

# Reflections on the Third Talent Development Summer Success Academy 2023 Chemistry Classes

## *Seminar*

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**Panel Discussion with  
URI Faculty**  
Department of Chemistry  
University of Rhode Island

**Monday, March 18, 2024**  
3:00 – 4:00 p.m.  
Beaupre Room 105  
Host: George Dombi, 401-  
874-5080

Overview: The 2023 Talent Development Summer Success Academy ran for five weeks from mid-July to late August. About 350 incoming freshmen participated. The first two weeks were taken up with a learning to learn program offered by David Hayes, PhD, from University College, in which all the TD scholars participated. Then for the next three weeks, groups of TD scholars were assigned by the TD administrators to participate in various STEM or Humanities programs based on the student's declared majors. The STEM group included: Chemistry, Physics and Computer science. The general outline of the STEM courses was a lecture on Monday, Wednesday and Friday in the topic area, followed by a lab experience on Tuesday and Thursday and a recitation every afternoon. Students were graded using an S, S- and F scale. Five members of the Chemistry Department and one Talent Development sophomore participated in the Chemistry STEM courses in this third annual TD Summer Success Academy. New teaching methods were tried and a teaching survey was conducted. TD administrators were pleased with the effort from the Chemistry faculty. Expectations are high that this cohort of TD scholars will be very successful at URI based on their efforts given and responses to the Summer Success Program.