

**2019 VAST PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE
“STEM Starts with Science”**

**SATURDAY MORNING GENERAL SESSION SPEAKER
(Sponsored by Discovery Education)**



**Dr. Robert Corbin, Ph.D.
Director-Global STEM Initiatives, Discovery Education
Associate Professor at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte**

“STEM Dispositions Create Future Leaders and Innovators”

Collaboration, Communication, Creativity and Critical Thinking do not come easily for any group from “Pre-K to Gray”. People rarely describe scientists, and technicians, artists and engineers as “people like me”. In this session participants experience how STEM dispositions engage and empower students affectively, cognitively and kinesthetically and consequently prepare them to solve the world’s most vexing problems.

Bio:

Robert Corbin is a Doctor of Philosophy in Curriculum and Instruction with an emphasis in Science Urban Education and a National Board Certified Science Teacher serving as Director of Global STEM initiatives for Discovery Education. Robert served as Vice President of Learning Experiences at the Discovery Place Science Center in Charlotte, NC between 2007 and 2016. He served the Charlotte Mecklenburg School system as Earth Science Academic Content Coach from 2005 through 2007. He is a North Carolina Science Leadership Fellow, North Carolina LASER (Leadership Assistance for Science Education Reform) faculty member, NSRC (National Science Resource Center) faculty member, a founding member of the Bank of America Teaching Fellows and Affiliates program and science facilitator for the National Board Teacher Support Program for Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools. Robert also serves as a Facilitator for the NSF funded eMSS (E-mentoring for Student Success) science and math teacher support program Robert has taught a variety of technology and science courses in a variety of public high school, middle school and university settings for about 20 years. He currently serves as associate professor at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte and adjunct professor at Wingate University. He is an Arts and Science Council Lifetime Achievement Award recipient, Christa McAuliffe Fellow, North Carolina Science Leadership Fellow, Duke University Sawyer Fellow, Time Warner Cable All Star Teacher, Ben Craig Award recipient, Omnicron Psi Outstanding Science Teacher, Whitehead Educator of Distinction, and NAGT Outstanding Earth Science Teacher of the Southeastern United States. Robert

has written and received grants and awards from the Burroughs Wellcome Foundation, Sisters of Mercy Foundation, US Airways Foundation, Duke Foundation, PNC Bank, Foundation for the Carolinas, EPA, NAGT, Bank of America, First Union Bank, Wachovia Bank, Lowe's Corporation, Toyota Tapestry Program, International Paper Corporation, Virtual High School Concord Consortium, Noyce Foundation, North Carolina Department of Public Instruction and Christa McAuliffe Foundation. He has written curriculum for Al Gore's film *Inconvenient Truth*, Michael Pollan's film *Botany of Desire*, the Weather Channel, Environmental Literacy Council, American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, the Duke Talent Identification Program, North Carolina Department of Public Instruction and the Weyerhaeuser Corporation. He serves on the University of North Carolina at Charlotte College of Education Board, Appalachian State University Strategic Industry Council, Wingate University Graduate Education Board, McColl Center for the Visual Arts Environmental Art Advisory board, Cars Inspiring Youth Executive Board, Partners in Out of School Time Advisory Board, Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools Community Task Force on Choices and Johnson C. Smith University HBCU advisory board. He has a B.S. in Environmental Science from Michigan State University and an I.M.A. in Natural Science Education from the University of South Carolina and a Ph. D. in curriculum and instruction from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.