

## PREPARING AND TEACHING THE WHOLE CHILD

Name of Submitter: Tameshia Baldwin

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**Presentation Title: Engaging Rural Middle School Students in Authentic STEM Learning Experiences through Innovative Course Design**

This presentation will discuss a unique series of courses that were developed to engage underrepresented middle school students (grades 6-8) from rural North Carolina in authentic STEM learning experiences within the context of advanced manufacturing technologies and practices. This work stems from a NSF-funded project titled, Developing STEM Identity in Rural Audiences through Community-based Engineering Design (DeSIRE), which aims to increase students' STEM content knowledge and interest in pursuing STEM careers, particularly engineering. Presenters will discuss the development, implementation and impact of the courses on students' science content knowledge and their interest in STEM careers.

**Presentation Target:**

Middle School

**Presenter(s):**

1. Tameshia Baldwin, Assistant Teaching Professor, North Carolina State University
2. LaTricia Townsend, Research/Evaluation Consultant, North Carolina State University