

Noah Finkelstein received a Bachelor's degree in mathematics from Yale University and his PhD. for work in applied physics from Princeton University. He is currently a Professor of Physics at the University of Colorado Boulder and conducts research in physics education. He serves as a director of the Physics Education Research (PER) group at Colorado, one of the largest research groups in physics education in the country. Finkelstein is also a co-PI and a Director of the Integrating STEM Education initiative (iSTEM), an NSF-i3 funded program which has established a national-scale Center for STEM Learning.



Finkelstein's research focuses on studying the conditions that support students' interest and ability in physics – developing models of context. These research projects range from the specifics of student learning particular concepts, to the departmental and institutional scales of sustainable educational transformation. This research has resulted in nearly 100 publications.

He is also a key figure in the Colorado Learning Assistant program that is designed to transform undergraduate education and recruit and prepare the next generation of STEM teachers.

Finkelstein is increasingly involved in policy, and in 2010, he testified before the US Congress on the state of STEM education at the undergraduate and graduate levels. Finkelstein has and continues to serve on many national boards in physics education, including: inaugural member (2006) and vice-Chair (2008) of the Physics Education Research Leadership Organizing Council, and Chair (2011, 2012) of the Committee on Education of the American Physical Society, and Chair of the Amer. Association of Physics Teachers Public Policy Committee. He is a member of the Technical Advisory Board for the AAU's new Initiative for Improving Undergraduate STEM Education (2011-), and very involved in APLU's efforts in the Science and Mathematics Teacher Imperative.

In 2007 he won the campus-wide teaching award; in 2009 he won the campus Diversity and Excellence award; in 2010 he won the campus Graduate Advising Award; in 2011, he won a campus Outreach Award and was elected Fellow of the American Physical Society; and in 2012 was named Presidential Teaching Scholar for the University of Colorado system.

More information

on Noah: <http://spot.colorado.edu/~finkelsn>

on PER: <http://per.colorado.edu>

on the LA program: <http://stem.colorado.edu/la-program>

on studies of transforming STEM : <http://www.stemreform.org>

on a Center for STEM education; <http://www.colorado.edu/istem>