

The logo for STEM-TREK is displayed in a bold, blue, sans-serif font. The word "STEM" is on the left, followed by a stylized infinity symbol in orange and red, and the word "TREK" is on the right. The background is a dark, textured world map.

STEM∞TREK

# STEM-TREK NONPROFIT: AN ENTREPRENEURIAL JOURNEY

Elizabeth Leake | SC14 | <http://www.startuphpc.com/>

StartupHPC, Monday, Nov. 17, 9:00-3:30 p.m.









2010 discussion with TeraGrid Campus Champions about travel and conferencing budget cuts decreasing post-9/11 era....





# TeraGrid'11

Salt Lake City, UT | July 18-21, 2011

SAVE THE DATE

[www.teragrid.org/tg11](http://www.teragrid.org/tg11)





GSA Regional  
Administrator

**Jeff Neely**

**GSA ADMINISTRATOR PLEADS 5TH  
ON FIRST DAY OF HOUSE HEARING**





2/3 OF US & EU RESEARCH IS FEDERALLY-FUNDED.

ALL GOVT. TRAVEL REGARDED BY TAXPAYERS AS A LUXURY (THANKS, NEELY).

LEGISLATURE BEGAN TO SCRUTINIZE ALL SPENDING.

RESEARCH FUNDING HAS BEEN A CASUALTY, AND TRAVEL WAS LOW-HANGING FRUIT.







HOMELESSNESS

PEAK OIL

WARS

HOME FORECLOSURES

GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE

THE WORLD ECONOMY

HUNGER

NEVER BEFORE!  
GSA CONFERENCE ATTENDEES WASTE TAXPAYERS' MONEY!

SHOCKING NEWS!  
SECRET SERVICE HIRED PROSTITUTES!



POVERTY

CRUMBLING INFRASTRUCTURE

Kevin 2012





# STEM-TREK/GLOBAL, GRASSROOTS

Won't compete for federal funds.

Pay-it-forward element: beneficiaries are encouraged to help others, or to help STEM-Trek in some meaningful way.

## Focus groups:

- Early-career STEM scholars from underrepresented groups and regions
- Veterans
- Aging workers
- People with disabilities



## **GLOBAL concerns—not only U.S.:**

- Unemployment (delayed economic recovery)
- Crime (fundamentally linked to unemployment)
- General distrust of government/industry
  - Los Indignados (ni-ni's)
  - Arab Spring
  - Occupy Wall Street
- Public health
  - No affordable healthcare
  - No insurance





## STEM-Trek advisers



Pillars of the HPC/HTC industry

Multidisciplinary

International

Frequent fliers with  
social capital

Demographic reflects  
core groups

Some openly affiliated, others  
anonymous

Some active, some not

Webmaster/designer-son

Lawyer/boyfriend (Business  
professor/CPA/CFE)

