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Making the Case for Preparing STEM Teachers

MICHAEL MARDER, Dept Physics, UT Austin

I have been directing the preparation of STEM teachers at UT Austin for over 20 years through UTeach, and for the last 10 years I have been helping other people throughout the country develop similar programs. This has led to experience with arguments that can lead to teacher preparation programs being established, and to experience in trying to stop them from being shut down. Important points to understand include

- Teacher shortages, nationally and locally.
- Competitiveness, nationally and locally.
- Student outcomes and equity
- The quality of university-prepared teachers.
- The cost of university-prepared teachers.
- Benefits to university teaching quality
- Benefits to university from service learning in community
- Benefits to university from public funding
- Benefits to university from philanthropy.

And when all else fails, try magic.