

Science Today, Impact Tomorrow

Growing Rhode Island's Research Ecosystem through the RI Network for Excellence in Science & Technology

October 17, 2025
Faculty Center @Rhode Island College
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

AGENDA

8:30 am – **Registration** (*Continental breakfast will be served*)

9 am – **Welcoming Remarks & Meeting Objectives** - *Elin Torell, Principal Investigator, RI-NEST*

9:40 am – **Session 1: EPSCoR in Rhode Island**

An introduction to the U.S. National Science Foundation's EPSCoR program and the multiple EPSCoR-funded projects across the state. A discussion about how we can build upon these efforts to establish a “network” of synergistic activities.

10:30 am – BREAK

10:45 pm – **Session 2: What can RI-NEST do for you?**

An overview of RI-NEST's Year 1 progress. An interactive round robin presentation, or “shopping mall,” of current RI-NEST funding opportunities, as well as programming [serving faculty & students](#) at institutions across Rhode Island.

12 pm – **Announcing our inaugural RI-NEST [Seed Grant](#) recipients**

12:15 pm – LUNCH

Concurrent: Highlighting collaborative research

A poster presentation of current research supported through the Rhode Island Science & Technology Advisory Council's (RI STAC) [Collaborative Research Grants](#) program.

1:30 pm – **Session 3: Growing & networking Rhode Island's research ecosystem**

A facilitated discussion about how RI-NEST, institutions, and state agencies can support networking/funding opportunities that lead to Rhode Island-based, use-inspired, transdisciplinary research and increased funding which engages institutions of higher education statewide.

3 pm - **Next steps & closing remarks**

Thank you for attending and a look towards our public-facing research symposium, planned for the spring.

