Dear <<First Name>>,

In mid-June we celebrated young inventors at our annual EurekaFest event at MIT. In July, we offered invention education professional development workshops at Cal Poly Pomona on the west coast and at MIT. These efforts are aimed at helping more students have access to opportunities to learn to invent, especially those who are currently underrepresented in STEM and among patent holders. The gender gap among patent holders is the focus of a special edition of the Technology & Innovation journal published last month by the National Academy of Inventors. The issue explores the gender gap among patent holders and includes an article that came from our research surrounding the impact of our InvenTeam initiative on six student participants.

Now, LMIT staff are gearing up for two exciting programmatic activities next month. Our 2018 $500,000 Lemelson-MIT Prize winner will be announced on September 12th and we will be celebrating the winner’s accomplishments at EmTech MIT the same day. Later in the month we are co-hosting a first of its kind conference on developing educational pathways for budding inventors and innovators that span K12, and two and four-year colleges and universities (details below).

I hope you are having a great summer. Thanks for making time to keep up with our news!

Sincerely,

Stephanie Couch, PhD
HELP LMIT GET MORE SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITY COLLEGES TO TAKE UP INVENTION
Learn how you can get more students involved in inventing at the first conference of its kind supporting practices for invention education and entrepreneurship. The Lemelson-MIT Program with the National Association of Community College Entrepreneurship and the California Community College Doing What Matters for Jobs and the Economy initiative is hosting a conference that will support linkages between making, inventing, and entrepreneurship offerings by high schools and two and four-year colleges. Join the discussion or co-sponsor the event September 20-21 in Burlingame, CA.

THE INVENTION GENDER GAP
A special issue of *Technology and Innovation* journal of the National Academy of Inventors explores why the gender disparity exists between women and men inventors and what is being done to address the gap. The issue includes articles written by people who have keen insights into the gender gap in patenting, including an article written by Executive Director, Stephanie Couch and Invention Education Officer, Leigh Estabrooks that analyzed results from the InvenTeam initiative. The article reveals factors that supported and constrained young women inventors – information that may be critical for designing effective programming to promote young female inventors. Read highlights from the new issue or download the publication on Ingenta where you can explore each article.

RESOURCE ON NAVIGATING THE
PATENT SYSTEM
MIT Media Lab alumna, Jie Qi who found herself in a challenging situation with the patent system is building a user-friendly website to share free resources and stories from others in the inventor community about their patent challenges. If you would like to share a story of your own or would like to contribute a patent resource to the website, you can reach out to hello@openinventors.org.

2018 $500K LEMELSON-MIT PRIZE WINNER TO BE REVEALED
Find out who the next $500,000 Lemelson-MIT Prize winner will be on Wednesday, September 12. The winner will be joining us at EmTech MIT the same day to talk about their work on stage during a special awards ceremony. We are very excited about this year’s winner who is unlike any other Lemelson-MIT Prize winner to date. One clue; the public might find use for this invention on a regular basis. Stay tuned for more information on Sept 12. If you know of a mid-career inventor who is eligible to win next year’s prize, nominate them!

RECOMMEND AN INVENTIVE STUDENT TO APPLY FOR THE STUDENT PRIZE COMPETITION
The 2019 Lemelson-MIT Student Prize competition is open to eligible teams of undergraduate and individual graduate students who have prototypes in healthcare, consumer devices, food/water and agriculture or transportation. Encourage an inventive student to apply. Applications are open until September 28. More information about eligibility is available on our website.

KEEPING UP WITH THE LMIT ALUMS
Read the stories of what our Lemelson-MIT alumni are doing now after winning their award or participating in the grants program. Recent 2018 Lemelson-MIT Student Prize winner, Kayla Nguyen from Cornell University tells her intimate story of overcoming a sight disorder to become an award winner in Girl Talk HQ. Invention education volunteer inventor embarked on a 38-day cycling trip across the U.S and 2016 Student Prize team winner, Kinnos, Inc. won USPTO’s Patents for Humanity Award.

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS AND FACULTY
Collegiate inventors can apply for an E-Team grant through VentureWell to get early-stage
innovator training. VentureWell is also seeking seed-stage startups to participate in their Aspire program, an intensive 5-day workshop to prepare startups for launch and impact. Faculty can receive grants up to $30K to create new or transform existing courses to help students develop inventions and gain the skills to bring them to market. Applications now open for all these opportunities.