



**April 2010
Newsletter**

Issue: 4

Dear Jason,

Project SYNCERE has continued its efforts to stimulate student's interest in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) around the country. Through our work within the community, we have increased the number of schools and organizations we partner with and have also expanded our reach. Our April newsletter highlights our latest projects and achievements.

To learn more about Project SYNCERE, please visit us online by clicking [here](#).

Project SYNCERE's workshop at the 36th Annual NSBE Conference in Toronto, Canada was a HUGE success.



Project SYNCERE recently completed a 2-day workshop for more than 100 students at this year's National Society of Black Engineers ([NSBE](#)) National Convention, held in Toronto, Canada. The workshop, which featured middle and high school students from the US and Canada, introduced students to the theories of engineering design and applied physics via a mousetrap car design competition. The students were tasked with the challenge of designing a car to see which could travel at the fastest speed and go the farthest distance. [click on above picture to view workshop photos]

Project SYNCERE kicks off partnership with IBM to expose CPS students to various engineering disciplines



This month, Project SYNCERE kicked off their partnership with IBM. As part of IBM's EWeek Initiative, Project SYNCERE and IBM have teamed up to expose more than 350 students across Chicago to the fields of engineering.

Students at the participating schools are being introduced to the fields of computer and mechanical engineering through their participation in the event. Students were able to discover firsthand what engineering is all about, as they completed their java software programs, and built marble roller coasters.

IBM's EWeek is a national outreach program that began in 1951 to promote engineering. In 1990, the scope of the program was broadened to include the promotion of math, science, and technology literacy among K-12 students. IBM is strongly committed to EWeek, serving as Chairing Corporate Sponsor in 1992 and in 2001.

Students at Perspectives Calumet utilize LEAN Manufacturing principles as they develop their Skateboard Assembly Line Process



Students at [Perspectives Calumet High School](#), on Chicago's south side, learn about LEAN Manufacturing as part of Project SYNCERE's *Empowerment Thru Engineering* after school program. Participants were asked to develop an assembly line process for a fictitious skateboard manufacturing company. As part of the project, students developed Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for their assembly line processes and utilized other Six Sigma Principles. [click on above picture to view Skateboard Assembly Line photos]

Students at Dunne Elementary and Perspectives Calumet Middle School explore Engineering thru Model Rocket Design.



Project SYNCERE uses model rockets to teach STEM to students at Dunne Elementary School and Perspectives Calumet Middle School on Chicago's south side. Students involved in the program learn key engineering principles as they design, build and predict the altitude of their model rockets. Students then use their knowledge of trigonometry to calculate the actual distance that their rockets flew and compare their results.

Project SYNCERE partners with the UIC CHANCE Program to introduce students from Emmett Elementary School to the STEM Fields.

Students from Emmett Elementary School, on Chicago's west side, recently completed Project SYNCERE's *Introduction to Engineering* program. The program, which is part of the Project SYNCERE/UIC CHANCE Saturday engineering initiative, introduced students to mechanical engineering design while they explored kinetic and potential energy. As participants in the program, students designed marble roller coasters to see which group could successfully create one with the most loops. The students utilized their prior knowledge as well as their newly developed skills to successfully build their roller coasters. [click on below picture to view marble roller coaster photos]



Project SYNCERE partners with UIC for A CHANCE FOR CHANGE Summer Youth STEM

Camp

Welcome Orientation

Tuesday June 22, 2010
6:00pm—8:00pm
Charles A. Hayes Family
Investment Center
4859 South Webash - Chicago, Illinois

**Daily Instruction
Schedule (3 days):
Tuesday thru Thursday**

Fridays are reserved for
Community Service Projects
& Educational Enrichment Outings

8:00am—Opening Session &
Breakfast
9:00am—Project SYNCERE
Engineering Program
10:00am—Ameresco
11:00am—College of
Engineering
12:00pm—Lunch Break
12:30pm—Study Session
1:00pm—Critical Reading
Analysis
2:00pm—Professional
Development

UIC CHANCE PROGRAM
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT CHICAGO
1200 West Harrison Street, Suite 2080
Chicago, Illinois 60607
312-866-8026
www.chance.uic.edu

