SysTEMic is a new endeavor in which the Bagwell College of Education, College of Science and Mathematics and the Southern Polytechnic College of Engineering and Engineering Technology will partner with the Fulton County District to provide science professional development for up to fifteen 4th and 5th grade teachers who work with diverse students from low socioeconomic circumstances. The goals of the program are to: 1) Increase participants’ science content knowledge, 2) Provide participants with pedagogical knowledge and skills required to maintain high levels of student engagement during science learning activities, 3) Provide 4th and 5th grade teachers with the knowledge and skills to integrate engineering practices into science learning activities; and 4) Increase participants’ confidence related to their use of engineering practices.

Activities will include a summer institute and follow up workshops where participating teachers will collaborate to develop and implement problem-based science units using engineering practices to explain real phenomena and real problems. Anticipated outcomes include growth of teacher content knowledge, the use of the storyline approach to solving problems, student engagement, motivation and achievement in science. SysTEMic participants will become teacher leaders at their respective schools where they will train other teachers in SysTEMic strategies to take the concept school-wide. SysTEMic will begin in March of 2017 and end during the spring of 2018.

Arts & Sciences Unit of Institute of Higher Education
Kennesaw State University—College of Science and Mathematics

Unit of Institute of Higher Education that prepares teachers & principals
Kennesaw State University—Bagwell College of Education

High Need LEA(s)
Fulton County