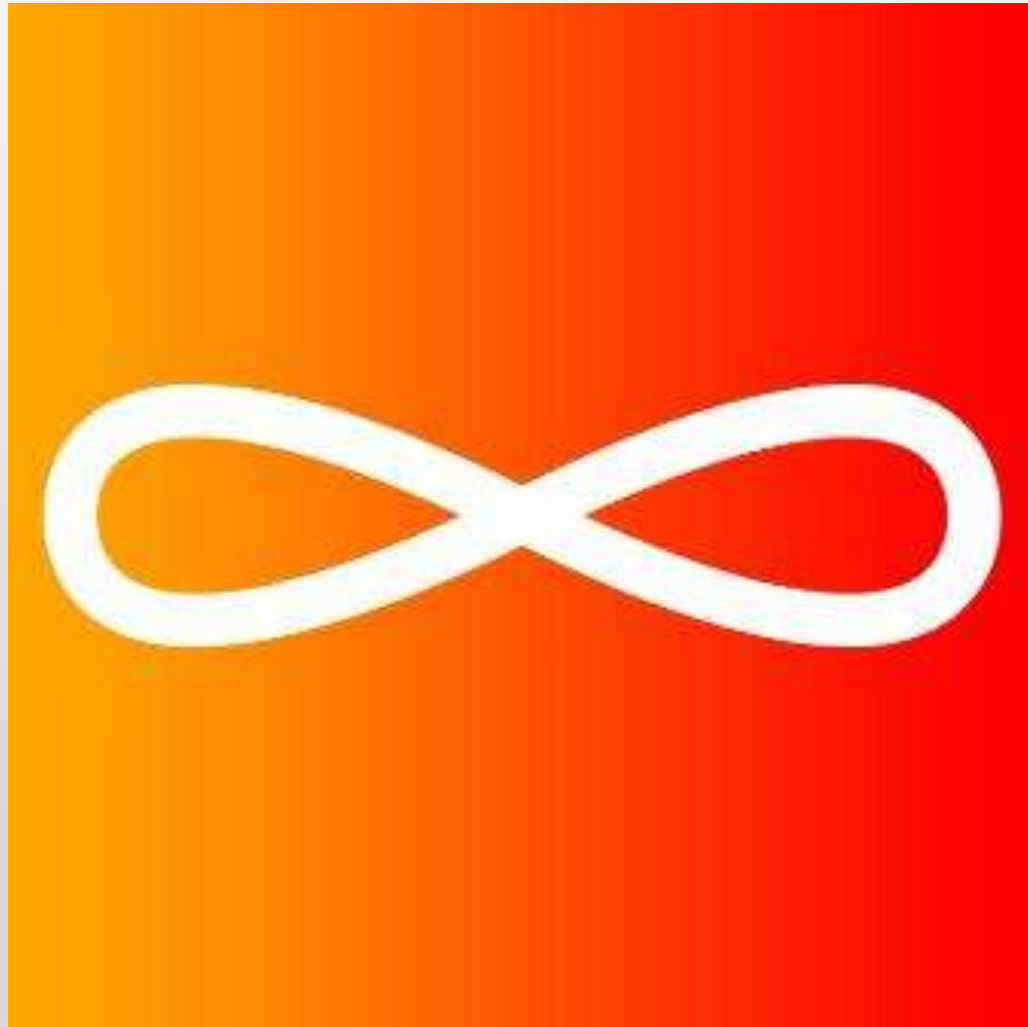
Lawyer/cousin

lawyer/friend



“They won’t pay-it-forward if you don’t hold their feet to the fire,”

– Walt Walker, STEM-Trek Military and Financial Adviser



Two years and dozens of cases later, do you think Walt was right?



There are two kinds of people in the world :  
Givers and Takers. The takers may eat better,  
but the givers sleep better.

~ Marlo Thomas ~

Lessons Learned In Life





# GRADS/POSTDOCS ARE BUSY


They might not have time to immediately contribute, but they will be inspired by the activity for when they do have time later in life.



“Sooner or later, you’ll need to make money — relying on the kindness of others isn’t a sustainable business plan,”

– John Towns, XSEDE, NCSA, STEM-Trek Adviser





**Join us in Chicago!**  
**Thursday, October 11, 2012**

Pop-Up friendraiser during the  
IEEE eScience Conference

Houlihan's, 111 E. Wacker  
6:30 to 10:00 p.m.

*Join us for an evening of food, fun, and  
friendraising!*

\$25 cover charge. Silent auction, celebrity guests,  
and more!

Find us on FaceBook: [www.facebook.com/stemtrek](http://www.facebook.com/stemtrek)

“Nothing is planned for Thursday night during eScience — why don’t you plan a STEM-Trek fundraising event?”

-- Ian Foster (STEM-Trek Founding Adviser and 2012 eScience General Chair)



**KEEP  
CALM  
AND  
MAKE**

**New Friends**

The main affinity factor among STEM-Trek friends was an impoverished state.

Most work directly, or indirectly for govt-funded enterprises

Fans can't afford a \$25.00 cover charge. They couldn't expense it (state or govt. per diem).



## PHASE II MAKE NEW FRIENDS

Industry/commercial/other...anyone with money. We're still working on that. If you know someone who has money, please send them our way.



# SUSTAINABLE HORIZONS

<http://sustainablehorizonsinc.com/>







Non-monetized way to extend professional development resources:

- House swap
- Room-share
- Ride-share
- Frequent flyer points
- Donated services
- Hoteling (institutional)
- Barter (correspond)



Filippo Spiga and the  
Dublin/Chicago house-  
swap experiment

The Cinco de Mayo  
road trip to Forgotonia

The quest for GPUS:  
NCSA/Blue Waters and  
Argonne

The chance encounter  
with Jiayuan Meng  
(formerly Argonne,  
currently Google).

# STEM-Trekker



Wa Yuan, PhD (Materials Science)  
STEM-Trek Beneficiary

- ▶ I'm from China and received my PhD in Materials Science from Northwestern University, US in 2012. My research has involved molecular assemblies at liquid interfaces with a variety of applications including paint, detergent, cosmetics, and drug development.

It interests me to know if my contributions would be useful in different arenas, and what others have done with high-performance technologies that could be applied to my work. Conferences are great places to learn and meet others. Breaks provide the opportunity to engage with people from different cultural backgrounds who have varied skill sets. I always return to work with fresh ideas and treasured relationships—friends and future collaborators.

I'm thankful for the opportunity to attend SC'12 where I will learn, meet others, and tell them about STEM-Trek!

