Call for Presenters  By Daniel Potter

Presentation Submission Form –https://goo.gl/GgQI.ki

UCET is looking for presenters who are excited to share what they have learned about technology in education. We need people willing to present based on these selections:

- **Ignite! In 5 minutes and with 20 images come and inspire teachers!** Share 20 slides in 5 minutes and inspire teachers (think of a mini TED event). Presenters will have just five minutes and 20 slides each to share their passions, tell their stories, or share their experiences in a continuous rapid-fire presentation! Presenter slides are shown for 15 seconds each on an automatic rotation for a total of 5 minutes of fame. By sharing what ignites their passions—a professional practice from the classroom, excitement about a new tool that will spark creativity for their students, or a personal story of student engagement – Ignite presenters will fan the flames for their fellow attendees while awakening their awareness, stimulating their thought, or spurring them to action.

- **Over the Shoulder (OTS):** 20-minutes. Focus on specific solution, tool or content provider.

Where the FOCUS is

Educate  Innovate  Collaborate

The Annual Conference for the Utah Coalition for Educational Technology

#YOUUCET

Please Join us March 22-23, 2018 University of Utah
Registration: www.ucet.org
• **Lecture:** Hour-long Traditional
• **Panel:** Hour-long Moderator and 2-3 panelists
• **BYOD (Bring Your Own Device):** Hour-long Hands on activities
• **Interactive Lecture:** Hour-long Some activities for audience participation
• **Playground:** 2-hour Learning should be active. Learning should be fun. Learning should be free. At UCET, it's all three. In the UCET Playground teachers can explore 3D Printers, build robots, code, create, and learn how to take over the world, kind of. In the UCET playground you'll get to do just that – PLAY! Teachers are eager to learn and explore. Here's your chance to let them get their hands on your products and build something new... to change the way we teach!

Please review the [Call for Presenters Submission Guide](mailto:) before submitting your proposal. Questions? Contact [ucetinfo@ucet.org](mailto:ucetinfo@ucet.org) or [daniel.potter@ucet.org](mailto:daniel.potter@ucet.org)

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**#utedchat - Join us each week!**

Wednesday nights @9pm. Use #utedchat on Twitter.

| Nov. 1  | Future Ready Librarians | Chris Haught | @BerylGirl |
| Nov. 8  | Building Effective Admin-Teacher Relationships | Dr. Rick Robins | @JuabWasp1 |
| Nov. 15 | Math Themed | Steven Phelps | @MrPhelps_Math |
| Nov. 22 | No Chat – Thanksgiving Break! | | |
| Nov. 29 | Teaching Under the Influence...of Awesomeness | Krystal Plott | @MissPlott |

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**#ucet18 Registration Live! By Tricia Jackson**

We are excited to announce our UCET 2018 registration is now live! Reserve your spot now! Start looking for our #YOUcet posters in your building. Share this great news with your friends, neighbors, and countrymen. Remember the Early Bird deadline is February 1. **Presenter proposals are due December 22.** That is just 49 days away!

**Registration Links**

• Main - [http://tinyurl.com/ucet18](http://tinyurl.com/ucet18)
• Vendor - [http://tinyurl.com/ucet18-vendor](http://tinyurl.com/ucet18-vendor)
• General - [http://tinyurl.com/ucet18-general](http://tinyurl.com/ucet18-general)
• Proposal - [http://tinyurl.com/ucet18-presenter](http://tinyurl.com/ucet18-presenter)

**Early Bird Registration** (Early bird registration ends February 1)

• $60 for both days
• $40 for one day

**Regular Registration**

• $70 for both days
• $50 for one day

**College Student Discount**

• $30 for both days (early bird)
• $40 for both days (regular)
Reading Achievement: Breaking the Barriers to Success
By Dr. Marion Blank

Reading is a complex skill and so it’s not unexpected to find that different groups of experts focus on different aspects of the behavior. Among the specialists in this field, there are (1) those who concentrate on ways to teach reading and (2) those who study non-reading skills such as language and cognition that correlate with reading achievement. Unfortunately, the two groups rarely combine forces. Were their expertise to be integrated, the consequences for improved reading success would be dramatic.