CHANG.E
CHICAGO HOUSING AUTHORITY
60 East Van Buren
Chicago, Illinois 60605
312.742.8500
www.thecha.org

AMERESCO
Green • Clean • Sustainable
1900 Spring Road, Suite 400
Oakbrook, Illinois 60823
830-203-2800
www.ameresco.com

PROJECT SYNCERE
Supporting Youth's Needs with Core Engineering Research Experiments
8247 South Cranston Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60617
312-608-3486
www.projectsincere.org

UIC COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT CHICAGO
MERRP Program
851 South Morgan Street
Chicago, Illinois 60607
312-938-2224
www.uic.edu/depts/eng/merrp

**A CHANCE
for
CHANGE**
Summer Youth S.T.E.M. Camp

In partnership with
Ameresco, Inc.
Summer Camp Dates:
July 6 — August 12, 2010
Hosted by
CHANCE PROGRAM

This summer, Project SYNCERE will take part in the *A CHANCE for CHANGE Summer Youth S.T.E.M. Camp* which will be sponsored by the UIC CHANCE Program, Ameresco, Chicago Housing Authority (CHA), and the UIC College of Engineering.

The goal for the Summer Youth STEM Camp is to identify, motivate and prepare participants for entry into STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) careers. Participants will gain access to the academic tools and social support necessary to excel in STEM based disciplines. Research indicates that students who have access to college and university settings prior to their arrival have a tendency to be more successful in college and real world settings. This project seeks to recruit selected students who reside in the Chicago Housing Authority and begin to prepare them for academic instructions and social networking opportunities.

Project SYNCERE will provide participants with hands-on engineering projects to stimulate students' interest in the STEM fields. The project focus will be on **GREEN TECHNOLOGY**, helping to strengthen students' knowledge of renewable energy and showing them how they can be responsible citizens.

Project SYNCERE partners with University of Illinois Gear Up Program to host Summer Engineering Camp for students at Perspectives Calumet High School



This summer, Project SYNCERE will host a summer engineering camp for Chicagoland students at Perspectives Calumet High School for students in grades 9-12.

Our summer engineering camp is a great opportunity for aspiring engineers to learn about the exciting

fields of science, technology, engineering, and math through project-based learning. The camp has been designed for students who have a sincere interest in strengthening their math and science skills as well as a desire to learn about the STEM fields. Another objective of the camp is to give younger students the opportunity to interact with scientific principles to better prepare them for engineering related careers.

Below are the details for the summer program:

- Begins: Monday, June 28, 2010
- Location: Calumet Perspectives High School (8131 S. May St., Chicago, IL 60620)
- Frequency: Classes held Monday-Thursday
- Time: Classes are held from 9:30am - 1:00pm
- Duration: Program length is 6 weeks
- Ends: Thursday, August 05, 2010
- Cost: FREE
- Who: Students entering grades 9-12

FOR AN APPLICATION OR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT: Seun Phillips at sphillips@projectsyncere.org.

Project SYNCERE is looking for Volunteers!



Do you have a passion for working with students? Project SYNCERE is currently looking for volunteers to mentor, tutor, and speak with our students about your profession. If interested, please email us at info@projectsyncere.org or visit our website at www.projectsyncere.org/contact.html.

Project SYNCERE is looking for new Partnerships!

Project SYNCERE would like to bring its innovative STEM Programs to your school/community. If interested, please email us at info@projectsyncere.org or visit our website at www.projectsyncere.org/contact.html.

HOW YOU CAN HELP!!!

We are currently in need of 15 Laptop Computers to support our robotics and computer programming programs. If you or someone you know can help us reach our goal, please click [here](#) or email us at info@projectsyncere.org.

Project SYNCERE relies on the support of schools, local and national foundations, corporations, and individuals to sustain its STEM programming. If you would like to make a donation to help us reach our goals, please visit our website or click [here](#). All contributions made to Project SYNCERE are fully tax-deductible.

Sincerely,

[Jason Coleman](#)
Project SYNCERE
Executive Director
Co-Founder

[Seun Phillips](#)
Project SYNCERE
Program Director
Co-Founder

[George Wilson](#)
Project SYNCERE
Finance Director
Co-Founder



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