*Passion and experience matter...*





Noshir Contractor, STEM-Trek Founding Adviser (Northwestern)

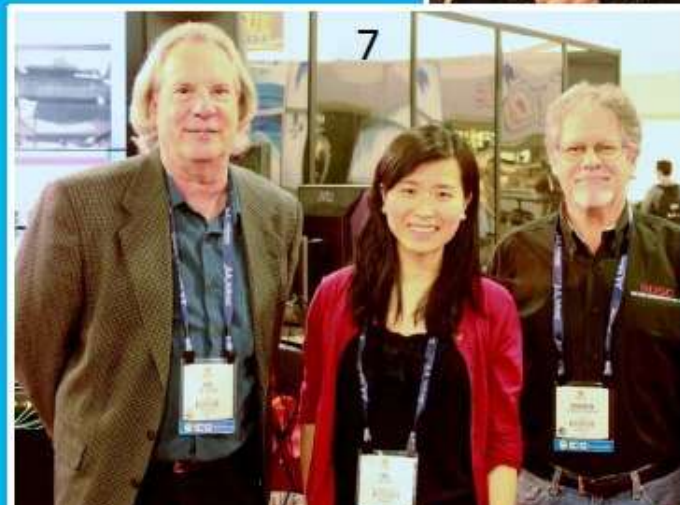
Director of the Science of Networks in Communities (SONIC) research group at Northwestern.

Through his work with SONIC and Syndio Social, Nosh develops and tests theories to map, understand and enable more effective networks in a wide variety of business and research contexts.





SSERCA  
SUNSHINE  
STATE  
EDUCATION  
& RESEARCH  
& COMPUTING  
ALLIANCE









# SCIENTIVATE



BUILD PROSPEROUS COMMUNITIES,  
FOR YOU!

Lost in the crowd? Never again.

Sign in with LinkedIn

— OR —

+ Sign Up on Scitivate

Email-address

Password

[Forgot your password?](#)

Sign in



[All Communities](#)[Upcoming Events](#)[My Organizations](#)[Past Events](#)

### STEM-Trek

📍 Great Chicago Area



### SC14 Broader Engagement

📅 Nov. 16, 2014 to Nov. 21, 2014    📍 New Orleans, LA





📅 2014/11/16 to 2014/11/21 📍 New Orleans, LA

[Leave this community](#)

## Labels:

[Short-listed](#) [protege](#) [mentor](#)

[Greater Chicago Area](#)

Studied at:

[Lincolndland Commu...](#)

[Northern Illinois...](#)

[Special Interest ...](#)

[University of Ill...](#)

Search among 178 ppl



specify date

end date

Show All

Trends & Summaries

Switch to Map View

## Network Planning:

Please select some participants first.

Select all/none

## Shortlists:

Save to short list

Remove from short list

Show my short list

Page 1 of 5. [next](#)

**Wa Yuan**



Christine Mirzayan Science and Technology Policy Fellowship  
 Northwestern University

Skills: user experience, R&D, AFM, Formulation, Characterization, Biotechnol...

**Javier Iparraguirre**



Assistant Professor at Universidad Tecnológica Nacional

Skills: OpenGL, LaTeX, Research, OpenCL, OOP, C, Computer Science, Distribute...

**Alana Romanella**



Business Manager at Virginia Tech

Skills: PowerPoint, Research, Political Science, Right-Wing Extremism, Micros...

**Kazi Sinthia Kabir**



Student at Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology

Skills: Microsoft Word, Microsoft Office, Quantum Computation, Powerpoint, Co...

**Hamza Zafar**



Internee at High Performance Computing Research Lab

Skills: Distributed Systems, Multithreading, Java Mpi, High Performance Compu...

**Qian Sun**



Applied Research Intern at LinkedIn

Skills: Computer Science, Microsoft Office, Data Mining, Matlab, Algorithms, ...

**Oralee Nudson**



User Consultant at ARSC

Skills: Virtualization, OS X, SQL, MySQL, ATG Commerce, HTML 5, Research, CSS...


**Patricia Grubel**



Graduate Research and Teaching Assistant at NMSU

Skills: Electrical And Computer Engineering, Matlab, Embedded Systems, Electr...


**Willie Matthews**



Quality Engineer / Material Science at Fisk University

Skills: Materials Science, Data Analysis, Genetics, Molecular Biology, Afm, B...

**Shelley Knuth**



Senior Research Data Specialist at University of Colorado

**Sidafa Conde**



Graduate Research Assistant at University of Massachusetts

**Neha Gholkar**



Graduate Research Assistant at North Carolina State University









IF YOU PURSUE YOUR PASSION, YOU  
WON'T MIND BEING THE FIRST...

**to arrive at work every day, the last to leave, and last to be paid.**



QUESTIONS?

[www.stem-trek.org](http://www.stem-trek.org)