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Pennsylvania State University Alumnus Awarded 2014 Knowles Science Teaching Foundation Teaching Fellowship

Comprehensive program offers financial support and professional development for early-career STEM teachers

Moorestown, N.J., August 1, 2014 – The Knowles Science Teaching Foundation (KSTF) recently announced its 2014 cohort of Teaching Fellows, one of whom is a 2008 and 2011 graduate of the Pennsylvania State University—<u>Leroy Gray</u>. Selected from a pool of more than 180 applicants, Leroy is one of 32 exceptionally talented, early-career science, technology, engineering and/or mathematics (STEM) teachers to be awarded a 2014 KSTF Teaching Fellowship.

KSTF seeks to improve STEM education by building a stable, sustainable cadre of networked <u>leading teachers</u>, who are trained and supported as leaders from the beginning of their careers. The <u>KSTF Teaching Fellows Program</u>—the Foundation's signature program—offers stipends, funds for professional development, grants for teaching materials, and opportunities for leadership development and mentoring for early-career STEM teachers through a comprehensive five-year Fellowship. With an emphasis on inquiry and collaboration, the Teaching Fellows Program empowers participants to advance their teaching practice and student learning, while leading from the classroom.

Leroy is committed to teaching science to high school students in the United States. Born in the nation's capital, Leroy graduated from Benjamin Banneker Academic High School in 2004. He holds a Bachelor of Science in mechanical engineering and a Bachelor of Arts in Spanish from Penn State. Additionally, he holds a Master of Science in secondary education from the University of Pennsylvania. This fall, Leroy will begin his second year of teaching at Science Leadership Academy at Beeber, located in Philadelphia, Penn.

Applications for 2015 KSTF Teaching Fellowships are now being accepted. Details about the application process can be found at www.kstf.org/apply.

About KSTF

The Knowles Science Teaching Foundation (KSTF) was established by Janet H. and C. Harry Knowles in 1999 to increase the number of high quality high school science and mathematics teachers and ultimately, improve math and science education in the United States. The KSTF Teaching Fellows Program, the Foundation's signature program, awards exceptional young men and women with five-year early-career Fellowships, empowering them to become primary agents of educational improvement. For more information, visit www.kstf.org.