



GK-12 REGIONAL CONFERENCE

**Indiana University/
Purdue University Indianapolis
Indianapolis, IN**

IUPUI Urban Educators GK-12 Program

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GK-12 Fellows are research graduate students who are working on either an M.S. or a Ph.D. degree, and who dedicate 15 hours per week in nearby school classrooms. The GK-12 fellows apply their university graduate research projects to classrooms and outdoor learning labs, offering teachers and students in grades 4-12 access to current and relevant science concepts. As part of the GK-12 program at IUPUI, Department of Earth Sciences fellows (Allyson Smith, Andrea Schilling, and Angela Cowan) have the unique opportunity to teach in outdoor learning labs at local schools throughout Central Indiana by facilitating and developing programs with CEES' Education Specialist for the Discovering the Science of the Environment (DSE) program

(<http://ww.cees.iupui.edu/DSE.htm>). DSE is an environmental science education program, developed and offered by the Center for Earth and Environmental Science at IUPUI (<http://ww.cees.iupui.edu/>) and is designed to reach 4th - 9th grade students through on-site engagement at school ground natural areas. This interactive, inquiry-based program provides specially designed science curriculum and state of the art technology resources to encourage educators and students to utilize outdoor learning labs for student instruction. DSE's educational program delivery, dynamic web portals, educator professional development institute, and mobile science technology trailer provide unique opportunities to raise the level of environmental awareness and increase science and math skills for Indiana youth.

