

AMGEN® Biotech Experience

Scientific Discovery for the Classroom

2022–23 ABE Master Teacher Fellows



Anthony Fernandes, representing ABE Greater Los Angeles Area, has been a science educator for 35 years. He currently teaches genetics/biotech, AP chemistry, and chemistry honors at La Salle College Prep in Pasadena, California. He has been involved with the ABE program for 17 years.



Teresa Harris, representing ABE Australia, has been teaching biology for 10 years and is currently working at John Therry Catholic College. She has a doctorate in molecular biology and loves bringing real-world techniques into the classroom for students to experience via the ABE program.



Sydney Johnson, representing ABE San Francisco Bay Area, is a chemistry, earth and space science, and biotechnology teacher with a bachelor's and master's degree in Biotechnology. Her favorite question to ask students is "How do you know?" and became a teacher to share thinking scientifically as a way of life. She takes pride in bringing biotech academia and industry experience to her classroom.



Chris Oskam, representing ABE The Netherlands, teaches both chemistry and biotechnology in secondary school. Chris is an experienced ABE teacher and is very much looking forward to participating in this program to help biotechnology education forward.



Julie Pankowicz, representing ABE Rhode Island, has been teaching in the Science and Technology Department at Coventry High School, in Coventry, RI, for 22 years. She teaches biology, biotechnology and biomedical sciences. She has been a member of the ABE family of teachers since the 2009 school year and is looking forward to sharing new ideas with her ABE-RI colleagues!

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Susan Senior, representing ABE Australia, has been teaching since 2014 after 13 years working in clinical trials management, primarily in the field of ophthalmology. Since 2018, Susan has been conducting ABE at Mater Maria Catholic College, which is on the Northern Beaches of Sydney, Australia.



Ayşegül Tanrıverdi, representing ABE Türkiye, has been a biology teacher for 16 years. She is currently working in a vocational high school in Ankara, Türkiye. Ayşegül has implemented ABE for three years with high school students from different backgrounds.



Sarah Sanford, representing ABE Tampa, is a scientist-turned-educator with 9+ years of experience facilitating student exploration of our living world. She is motivated by the core beliefs that our global society depends on science, and therefore science education requires universal access and inclusion.



Colleen Simon-O'Neill, representing ABE San Francisco Bay Area, graduated from UC Davis and has taught high school science for 21 years. She currently teaches ABE biotechnology and chemistry at Berkeley High School in Berkeley, California.



Ingeborg van der Neut, representing ABE The Netherlands, has been teaching biology at a pre-university level for about 25 years and still loves it! In the classroom, she tries to make the brains of her students work as hard as they can, and she hopes to learn a few tricks in teaching biotechnology in this program.