



## PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

Lane College to Partner with CBU, LeMoyne-Owen and Rust Colleges to Plan Proposal for Major National Science Foundation Funds

*NSF awarded the colleges a \$75,000 grant to launch a series of planning sessions aimed at leveraging the institutions' STEM strengths.*

Lane College, LeMoyne-Owen College, Christian Brothers University (CBU), and Rust College are teaming up to compete for major funding from the National Science Foundation (NSF). Millions of dollars are at stake, prompting the institutions to partner to achieve maximum competitiveness for the precious funding.

The schools recently were awarded a \$75,000 NSF planning grant to fund their collaborative efforts. Officials will use the funds to launch a series of planning sessions where scientists and educators from all four institutions will gather to share and study best practices. The goal is to develop a stellar STEM proposal that will garner up to \$5 million in NSF grant funds to enhance the institutions' STEM programs.

The first planning session is at the NSF Stem Grant Planning Conference April 7-8. The two-day conference kicks off Friday, April 7 at 6 p.m. in the Montesi Room of Buckman Hall on the CBU campus and continues Saturday, April 8 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Five STEM leaders representing Tennessee State University (TSLAMP), the Vanderbilt/Fisk University Partnership, Jackson State University, and Tulane University will share their successes in implementing collaborative STEM programs.

“We are excited about this opportunity to work collaboratively with other institutions of higher education in this region to strengthen the pipeline of students in STEM from K-12 through post-secondary education,” Dr. Michelle Stewart, Lane College Vice President of Academic Affairs, said. “The planning workshop is the first step in this grant process in pursuing opportunities that strengthens STEM in this region by expanding our programs, building our infrastructure, and connecting students to engagement opportunities throughout their educational careers.”