

From: Frank Cioffi [frank@vermont.org]
Sent: Monday, July 30, 2012 6:08 PM
To: MacLean, Alex; Lofy, Bill; Kunin, Lisa; Trombley, Shana
CC: Judy Van Houten; John Evans
Subject: VT EPSCoR and the Gov.

Hi Alex, Bill, Lisa and Shana,

Vermont EPSCoR has a reverse site visit in September at the National Science Foundation (NSF) in Washington DC during which VT EPSCoR presents its progress on VT EPSCoR research and workforce development. Other states have opened their reverse site visit with a short video of their governor, which is a very powerful way of answering all the questions of whether EPSCoR is useful in the state.

EPSCoR would like to have a short video of Governor Shumlin speaking about the importance of EPSCoR to his STEM initiative and to the state.
(Talking points below for your review).

VPT is willing to make this video of the Governor for VT EPSCoR. If the Governor would like to do a video then we would need a date and time so that we can organize around that. The Vermont EPSCoR Director, Dr. Judith Van Houten will work to make this as smooth as possible for the Governor.

About Vermont EPSCoR:

EPSCoR is the Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR), a program designed to fulfill the National Science Foundation's (NSF) mandate to promote scientific progress nationwide. The EPSCoR program is directed at those jurisdictions that have historically received lesser amounts of NSF Research and Development (R&D) funding. Twenty-seven states, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the U. S. Virgin Islands are currently eligible to participate. Through this program, NSF establishes partnerships with government, higher education and industry that are designed to effect lasting improvements in a state's or region's research infrastructure, R&D capacity and hence, its national R&D competitiveness. Since its creation in the early 1990's EPSCoR has brought about \$100 million dollars in National Science Foundation grants into our state.

Draft Talking Points for a Video by Governor Shumlin: Governor Shumlin has initiatives to enhance STEM education and increase the number of STEM graduates who will enter our workforce. Vermont EPSCoR's work with undergraduates, high school and middle school teachers, and high school students fits squarely with this effort.

The research that VT EPSCoR carries out is important to the development of adaptive management policies for the Lake Champlain Basin. As we have seen with the spring flooding and tropical storm Irene damage in 2011, we must be strategic about our management of the state's natural resources. Vermont EPSCoR works closely with the State's Agency of Natural Resources and will develop models that will provide managers with the ability to test their plans before implementation.

Vermont EPSCoR provides incentives to first generation, Abenaki and Veteran undergraduates to enter STEM majors for our STEM workforce.

Vermont EPSCoR is a state-wide program that supports private sector innovative research and involves institutions of higher education from across the entire state.

If the Gov would like to do the video then please let us know how can we help you make this happen to accommodate the Governor's busy schedule?

I am cc'ing Dr. Judy Van Houten, Director of VT EPSCoR and Dr. John Evans, President of the Vermont Technology Council on this email.
Dr. Van Houten can arrange scheduling with VPT at the Governor's convenience.

Thanks very much.

Best regards,
frank



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President

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