A History of Failure
Despite the tremendous amount of time, money and energy spent on teaching reading, the need for improved reading performance could not be stronger. According to government figures, since the NAEP started testing in 1992, one out of three fourth grade students consistently performs at “below basic” levels – and only a third of students achieve proficiency. Research has clearly shown that failure in the early years is devastating to future progress. However, as the government figures indicate, little has changed and the failure continues. The separate domains into which the field has been compartmentalized has contributed greatly to this state of affairs.

The Dominating Force of Phonics Decoding Instruction
The specialists who concentrate on reading performance are the ones who generally determine the curriculum that children are offered. That curriculum is, as it is for almost all the children in the nation, grounded in phonics as the sole approach for decoding. Those specialists have played a dominant role, particularly since the 1960’s following the publication of Jeanne Chall’s now classic book “Learning to Read: The Great Debate.” After extensive analysis of phonics instruction versus whole word teaching, Dr. Chall strongly backed phonics as the only effective path to reading.

Since then, there has been a wealth of research reinforcing and extending this position by showing that children who read effectively have skills in phonology, phonemic awareness and other abilities related to analyzing the sound properties of words. Accordingly, in an effort to develop effective reading in all children, the curriculum emphasizes the relationships between the sounds of letters, letter combinations and words.

As is well known, English does not lend itself to a simple phonics system where one letter is associated with one sound. The 44 sounds of our language can be spelled 1768 different ways! Even the simplest sentences in early readers contain only small percentages of words that can be sounded out.

To deal with these complexities, children are given a variety of word analysis techniques—with the major ones being complex verbal “rules” for the decoding of words (rules such as the “silent e,” the double vowel, the consonant blends and on and on). There is considerable disagreement as to the number of rules needed—with the estimates ranging from a high in the 600’s to lows of 60. Even at the lowest number, however, the rules turn reading into a slow process where words have to be dissected and analyzed before they can be recognized. These are the sorts of processes that have been center stage for the past several decades as schools have worked to improve reading performance. But, as the government figures show, the effort has not paid off.

A Different View
If we turn to the specialists who study the language/cognitive skills of the children, we begin to see the reason for the continued failure. Children in academic difficulty are categorized under various labels including hyperactive, learning disabled, language disabled, dyslexic, inattentive, poor executive control, etc. The extensive body of research on these children shows them having a range of problems that directly impact their ability to use the curriculum they have been given. Specifically, they show

1. difficulties in language that limit their ability to comprehend and produce verbal content—so that they cannot effectively process many of the rules
2. impulsivity that interferes with their ability to delay—so that they do not have the patience to call up the rules
3. disorders of memory—so they cannot recall the rules which are applicable
4. problems with attention—so that they cannot remain on task for the streams of cognitive analysis that phonics requires of them
5. perceptual-motor impairments—so that they do not have clear images of the words.

All this means that children with reading difficulties are not able to
carry out the sequence of language, memory and attentional demands that current phonics instruction entails. The findings from the cognitive/linguistic specialists show that the dominant practices aimed at developing phonic abilities drown the children in the very complexities they cannot manage, thereby rendering the system untenable.

**Moving Ahead**

This does not mean that the situation is hopeless. Currently used methods are not suitable for the children in question, but those methods are not the only ways to teach reading. Research from the phonics proponents themselves offers evidence for the value of alternative pathways. It has been demonstrated that writing plays a powerful role in learning to identify and retain words. For example, research has found that requiring a child to write a word accurately only two times is as effective in facilitating word recognition as is reading the same word nine times. In other words, rapid reading is attained much faster via experiences in spelling (i.e., writing the word) than via far more extensive encounters in reading.

Although it has not received the attention it merits, it appears that reading words and spelling words foster the same types of underlying word knowledge necessary for effective reading. At the same time, writing avoids many of the demands that are so problematic for struggling readers. For example, children can be shown words that they then have to copy from memory. That places no need on them to apply any of the heavy verbal content that has typically accompanied the decoding of words. Instruction in systematic, sustained writing holds enormous promise.

The specifics of what can and should be carried out need to be determined. They will require time and effort. What is central at this time is recognizing the need to establish communication among the different specialties so that it will be possible to develop a more holistic approach to reading instruction that empowers us to get past the decades of failure that have stalked the children and the nation.

