

CIRCLS Newsletter - Issue 3, May 2021

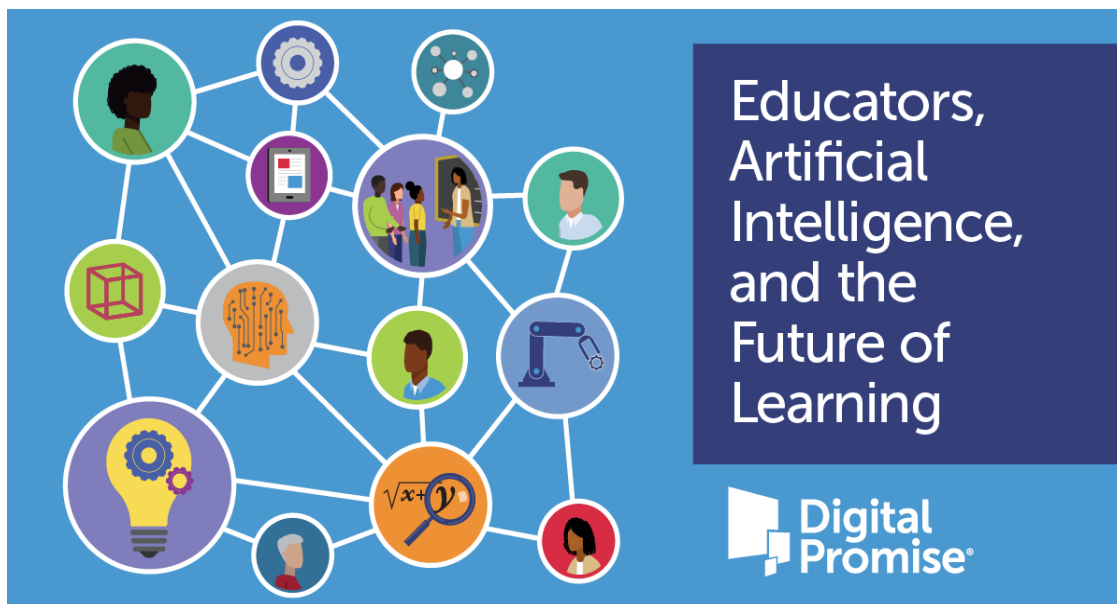


What research outreach event receives 35,000 unique visitors from 120 countries in its first two days? The [STEM for All Video Showcase!](#) This year's theme is COVID, Equity & Social Justice. Sign on to learn about the [31 Emerging Technology projects](#) or any of the other 250 three-minute videos, including one for [CIRCLS](#). And take a moment to participate in the discussion boards and to vote. The showcase runs through May 18.



What research convening will best engage you with highly interactive discussions with your 200 best colleagues on the issues most important to your research? Our CIRCLS 2021 convening! So if you haven't already applied, be sure to do so ASAP via [this form](#).

What research publication enables you to share breaking news from your projects in an open access, peer-reviewed, concise, reader-friendly format? Rapid Community Reports! And we're looking both for [new submissions](#) and [self-nominations](#) to serve on our Editorial Board. Have questions? Don't hesitate to write.



## Educators, Artificial Intelligence, and the Future of Learning Webinar Recordings

[Recordings](#) are now available for the “Educators, Artificial Intelligence, and the Future of Learning” webinar series. Digital Promise and Educator CIRCLS hosted a series of webinars to engage educators and researchers in conversations about how artificial intelligence can shape assessment, teacher support, and learning environments. For more information, check out the [resources on the CIRCLS website](#).

### CIRCLS Team Spotlight



As a senior member of the CIRCLS team, [Wendy Martin](#) will help guide a continuous improvement process using a [toolkit](#) developed by Education Development Center (EDC) to ensure that the CIRCLS team reflects on its goals, activities, and processes, and makes adaptations when needed. As a member of [CIRCL](#), the center that preceded CIRCLS, she helped organize convenings and edit publications such as the [Cyberlearning Community Report](#). She will continue to do this on CIRCLS. A Senior Research Scientist at EDC, she leads research and development efforts around co-creating innovative formal and informal STEM programs with educators and young people, particularly neurodiverse youth. She looks forward to finding new ways to bring more researchers and educators into the CIRCLS community and creating opportunities for them to learn from each other.

