

The Journal of Mathematics and Science: COLLABORATIVE EXPLORATIONS

Volume 15, Spring 2015

PART I: SPECIAL ISSUE

**The Virginia Initiative for Science Teaching and
Achievement (VISTA)**

PART II: REGULAR JOURNAL FEATURES

Virginia Mathematics and Science Coalition

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The Virginia Initiative for Science Teaching and Achievement (VISTA)

Coordinating Editor
for this Special Issue

Donna Sterling
George Mason University

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In Memory of Donna Sterling, Ph.D.

This issue of *The Journal of Mathematics and Science: Collaborative Explorations* is dedicated to the memory of Dr. Donna Sterling.

A professor of science education at George Mason University, Dr. Sterling was nationally recognized for her work to improve the teaching of science and technology in elementary and secondary schools. She was a pioneer in science education, and her research formed the basis for the Virginia Initiative for Science Teaching and Achievement (VISTA), a \$28.5 million U.S. Department of Education i3 validation grant-supported program that is among the largest U.S. federal research grants ever awarded with a focus on STEM education.

By inspiring teachers to inspire students, Dr. Sterling encouraged countless numbers of young people to unlock the mysteries and wonders of the world through scientific discovery. She tapped into students' curiosity and advocated for approaches that involve teaching that is rooted in problem-based and inquiry-based learning. Her visionary work will impact generations to come.

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