*Dr. Marion Blank is a world-renowned developmental psychologist and literacy expert who started, and for many years served as Director of the Light on Literacy program at Columbia University. She has authored scores of peer-reviewed articles and books, lectured extensively around the world and developed dozens of award winning teaching and assessment programs. Dr. Blank is also a recipient of the Upton Sinclair Award which honors individuals who have made a significant contribution to education. Her “Phonics-PLUS” system of literacy instruction is currently available in the online program, Reading Kingdom.*

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**“EPIC!” – A READING RESOURCE FOR TEACHERS**

By: Ciara Seegmiller

[https://www.getepic.com/educators](https://www.getepic.com/educators)

“Epic!” is a resource that provides thousands of books that you can read anywhere, anytime. Not only does it include classic favorites but it recommends new books based on the child’s reading level and interests. This app also allows children to explore read-to-me and audio books. A reading log is kept to show which books your child has been reading and for how long. The child’s reading allows them to earn rewards. The more you read, the more rewards you receive. This provides extra motivation for the children to keep reading. “Epic!” is 100% safe and appropriate for kids 12 and under.

Benefits of an Educator Account

- 100% FREE for all verified educators
- Instant, unlimited access to thousands of high-quality, award-winning books, learning videos, teacher-curated collections, quizzes, and more
- Create unique student profiles and track students’ reading progress
- Access on any device: desktops, laptops (including Chromebooks), iOS and Android
Free STEM Education Webinars From NASA Educator Professional Development

Audience: In-service, Pre-service, Home School and Informal Educators

The NASA STEM Educator Professional Development Collaborative (EPDC) at Texas State University is presenting a series of free webinars open to all educators. Join NASA education specialists to learn about activities, lesson plans, educator guides and resources that bring NASA into your classroom. Registration is required to participate. To register, simply click on the link provided beneath the webinar description.

November 13, 2017, at 6:30 p.m. ET: Earth Sense -- Remote Sensing at NASA: My NASA Data (Grades 4-12) -- Participants will get an overview of resources from the My NASA Data website which may be used to discuss topics from climate system interactions to ocean ecology to forest fires using authentic data. Use of the Live Access Server for data analysis will also be discussed. This webinar addresses the Next Generation Science Standards ESS2 and ESS3. Register online to participate. https://www.eiseverwhere.com/273226

November 14, 2017, at 6:30 p.m. ET: Space Mathematics: Linking Math and Science (Grades 5-8) -- Space Mathematics is a two part series designed to help educators make the critical linkage between Mathematics and Science in the classroom. In Part 1, Linking Math and Science, participants will survey some of the available NASA resources and discuss the use of science as a vehicle for mathematics instruction. Register online to participate. https://www.eiseverwhere.com/273233

November 15, 2017, at 5:00 p.m. ET: Earth Sense -- Remote Sensing at NASA: The Scoop on Soil (Grades 4-10) -- Explore the GLOBE program for insights in how to bring an outdoor experience to your students. The webinar will focus on hands-on inquiry based experiences. Learn how NASA's SMAP mission collects data about soil moisture. Explore the Elementary GLOBE resources including teacher guides, protocols, activities, storybooks and related STEM activities designed for grades K-12. Register online to participate. https://www.eiseverwhere.com/281907

November 16, 2017, at 5:30 p.m. ET: Earth Sense -- Remote Sensing at NASA: Comets (Grades K-12) -- Learn about comets with hands-on activities. Participants will get an overview of assessment strategies, including a discussion of specific applications of these strategies, and NASA STEM comet resources for the classroom. Register online to participate. https://www.eiseverwhere.com/293764

For the NASA STEM Educator Professional Development webinar schedule, go to: http://www.txstate-epdc.net/events/

#TeacherOnBoard -- Pinterest Interest?

Audience: All Educators
Contact: JSC-STEMonStation@mail.nasa.gov

We heard you, educators! You can now access the NASA's A Year of Education on Station resources and opportunities on the Pinterest STEM on Station page. Log on to Pinterest.com/nasa/stem-on-station and find the information you want in the Pinterest format you love. Current posts include fun videos about living and working in space, as well as ways to get involved with special opportunities offered by NASA to recognize an almost constant one-year presence of a #TeacherOnBoard the International Space Station. We are 69 pins and growing, so check back often!
**PBSLearning Media News and Media Literacy Collection**

Valid sources, fact v. opinion, fake news...hot topics in our classrooms today, and society at large. Teachers and students need tools and tips for navigating the web and our social streams.

