



ENERGIZE NEW MEXICO STEM ADVANCEMENT PROGRAM

YEAR 3 ANNUAL REPORT: EDUCATION & OUTREACH



The STEM Advancement Program, or STEMAP, is a summer research opportunity created and run by NM EPSCoR. STEMAP takes students attending primarily undergraduate institutions around the state and matches them with NM EPSCoR faculty and students for an 8–10 week hands-on research experience. STEMAP participants work hand-in-hand with EPSCoR teams on cutting-edge research, and gain access to state-of-the-art equipment and materials directly related to *Energize New Mexico* projects at the state’s three main research universities.

STEMAP for Year 3 took place in June and July 2015 with the largest cohort to date—

14 students! After spending a week together at NM Tech learning the basics of EPSCoR research, the ethics of research, presentation and poster skills, and more, the group went their separate ways with their NM EPSCoR mentors to NMSU in Las Cruces and UNM in Albuquerque, with some staying behind in Socorro at NM Tech. Mentors included faculty and graduate students from the Bio-algal, Solar, Uranium, Geothermal, and Social & Natural Science Nexus components.

On July 30, 2015, the STEMAP students congregated with family, friends, and NM EPSCoR participants to give presentations on their research. At the end of the program, students shared praise of their experience, and their testimonials can be seen on our [YouTube page](#).

TOP: The 2015 STEMAP Cohort; Brianne Willis, Sherwin Becenti, and NM Tech grad student Reid Brown in the field; Elan Glendening next to the NMSU outdoor algal raceway. BOTTOM: Roger Grano collects soil samples; Jennifer Thompson works with algal cells in the lab