## Expertise Exchanges Updates

### [AI and Education Policy](#)

The AI and Education Policy Expertise Exchange has been convening bi-weekly since the beginning of March. We've hosted a series of speakers on national/international policy initiatives, state-level curriculum initiatives, an educator panel, and a company-targeted initiative to mitigate racial bias in educational technology. In the final sessions and leading up to the September CIRCLS convening, we'll be working in small groups to create policy briefs and achieve additional action items. Our small group focus areas include 1) policies that ask companies to be more transparent with AI-embedded edtech tools, 2) policies that encourage schools to screen ed-tech and improve school-wide AI literacy (including ethics), and 3) initiatives that help educators and end-users increase AI literacy and feel more confident with AI-embedded technologies. If you're interested in plugging into any of these initiatives, please reach out to us!

### [Emerging Scholar CIRCLS](#)

On May 6th, the Emerging Scholar CIRCLS Expertise Exchange completed its first mentoring series. In this mentoring series, small groups of emerging scholars engaged in informal conversations with established interdisciplinary researchers during one-hour sessions akin to office hours. Victor Lee, Kylie Peppler, Lorna Quandt, Jeremy Roschelle, and Erin Walker served as the groups' mentors. The groups covered a wide range of topics of interest to the emerging scholars, from scholarly writing to what counts as academic capital in interdisciplinary careers. We invite you to join the Emerging Scholar CIRCLS and participate in one of the sessions in our next mentoring series planned for July 2021.

### [Educator CIRCLS](#)

On May 3rd, we hosted a watch party for the film [Coded Bias](#) and discussed topics including the implications of machine learning and artificial intelligence scoring systems in classrooms. We also hosted initial meetings to learn more about the different topics and activity types that are of interest to potential Educator CIRCLS community members and we have a short [community interest form](#) to help us as we plan upcoming events. Please fill it out to indicate your interests.

If you are interested in joining any of our Expertise Exchanges, [please fill out this form](#).

## Opportunities

Are you presenting on emerging technologies for teaching and learning at the [ISLS annual meeting](#) or another 2021 conference? CIRCLS can share your news on our social media channels. [Please fill out this form](#) and we will promote your presentation.

- **Events:** [2021 ISLS Public Engagement Series Panel and Q&A](#): Featuring Lung Hsiang Wong (National Institute of Education, Singapore); Shirin Vossoughi (Northwestern University, USA); and Mark Guzdial (University of Michigan, USA), this hour-long session will explore how learning scientists can productively write and disseminate prose in the form of news articles, op-eds, blogs, and columns. The panelists will speak about how they have established their presence in these writing spaces, their composition process, and what opportunities have been created through these writings. Other topics will include how to promote these writings, how to coordinate collaborative writing of public prose, and selection of topics relevant to your expertise. The event is **May 19, 2021, at 3 p.m. UTC**. [Read more](#)
- **Funding:** [Racial Equity in STEM Education \(EHR Racial Equity\)](#): The National Science Foundation (NSF) Directorate for Education and Human Resources (EHR) is seeking proposals to support bold, ground-breaking, and potentially transformative projects addressing systemic racism in STEM. Proposals need to consider systemic barriers to opportunities and benefits, and how these barriers impact access to, retention in, and success in STEM education, research, and workforce development. Full proposals are due by **July 13, 2021 and October 12, 2021**. [Read more](#)
- **Call for Submissions:** [Special Call for the Journal of the Learning Sciences Report and Reflection Papers: 30 Years of JLS](#): JLS editors invite reports and reflection papers that offer deliberate discussion of the conceptual and methodological development of the learning sciences and articulate new challenges. These papers might (a) consolidate “big ideas” related to critical research themes and envision future research agendas that synergize different dimensions of learning; (b) re-consider foundational concepts and design approaches in a new context; and/or, (c) present exploratory studies of new concepts, research methods, designs or technologies that are significant for the next generation of scholarship. [Read more](#)
- **Job Opportunity:** [Postdoctoral Fellowship Opportunities at Harvard University](#): The Strategic Data Project (SDP), an initiative of the Center for Education Policy Research at Harvard University, is offering a one-year research fellowship at the postdoctoral level and a Senior Data Fellow position starting in the summer of 2021. The fellow will work at a US Federal Agency in Washington, DC, and engage in research projects related to the department’s focus. Applications are due **May 31, 2021**. [Read more](#)

**Stay tuned and be on the lookout for the most up-to-date opportunities on our [website](#) and [Twitter](#).**

**Have some news or resources that you want to share with the  
community?  
Contact CIRCLS**

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This material is based upon work supported by the National Science Foundation under grant [2021159](#). Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the National Science Foundation.