Their new [News and Media Literacy collection](https://www.pbslearningmedia.org) includes videos, blog articles, student handouts, lesson plans, and tip sheets to help students identify, analyze, and investigate the news and information they get from online sources. During Media Literacy Week, put a spotlight on media literacy skills using these trusted resources from KQED, PBS Newshour, and Common Sense Media, collected and curated by WGBH. Gr. 6-12

If you are looking for an example of the importance of reliable sources and statics behind news stories, here is a [short post from one of our young reporters in the Crossing the Divide project](https://www.pbs.org/newshour/education/crossing-the-divide-2018-01-25). Use this and other material from the Crossing the Divide project site to drive conversation in the classroom.

Looking for something for younger students? Check out their Ruff Ruffman, Humble Media Genius collection. The much-loved character Ruff Ruffman is back in this collection of videos and tips to help students explore and understand the many ups and downs of using technology. A good resource to start with is [Searching and You!](https://www.pbs.org/newshour/education/crossing-the-divide-2018-01-25) which highlights how to look at site sources and how to search with more accuracy. Gr. 2-5

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**MAKING GROUP WORK A WIN FOR YOUR STUDENTS**

Collaboration is essential to students’ learning! Having kids work together promotes cooperation, builds social-emotional skills, and gets them engaged in active learning. Group work, on the other hand, tends to come with challenges. Some students feel like they do all the work, others feel left out, motivation wanes, and assignments seem to get cobbled together. So, what makes for better group work? In the video above, we’ll highlight how a shared ownership model gives every student more of a stake in group work activities. Learn more about managing group work on our Teaching Strategies page: [https://www.commonsense.org/education](https://www.commonsense.org/education)...
DEALING WITH DIGITAL DISTRACTION IN THE CLASSROOM

Digital devices put the world at our students' fingertips, whether with their own cell phones or with school-provided computers and tablets. But, along with opportunities for powerful learning come the risks -- and realities -- of distraction. So, what are the best ways to manage digital distraction in the classroom? Check out our practical tips on supporting students and modeling productive 21st Century learning. For more ways to manage digital distraction in your classroom, visit: https://www.commonsense.org/education...

Space Mathematics: Linking Math and Science

Audience: Educators of Grades 5-8
Event Date: Nov. 14, 2017, at 6:30 p.m. EST
Contact: john.f.weis@nasa.gov

Join the NASA STEM Educator Professional Development Collaborative at Texas State University for free 60-minute webinar. Space Mathematics is a two-part series designed to help educators make the critical linkage between mathematics and science. In this session, "Part 1 -- Linking Math and Science," participants will survey some of the available NASA resources and discuss the use of science as a vehicle for mathematics instruction. Online registration is required.
OPERATION BioenergizeME: ‘Invite a Bioenergy Expert’ Webinar With Devinn Lambert

Click here for information

**Audience:** Grades 5-12 Educators and Students

**Event Date:** Nov. 15, 2017, 4 - 5 p.m. EST

**Contact:** BioenergizeME@ee.doe.gov

The U.S. Department of Energy’s Bioenergy Technologies Office invites students to attend a webinar with technology manager Devinn Lambert. Learn more about using biomass -- plant, algae and organic waste materials -- to produce renewable fuels and everyday products like cosmetics, plastic bottles, cleaners, clothing and more. Lambert will share details about her current projects and help students understand how they can make the leap from the classroom to an exciting, rewarding STEM-based career.

**2018-2019 Albert Einstein Distinguished Educator Fellowship**

https://science.energy.gov/wdts/einstein/

**Audience:** K-12 STEM Educators

**Application Deadline:** Nov. 16, 2017, at 8 p.m. EST

**Contact:** sc.einstein@science.doe.gov

The Albert Einstein Distinguished Educator Fellowship is a paid fellowship for K-12 science, mathematics, engineering and technology teachers. Einstein Fellows spend a school year in the Washington, D.C., area serving in a federal agency or on Capitol Hill. Applicants must be U.S. citizens currently employed full time in a U.S. elementary or secondary school or school district. Applicants must have been teaching STEM full time for at least five of the last seven years.

