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CONTACT: qemnetwork@qem.org
itoldson@qem.org
altheamburns@comcast.net

QEM ANNOUNCES NEW DETAILS ON SUMMIT TO INCREASE THE NATION’S STEM WORKFORCE

(WASHINGTON, D.C.) The QEM Network announced today, that registration for its national Quad-C Summit, March 7 – 9, 2019, will open Monday, November 5. Aaniiih Nakoda College (MT), an accredited two-year institution offering academic programs, student services, and a variety of grant sponsored programs, is one of ten minority-serving institutions that has partnered with the QEM Network on the Summit. Located in Harlem, Montana, the school is dedicated to providing American Indian teachers that will work in its local public and private school systems.

The gathering is QEM’s INCLUDES SUMMIT, (Inclusion across the Nation of Communities of Learners of Underrepresented Discoverers in Engineering and Science), and is supported by the National Science Foundation (NSF). INCLUDES is NSF’s major initiative to erase the persistent disparities in access and success to joining the US STEM workforce. The Summit aims to assist Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs) with increasing their knowledge and expertise in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM), thereby creating a more robust STEM workforce in their communities.

“A small segment of America’s colleges, HBCUs and TCUs make a disproportionate contribution to the production of African American and Native American STEM degree recipients,” says Ivory A. Toldson, Ph.D., QEM’s president and CEO. “The talents and perspectives of minority students, including those from HBCUs and TCUs are essential if the nation is to develop a diverse and productive STEM workforce,” he added. The project will support 50 participants, 18 from TCUs and 32 from HBCUs.
Dr. Toldson says both HBCUs and TCUs have had some success in increasing the number of students matriculating through the curriculum and finding their way into the STEM workforce. However, he says developing and understanding that success through STEM education research is an essential step towards meeting the Nation’s STEM workforce goals.

With this event, QEM expects to collect research findings and experiences for advancing STEM education research at HBCUs and TCUs, and to inform an Action Plan to enhance their essential contribution to the STEM Education Research Community of Practice. Summit registration information will be available at QEM’s website on Monday, November 5, with registration deadlines of January 11, 2019 for faculty seeking participant support, and January 24, 2019 for those attending at their own expense. Interested parties may go to: http://www.qem.org/qemnsf-includes/ for registration information.

The QEM Network NSF INCLUDES Core Partner are Aaniiih Nakoda College (MT), College of Menominee Nation (WI), Lawson State Community College (AL), Morehouse College (GA), Morgan State University (MD), Southwest Indian Polytechnic Institute (NM), Spelman College (GA), Tribal Nations Research Group (ND), Tuskegee University (AL), and United Tribes Technical College (ND). 

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