INASMUCH FOUNDATION GIVES NEARLY $6 MILLION TO OKLAHOMA ORGANIZATIONS

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AT&T SUPPORTS THE FUTURE OF STEM-EDUCATION WITH CONTRIBUTION TO OSUTEACH

The OSUTeach program is helping to reshape K-12 STEM-education by supporting and better preparing future STEM teachers.

STILLWATER, OK, Dec. 15, 2014—Today, AT&T* announced a $25,000 contribution to support the Oklahoma State University OSUTeach program, which is a initiative that works to attract bright science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) students into teaching careers through advanced, field-intensive curriculum. The overall objective of the program is to positively influence the transformation of K-12 STEM education by better preparing and supporting future science and mathematic teachers.

“Education has been a priority for AT&T for more than a century, and we believe that when we invest in education, we are making our communities stronger, safer and more economically sustainable,” said Steve Hahn, AT&T Oklahoma President. “We are proud to support OSU and their OSUTeach program to enhance STEM-learning and future STEM-education because as the world continues to become more interconnected and technologically advanced, our workforce will continue to rely even more heavily on STEM-related education and skills.”

“We would like to thank AT&T for its support and for being an outstanding community partner,” said Bret Danilowicz, OSU Dean of Arts & Sciences. “This contribution will help OSUTeach make great strides toward its goal of reshaping K-12 STEM education and better preparing our students today to be leaders in the classroom tomorrow.”

The OSUTeach program model encourages STEM students to enter the teaching profession by providing teaching opportunities to undergraduates. Incentives to consider teaching are in the form of two, one-hour classes known as Step 1 and Step 2 (both are funded through the program) that put OSU students in K-12 classrooms in teaching roles during their first semester, which is a valuable contrast to traditional teaching programs. These opportunities often result in discovery of a passion for teaching. Students also receive personal mentorship around their classroom teaching experiences from OSUTeach master teachers—who are all former public school educators.

After these exploratory classes, students officially join OSUTeach and begin taking courses that prepare them for teaching—such as classroom management and inquiry-based classroom lesson design—while simultaneously completing their STEM degree requirements in subjects such as chemistry and math.
Students graduate with a STEM degree and teaching certification. Ultimately, the K-12 STEM education model is transformed by having students with a passion for teaching and who have a high content knowledge in the STEM fields educating Oklahoma students. AT&T’s support for the OSUTeach is part of the company’s ongoing commitment to education. Among the most significant corporate educational initiatives in the U.S., AT&T and its Aspire initiative have already impacted more than one million students across all 50 states since the program launched in 2008. Through Aspire, AT&T has committed to investing $350 million to education.