total graduation numbers of such students at the institution(s), and all STEP proposals must include specific numerical targets for these increases. If a project focuses efforts on only a subset of STEM fields, increases in those fields must not be at the expense of degrees in other STEM fields. Projects may focus on the retention and/or recruitment of undergraduate students into STEM fields. Outreach efforts are appropriate only if the

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efforts can be expected to result in additional STEM majors and graduates at the submitting institution(s) within the grant period.”

- ...“For projects that are considering outreach to high school students, such activities are only appropriate if they will recruit students to the proposing institution(s) and if the high school students will be entering and progressing through undergraduate STEM majors within the five-year period of the proposed project. In most cases, this requires that outreach and recruitment efforts be limited to juniors and seniors in high schools that have a history of sending their graduates to the proposing institution(s).”

### ***Articles***

- **Kentucky Trains Parents to Help Schools Bolster STEM subjects**, Edweek, September 8, 2008 [http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2008/09/10/03parents\\_ep.h28.html?tmp=720586975](http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2008/09/10/03parents_ep.h28.html?tmp=720586975)
- From The National Science Teacher’s Association – “**Motivating Students with Robotics**”, Brand, Collver, Kasarda, April/May 2008 -- [http://www.usfirst.org/uploadedFiles/News/Science\\_Teacher\\_2008\\_Reprint.pdf](http://www.usfirst.org/uploadedFiles/News/Science_Teacher_2008_Reprint.pdf)
- [Columbia Gorge Community] **College Marks New Building Completion**, by Kathy Gray, The Dalles Chronicle, September 10, 2008 – CGCC has a new health and sciences building which houses the information technology lab -- <http://www.thedalleschronicle.com/news/2008/09/news09-10-08-02.shtml>

### ***Research***

- **The Career Academy Story**, Edweek, September 5, 2008 <http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2008/09/10/03hoye.h28.html?tmp=338938710>

### ***Field Reports:***

- **Dr. Dean Livelybrooks and Anae Rosenberg:** The **UO Materials Science Institute** is currently in the second year of a 4 year NSF Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics Talent Expansion Program (STEP) grant, bringing first year students from Lane CC, Chemeketa CC, PCC Sylvania, PCC Rock Creek, and Mount Hood CC to the UO for a 10-week summer research project in Chemistry, Physics, or Geological Science, for which they are paid a stipend. We then send them back to their community colleges where they are paid to do outreach work and tutoring to spread information they've learned about research, benefits of completing a degree in STEM, etc. Specific goals for enrollment enhancement included an increase in students achieving two-year associate transfer degrees in STEM-related disciplines and an increase in the number of students completing baccalaureate degrees in Chemistry, Geological Sciences and Physics. They'd be happy to talk to anyone with questions on this program -- <http://materials.science.uoregon.edu/undergrad/ucore/ucore.html>

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### *Classroom Resources*

- **Teaching Secrets: What Kids Wish Teachers Knew**, By Laurie Wasserman, *Teacher Magazine*, September 17, 2008 – specifically targeted to middle school, but not a bad reminder for anyone who deals with kids on a regular basis --  
[http://www.teachermagazine.org/tm/articles/2008/09/17/02tln\\_wasserman.h20.html?tmp=672996656](http://www.teachermagazine.org/tm/articles/2008/09/17/02tln_wasserman.h20.html?tmp=672996656)
- **Stanford University will soon begin offering a [series of 10 free, online computer science and electrical engineering courses](#)**. Initial courses will provide an introduction to computer science and an introduction to field of robotics, among other topics. The courses, offered under the auspices of [Stanford Engineering Everywhere](#) (SEE), are nearly identical to standard courses offered to registered Stanford students and will comprise downloadable video lectures, handouts, assignments, exams, and transcripts. And get this: all the courses' materials are being released under the [Attribution-Noncommercial-Share Alike 3.0 Unported](#) license. --  
<http://www.deviceguru.com/2008/09/17/stanford-frees-cs-robotics-courses/> -- *Thanks to Deb Mumm-Hill & FIRST Green Wrenches team.*
- **The SuperQuest Robotics Website is temporarily down**; I'll let you know when it is back up so you can check it out for tutorials in English and Spanish, and a variety of curricular materials, handouts, planning documents etc. for classroom and OST settings.

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