**Canvas LMS Tutorial - Using Modules to Build a Course**

Learn how to build your own course in Canvas by using the Modules page to organize and build your course content. Using Modules is the easiest and most logical way to build your Canvas course. If your school or district has signed up to use Canvas, or if you’ve decided to use the Canvas Free for Teachers account to create your courses, this video covers what you need to know to get started!
G-Suite for Education Resources

On Friday, November 3, Ed Tech Leaders from districts across Utah participated in a mini-Google Summit to discuss new features and classroom applications for Google Classroom, Google Photos, Google Chrome extensions, Google Keep, Google Drive, Google Sites, Add-ons, and HyperDocs. The Summit resources are posted on this Google Site.

Co-Pilot: The free solution teachers need by Abbey Lundberg

Website: https://www.tetraanalytix.com/

**Purpose**: Co-Pilot allows you to understand what your students appreciate about being in your class, and what they are missing. Once you understand your classroom from your students’ perspective, you are fully equipped to give them what they need.

**How can teachers use Co-Pilot?** Teachers know that each student and each class has different needs, but discovering those needs can be puzzling. Co-Pilot is a secure, web-based student reporting system that lets your students tell you what they need. Using Co-Pilot, students submit anonymous surveys reporting on anything from needing more time on their homework to not knowing how to make friends. Join the hundreds of other teachers who are charting their instructional journey with their students as their Co-Pilot. And because complimentary snacks always make a flight smoother, Co-Pilot is completely free for teachers.

Calculus X - Free iOS app (as of Nov. 9)

https://itunes.apple.com/app/id425601036?mt=8&ign-mpt=uo%3D4

Calculus X app is a great reference to success in any Calculus course. It has all necessary formulas, graphs and geometry shapes in Calculus.

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Calculus X focuses on these topics:


- **Differentiation**: General Rules, Exponential and Logarithmic Functions, Trigonometric Functions, Inverse Trigonometric Functions, Hyperbolic Functions, Inverse Hyperbolic Functions.
- **Integration**: Basic Forms, Exponential and Logarithmic Forms, Trigonometric Forms, Inverse Trigonometric Forms, Hyperbolic Forms.


- **Trigonometry**: Right Triangle Definitions, Circular Functions Definitions, Unit Circle, Reciprocal Identities, Quotient Identities, Pythagorean Identities, Cofunction Identities, Reduction Identities, Sum and Difference Formulas, Double-Angle Formulas, Half-Angle Formulas, Power Reducing Formulas, Sum to Product Formulas, Product to Sum Formulas.

- **Conics**: Circle, Parabolas, Ellipses, Hyperbolas.

- **Algebra**: Basic Rules, Negation, Equality, Zero, Arithmetic Operations, Absolute value, Exponents, Radicals, Special Products, Special Factoring, Quadratic Equation, Distance and Midpoint, Lines, Logarithms, Inequalities, Complex Numbers.

- **Conversions**: Length, Area, Volume, Weight, Time.

- **Geometry**: Triangle, Right Triangle, Equilateral Triangle, Rectangle, Square, Parallelogram, Trapezoid, Circle, Sector of Circle, Circular Ring, Ellipse, Cone, Frustum of Cone, Cylinder, Sphere, Cube, Rectangle Solid, Pyramid.

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**World of Dinosaurs - Free iOS App**


"World Of Dinosaurs" is the comprehensive dinosaur resource for iOS and features original HD Illustrations, and a wealth of scientifically verified information about all dinosaurs past, their history, extinction and modern day ancestors.

World Of Dinosaurs takes advantage of the fact that we are currently living in the golden age for dinosaur discovery and presents comprehensive information based on the latest discoveries and scientific theory, within a beautiful multimedia presentation. World Of Dinosaurs include amazing high-definition original illustrations by Mohamad Haghani, which along with the accompanying information creates the ultimate dinosaur resource covering dinosaurs of all time, discovery, extinction and even dinosaur ancestors still alive today. World Of Dinosaurs is also an experience that children will love and the easily readable articles and immersive experience can even encourage younger users to discover the joys of reading.

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**Gravitations - Player Made Missions**


There are over 4,500 unique missions to complete in Gravitations and they are all made by the players. And every day even more amazing missions are being made.

Gravitations is a space and gravity themed puzzle game where all of the missions are created by players! Each mission you plot your ship’s course to successfully reach the goal station while dodging obstacles and saving lost astronauts along the way.