

Dr. Christine Cunningham is an educational researcher who works to make engineering and science more relevant, accessible, and understandable, especially for underserved and underrepresented populations. A vice president at the Museum of Science, Boston since 2003, she is the Founding Director of Engineering is Elementary™, a groundbreaking project that integrates engineering concepts into preschool, elementary, and middle school curriculum and teacher professional development. As of April 2018, EiE has served 17 million children and 190,000 educators nationwide and internationally. Her recent book,



Engineering in Elementary STEM Education, describes what she has learned. Cunningham has previously served as director of engineering education research at the Tufts University Center for Engineering Educational Outreach, where her work focused on integrating engineering with science, technology, and math in professional development for K-12 teachers. She also directed the Women’s Experiences in College Engineering (WECE) project, the first national, longitudinal, large-scale study of the factors that support young women pursuing engineering degrees. Cunningham is a Fellow of the American Society for Engineering Education (ASEE) and received the ASEE K-12 and Pre-College Division Lifetime Achievement Award in 2015. She was awarded the 2014 International Society for Design and Development in Education Prize, the 2015 IEEE Pre-University Educator Award, and the 1991 Alpheus Henry Snow Prize. In 2017 her work was recognized with the prestigious Harold W. McGraw Jr. Prize in Education. Cunningham holds joint B.A. and M.A. degrees in biology from Yale University and a Ph.D. in Science Education from Cornell University.