

Our 40<sup>th</sup> year!



July 9-14, 2017

**CONFRATUTE**

CONFERENCE, FRATERNITY, & INSTITUTE

[www.confratute.uconn.edu](http://www.confratute.uconn.edu)

### **SEM LEADERS' FORUM**

A Summer for Change and Renewal at the University of Connecticut

Welcome to the SEM Leaders' Forum offerings cover a range of critical topics while providing intensive opportunities to work individually with current and former principals of successful SEM schools from around the country.

The SEM Leaders' Forum will give you the instructional, organizational and administrative background needed to direct your school into the next phase of implementation of SEM, wherever your starting point. The SEM Leaders' Forum will include both advanced and beginning sessions and will help principals link SEM to other current educational initiatives.

Topics include:

- Beyond Enrichment Clusters: SEM in the academic classroom
- Enrichment in the Common Core – SEM is based on the kind of teaching for applied learning, higher order thinking and problem solving, that teachers are asked to address in the common core.
- Connect SEM to the community – Bring parents' gifts and talents into school to support exposure, resources and high level opportunities for students.
- Use technology and data to support differentiation and enrichment. Learn the most effective uses of Renzulli Learning in the classroom as well as other paper-based Total Talent Portfolio data to direct instruction and high level research and projects.

In today's demanding educational climate it is more challenging than ever to maintain a focus on engagement and enjoyment of learning for students *and* teachers. Dynamic leadership is the key. This unusual opportunity to work closely with highly successful principals from urban, suburban, and rural schools across the country will give you perspective and a wealth of practical ideas on how to move your school toward the ideal of enrichment, and rigorous, in-depth learning for all students.

The **SEM Leaders' Forum offers:**

- Choice of topics based on your school's profile and needs.
- Opportunities for in-depth collaboration with other principals.
- Support and mentoring from extraordinary principals from some of the best SEM schools in the country.

In addition to the administrators' sessions at 10:00 am and 1:30 pm, principals and administrators will be able to participate in the other offerings of Confratute along with the wide range of speakers, special sessions, and entertainment that has made Confratute such an enriching personal and professional development experience for more than 39 years. *The listing of recommended strands and sessions are available online at [www.confratute.uconn.edu](http://www.confratute.uconn.edu).*

Confratute topics include:

- Independent research and learning skills related to all subject areas.
- Enrichment approaches to raising academic achievement.
- Authentic assessment for projects and differentiated learning experiences.
- Common Core Standards and Assessment.
- SEM-R reading frameworks.
- Project M<sup>2</sup> and M<sup>3</sup>.
- Data-driven instruction and curricular adaptations.
- Curriculum compacting and acceleration.
- The Renzulli Learning System to increase differentiation, independent learning, and student inquiry.

**SEM Leaders' Forum participants must register for Confratute before July 1. Register online at [www.confratute.uconn.edu/registration/](http://www.confratute.uconn.edu/registration/).**

### **What is SEM and What's a Confratute?**

Confratute is a combined **CONF**erence, and an insti**TUTE** with a lot of **FRAT**ernity in between. Confratute is geared toward providing educators with research-based practical strategies for engagement and enrichment learning for all students, as well as meeting the needs of gifted and talented students.

### **Now in its 40<sup>th</sup> year of service to the educational community!**

The Schoolwide Enrichment Model is not a rigid formula for school improvement. Each school develops its own plan and objectives around the **common goals** of enjoyment, engagement, and enthusiasm for learning. And each school devises its own **unique means** to pursue their goals. The SEM is an **infusion based** approach to school transformation. We do not criticize or recommend "throwing out" current practices. Rather, we provide training in specific organizational components and differentiated teaching strategies that can be infused into any and all curricular experiences to make learning more engaging and challenging. SEM is based on the simple idea of **using proven, research-based pedagogy of gifted education to improve learning for all students**. A central focus on identifying the strengths of all students, differentiating instruction, and developing what are popularly called 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills have always been the main features of our work.

To learn more about Confratute and the SEM please visit our web sites at [www.confratute.uconn.edu](http://www.confratute.uconn.edu) & [www.gifted.uconn.edu/schoolwide-enrichment-model/about\\_sem/](http://www.gifted.uconn.edu/schoolwide-enrichment-model/about_sem/).

*A special meeting will be held on the first day of Confratute for all registrants who will attend the SEM Leaders' Forum.*