



# MENTOR SPOTLIGHT

usaep.com

goAEOP

& @USAEOP

January 2020



## CHRISTINE

DIRECTOR OF AUTHENTIC SCIENCE RESEARCH

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING  
TOMS RIVER HS NORTH & TOMS RIVER  
HS SOUTH IN NJ

JUNIOR SCIENCE & HUMANITIES  
SYMPOSIUM (JSHS) & CAMP INVENTION

### WHAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT PART OF THE MENTOR RELATIONSHIP THAT YOU FIND/FOUND MOST BENEFICIAL, INSPIRING, OR MOTIVATING?

Participating in AEOP reminds me how much I love to learn and how rewarding it is to introduce others to exciting and engaging learning experiences. Through AEOP programming, I've become the teacher representative on the Rutgers Junior Science & Humanities Symposium (JSHS) planning board and have attended three national JSHS events. At these Symposia, I had the opportunity to network with scientists and educators to build my knowledge base and connect my students to new mentors.

### WHAT WOULD BE YOUR MOST SAGE ADVICE TO A STUDENT, JUST BEGINNING TO CONSIDER A CAREER IN SCIENCE?

AEOP programs are a fantastic opportunity to meet new people and learn new things. Each person you meet, each new interaction you have will teach you something new and will make you a better stronger person and scientist.

### HOW HAVE YOU BENEFITTED FROM PARTICIPATING IN YOUR AEOP PROGRAM?

Camp Invention curriculum is high quality and introduces students to advanced topics in ways that are clear and accessible at all levels. Additionally, I'm always impressed by the high level of student research modeled at JSHS. Introducing my students to these programs has helped me inspire more of them to conduct research and pursue more complex ways of thinking.