



Dear campus community,

The Harry E. Brakebill Award annually acknowledges a professor who demonstrates excellence in teaching, research, creative scholarship and service to our university and region. Upon the recommendation of the Faculty Awards Selection Committee, I am pleased to announce that this year's award recipient is Dr. Edward Price, professor of physics in the College of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (CSTEM).

Dr. Price joined our university community in 2005 as an assistant professor and was promoted to full professor in 2016. He currently serves as the founding faculty director of the Center for Research and Engagement in STEM Education (CRESE).

Over the course of his career, Dr. Price has demonstrated exceptional service to CSUSM, serving as department chair (2012-2016) as well as a member of multiple college- and university-wide committees, including the Promotion and Tenure Committee (2019-21), Strategic Plan Implementation Team (2022-23) and CSTEM Governance and Planning Committee (2012-18). In 2015, Dr. Price supported the founding of engineering at CSUSM by serving as chair of a task force charged with identifying programmatic resource needs and developing curriculum for our future engineering programs, collaborating closely with the HSI STEM grant proposal team. On a national level, Dr. Price serves on the steering committee for the American Physical Society's Inclusion, Diversity and Equity Alliance, which seeks to empower and support physics departments, laboratories and other organizations to identify and enact strategies for improving equity, diversity and inclusion.

Dr. Price's teaching philosophy is guided by two core principles: *all students are capable, and students learn best through interactive engagement*. These two ideas are put in practice via interactive in-class activities and requesting student feedback to assess their understanding during class. His students and colleagues describe him as an inspirational figure who cares deeply about students' learning and educational journeys.

In their letters of support, several students credit Dr. Price with inspiring their passion and curiosity for the STEM fields thanks to his consistent encouragement and dedication to enhancing the accessibility and appeal of science education. One former student wrote, "Of particular note is Dr. Price's exceptional awareness of the unique challenges often faced by women and individuals from underrepresented backgrounds in the field of science. This attribute, coupled with his dedication to inclusivity and

diversity, has transformed him into a trusted and approachable figure for students seeking guidance and support.”

Dr. Price’s area of scholarship is physics education, with his work focusing on two main areas: research on physics curriculum and faculty use of research-based instructional strategies; and informal science education. He has been principal investigator (PI) or co-PI on over \$10 million in grant funding, largely from federal agencies such as the National Science Foundation, NASA and the U.S. Department of Energy. He has given invited talks at national conferences and authored/co-authored 10 peer-reviewed journal articles or book chapters.

As a faculty colleague noted in their nomination letter of support, “Dr. Price is a faculty that exemplifies the saying ‘think globally and act locally’ in that his scholarship and service not only address global problems (i.e. broadening participation in STEM) but have a tangible and immediate impact on campus and communities we serve while having the ripple effect across the CSUs.”

One shining example of Dr. Price’s leadership is the Mobile Making program, now in its 10th year. This program recruits and trains undergraduate students in STEM to serve as facilitators of after-school activities in our region, fostering a sense of belonging while bolstering their confidence and expertise. Thanks to a grant from the National Science Foundation, the Mobile Making program is being implemented at CSU campuses in Long Beach, Fresno and San Luis Obispo in collaboration with the Chancellor’s Office.

Another terrific example of Dr. Price’s leadership and expertise can be seen in his work at CRESE, which provides mentorship and seed funding to faculty who are interested in K-12 STEM education outreach and research. Since its founding in 2018, the center has become a hub for year-round youth after-school and summer STEM programming.

Dr. Price’s contributions to teaching, research and university leadership are exceptional and far-reaching. Coupled with his personal values, which mirror our university values, his tireless efforts and innovative approaches have left an indelible mark on our students, our institution and our world. Please join me in congratulating him on this well-deserved honor!

Sincerely,

Ellen Neufeldt  
President