Lemelson-MIT Master Teacher Biographies

The Lemelson-MIT Program works with a select group of experienced InvenTeam educators who provide peer-to-peer support for InvenTeam educators during their grant year.

Don Domes
*Hillsboro High School InvenTeam (2007)*
*Hillsboro, Oregon*

Don Domes, now retired from Hillsboro High School, spent over 37 years teaching a variety of technology courses including Engineering Graphics, Robotics, Electronics, and Architecture. He hosts a girl’s summer program called Girls Get IT! The summer program was spearheaded by one of his students and is taught by high school girls. Forty girls attend each of the two week-long tech camps.

Don continues to work tirelessly on legislative issues surrounding technical education in Oregon. On April 15, 2015, Oregon House Bill 3511 was introduced. A bill to be enacted by the people of the state of Oregon to establish a revitalization grant program within the Department of Education for computer science, invention, technology, and engineering education. In addition to InvenTeams, Don has also served as a Master Teacher for JV InvenTeams assisting with professional development and special programs in his home state. Serving as a Master Educator is one of his favorite jobs as he sees the InvenTeam initiative as the premier opportunity for a high school teacher interested in integrating STEM through problem-based learning.

Ed Hernandez
*Tustin High School InvenTeam (2017)*
*Tustin, California*

Ed Hernandez was an educator on the Tustin High School InvenTeam in 2017. He joined Tustin High School in 2005 as a math teacher and became director of the school’s T-Tech Academy of Technology & Engineering in 2010. He is a certified instructor for Project Lead the Way and uses his skills to teach Principles of Engineering, among other courses. Ed, who is fluent in Spanish, was named Orange County High Impact Teacher of the Year (2014) and Engineering Teacher of the Year (2013). Ed holds a Master of Arts in Education from National
University and a bachelor’s degree in electrical and computer engineering from the University of California, Irvine.

**Michael Gallagher**  
*Saratoga Spring High School InvenTeam (2008)*  
*Saratoga Springs, New York*

Michael Gallagher is in his 16th year of teaching Technology Education in the Saratoga Springs City School District where he is the department chairperson. A Master Teacher in the Project Lead the Way program for the past thirteen years, he trains PLTW teachers each summer. In 2008, Michael's Engineering, Design and Development class received a Lemelson-MIT InvenTeam grant. Michael has been a part of the InvenTeam experience ever since. Michael Gallagher continues to garner local support in New York for the expansion of Educating Young Engineers (EYE). The very popular Saturday engineering programs for local elementary school students during 2014-2015 sold out. He continues to facilitate the Saratoga Inventors Club. Inventive work this year in Mike’s Engineering Design and Development class has included an autonomous hydroponic garden and two engines - nitinol and Stirling – focused on improving engine efficiencies. One of his greatest joys is working with and mentoring new InvenTeams each year.

**Chelle Myrann**  
*Cesar Chavez High School InvenTeam (2010)*  
*Laveen, Arizona*

Chelle Myrann has been teaching physics, math, and physical science for the Phoenix Union High School District for over 20 years. She misses converting gas cars to electric with her students and racing them all over the country, but has found an unparalleled passion with InvenTeams. Her 2010 InvenTeam students were chosen to attend the first White House Science Fair. She coaches FIRST Robotics, enjoyed piloting the JV InvenTeam curriculum, and has developed a four-year STEM program at her school. Five students from the 2010 Cesar Chavez InvenTeam and three educators, including Chelle Myrann, were awarded U.S. Patent 8,845,560 on Sep. 30, 2014, for the team’s project – a physical therapy chair.
She held a community engagement event in October to celebrate with school administrators, families, and friends who continue to support young inventors and her growing STEM program at the high school. Chelle looks forward to meeting the new crop of aspiring inventors at EurekaFest each summer, and is energized by the process of mentoring both InvenTeam educators and students.

**Doug Scott**  
*Natick High School InvenTeam (2013)*  
*Hopkinton, Massachusetts*

Doug Scott is a Robotics and Information Technology teacher at Hopkinton High School in Massachusetts. He was a business undergraduate student at Framingham State University, but was always a lifelong inventor at heart. Doug’s 12 year teaching career sprung from his hockey coaching experiences, which have been instrumental in helping him motivate students through the inventing processes. He shared his personal interest in underwater exploration with his students through innovative wreck discoveries. Doug is married and has a daughter with whom he enjoys fishing with.

Doug and the Natick High School InvenTeam supported the Lemelson-MIT Program at the state and national level during the 2013-2014 school year. Doug accompanied two student representatives from the Natick High School InvenTeam to the fourth White House Science Fair in May 2014 and their invention was awarded U.S. Patent 20,140,360,420 in January 2017. Doug was awarded the 2014 Massachusetts STEM Teacher of the Year during a state-wide ceremony on October 22, 2014. Raytheon Corporation and the Hall at Patriot Place presented the award.
Mark Westlake
Saint Thomas Academy InvenTeam (2008)
Mendota Heights, Minnesota

Mark Westlake is the honors physics teacher at Saint Thomas Academy (Mendota Heights, Minnesota), serves as the Moderator of the Saint Thomas Academy Experimental Vehicle Team, and is a Master Educator for the Lemelson-MIT InvenTeam initiative. When he isn’t fretting about where the next donation is going to come from or how much welding his students will send home with him, he serves as the Chairman of the Advisory Committee for the Solar Car Challenge Foundation, writes a blog for National Geographic, and fosters invention in educators and students all over the United States. Mark Westlake lives with his wife Rebecca and their five children in Lakeville, Minnesota. The Minnesota Chapter of the Air Force Association named Mark Westlake, physics teacher at Saint Thomas Academy, the 2014-2015 Minnesota Teacher of the Year on May 15, 2015.

About Lemelson-MIT InvenTeams™
Lemelson-MIT InvenTeams are teams of high school students, educators, and mentors that receive grants up to $10,000 each to invent technological solutions to real-world problems. InvenTeams research intellectual property, exchange ideas, design parts, build models, and make modifications as they develop their invention prototypes. They learn to move forward through challenges and celebrate “Eureka!” moments, all while cultivating their technical leadership.