

**Update to the
Speaking of Science (SoS) Program
A Board of Regents Science and Engineering Speakers Bureau**

Sponsored by the
National Science Foundation's Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research
And
The Louisiana Board of Regents

A. PROGRAM OVERVIEW & PURPOSE

Under the National Science Foundation's Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (NSF EPSCoR) award to Louisiana, the Board of Regents sponsors a speaker's bureau, Speaking of Science (SoS).

SoS is focused on sparking K-12 student interest in science and engineering and on increasing public, business/industry and government awareness of the exciting research being conducted at Louisiana universities. Objectives also include the facilitation of interaction with potential industrial partners and of long-term support for basic research by community and government leaders.

Comprised of some of the State's most outstanding teaching and research talent in the science and engineering disciplines, SoS speakers are available to make presentations to elementary and secondary students, universities, and business/industry.

B. STAGE 1: BUILDING A NETWORK OF SPEAKERS

B.1 Eligible Faculty

Individuals who hold a regular tenure track or tenured position at a Louisiana public institution of higher education or at a private institution that is a member of the Louisiana Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, are eligible to participate.

B.2 Eligible Disciplines

Eligible disciplines under this program are limited to those associated with Science Technology Engineering Mathematics (STEM) as identified by the National Science Foundation.

B.3 Application Requirements

Application for Participation

Participants must use the online form which calls for an abstract (200 words or less) that includes his/her area of expertise, the title(s) of the proposed presentation(s), the intended audience (if applicable to elementary and secondary, please specify age or grade), a publishable description and an explanation of how the presentation will benefit the targeted audience and SoS objectives.

Curriculum Vitae

A two (2) page curriculum vitae, that highlights publications, presentations and forums, and R&D funding history, must be attached to the application.

B.4 Application Submission

Applications to participate must be submitted to:

<https://rsi.laregents.edu/la-epscor-2/epscor-programs/speaking-of-science-sos/>

C. STAGE 2: COORDINATION OF SPEAKERS BUREAU**C.1 Promotion**

An SoS flyer listing new speakers will be mailed to elementary/secondary schools annually. Additionally, SoS will be promoted via social media.

C.2 Requesting School/Organization Responsibilities

Interested organizations will be required to contact the LA EPSCoR office at the Board of Regents (BoR) with a webform requesting their top three (3) speaker choices at least two (2) weeks prior to the meeting or forum.

The following will be required in the letter of request:

- Target audience (age, education level, interest in science, etc.)
- Anticipated attendance
- Date/time/place of event
- Type of event (classroom, scientific meeting, open forum, conference, etc.)
- Reason for request (justification for BoR involvement)

The LA EPSCoR office member will serve as the liaison between the party requesting the presentation and the requested SoS speaker. Once the arrangements are made, the SoS speaker will be sent a Calendar Invite for confirmation purposes and a Service Agreement that includes the scheduled date, time, and location; the title of the requested presentation and anticipated attendance; and the name, title and telephone number of the contact person at the requesting school/organization.

The requesting school/organization will be responsible for promoting the presentation to the targeted audience and for submission of an Event Documentation Form to the LA EPSCoR Office after the event occurs.

C.3 LA EPSCoR Office Responsibilities

The LA EPSCoR Office will be responsible for making arrangements with the available speaker. Once a speaker has accepted an invitation to give a presentation, he/she will be expected to fulfill this commitment. If an emergency arises, the speaker must notify the EPSCoR office as soon as possible so a replacement can be arranged.

C.4 Travel Reimbursement and Honorarium

Travel advances are not available under this program. Funds will be dispersed only after the presentation has taken place, the signed Service Agreement has been received by the LA EPSCoR office, and the Event Documentation Form has been completed and submitted to the LA EPSCoR office by the school/organization.

D. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please direct all questions to:

Mr. Shannon Domingue
Louisiana Board of Regents
Phone: 225-342-4253

Email : shannon.domingue@laregents.edu

E. ATTACHMENTS

- A. Definitions
- B. Rules
- C. Application Form
- D. Post-Presentation Evaluation Form
- E. Event Documentation Form