



# NALA(STEM)

*Newsletter*

DECEMBER 2023

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# PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Starting -Tuesday, February 13 @ 6pm CT  
for 1 hour NALA(STEM) members will be  
hosting professional development sessions  
monthly on every 2nd Tuesday

Professional development sessions are  
free for NALA members. Anyone can  
become a NALA member by following the  
link and filling out the required  
information: [Join Now](#)

First topic will be focused on mental  
health and more info to come and will be  
live on zoom! Watch out for the link!





# PROFESSIONAL OPPORTUNITIES



[Learn More Here](#)


The IUPUI School of Science Department of Chemistry & Chemical Biology invites applications for a full-time non-tenure track faculty position as Lecturer beginning in January 2024. Applicants should hold a Ph.D. in Chemistry or a related field or an M.S. in Chemistry with at least 15 hours of graduate coursework and share our values in innovative and inclusive teaching. Candidates interested in teaching general, physical, and/or inorganic chemistry courses are especially encouraged to apply. Experience in online teaching would be beneficial. Non-tenure track teaching faculty have service and scholarly work expectations in addition to their primary teaching load and are eligible for promotion through Senior Lecturer to Teaching Professor.



[Learn More Here](#)

Computer Science Phoenix STEM Instructional Professor  
The Department of Computer Science in the Physical Sciences Division at the University of Chicago invites applications for teaching positions for the position of Instructional Professor (open rank). The selected candidate will be appointed as Assistant Instructional Professor, Associate Instructional Professor, or Instructional Professor, depending on qualifications. The appointment will be for a term of up to five years, renewable. This is a career-track position with potential progression, competitive salary, and benefits, with time allocated for professional development.

This position is expected to begin in academic year 2024-2025.





# Get to Know The Executives

## Web Development Chair: E-Lexus Thornton



### **1. Why did you decide to do a STEM degree and why?**

Since I was a kid, I always enjoyed reading. I think when I started reading was a getaway from my stress filled life, but later I realized that I enjoyed studying previously unknown subjects. When I reached my senior year of high school, I was still torn about which college major to choose. My mind was made up when I went for late night run in my hometown, Michigan City, IN. I was running around an area with low light pollution and was rounding the corner when I saw of the night sky and was awe-struck. That night run steered me toward engineering.

### **2. What are some challenges you faced in STEM?**

My biggest challenge by far was math. All my life I'd had below average grades in my math classes. I had little to no understanding of algebra and no knowledge on what pre-calculus and trigonometry were when I entered college as a physics major. Social etiquette on campus was also a challenge. I was suddenly pulled into a space that was the convergence of several different cultures and social norms, and they completely overwhelmed me for years.

### **3. What were some of the key factors keeping you going during graduate school?**

My friends and lab mates played a vital role in keeping me afloat in graduate school. We would have late night conversations, go out to eat, and sometimes take trips together. The professor I did research under was also accommodating. However, the most important factor was my mindset. I had a mindset that allowed me to see my failures as lessons, and so I was able to keep trying again and again without feeling dejected.

## NALASTEM MERCH

NALASTEM IS NOW SELLING  
MERCH ON OUR WEBSITE.  
PLEASE SCAN THE QR CODE  
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Feel free to donate  
directly as well:  
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*Support Our Mission!*





# *Get Involved!*

Come join us at NALA(STEM)!  
We currently have several open  
positions.

## Executive Board Positions:

- Administrative Assistant

NALA(STEM) Mentorship Committee Member

NALA(STEM) Outreach Committee Member

NALA(STEM) Social Media Committee Member

For position descriptions and more  
information [click here!](#)

[Become a NALA\(STEM\) member - click here!](#)

