Engaging Scientists in Education and Public Outreach: Resources and Tools for Scientists

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Getting Involved through the NASA SMD E/PO Forums:
The NASA E/PO Forums help the Science Mission Directorate (SMD) support scientists involved in E/PO through resources, communications, opportunities for involvement, and professional development workshops. The Forums understand that scientists have a range of experience, time, and areas of interest in E/PO, and provide tools and opportunities for a variety of needs. The Forums have produced, and continue to develop, a suite of resources that scientists can use in their E/PO endeavors. Some tools can help scientists early in the process to ‘get started’ while other tools are useful for those who have long been engaged in E/PO to expand the impact of their work, and to increase their efficiency.

SMD EPO Forum Community Workspace
Connect directly with the Forum Community on the Workspace. This is a place to find out more about the latest events and news, as well as to engage in discussions about E/PO issues of interest, professional development, announcements, and projects in development.
http://smdepo.org

Planetary Science E/PO Resources Sampler
The sampler contains a list of resources and activities selected for scientists who work with students, teachers, and the public. The resources are organized by thematic topics such as volcanism, astrobiology, and ice and water in the solar system.
http://smdepo.org

EarthSpace and NASA Wavelength
These are searchable, digital collections of materials, allowing educators of all levels to find peer-reviewed resources for their classrooms and out-of-school programs. EarthSpace contains materials for undergraduate learning, which are reviewed and posted under a Creative Commons Attribution.
http://nasawavelength.org
http://www.lpi.usra.edu/earthscape

Partners and Programs
The Forums partner with professional societies and connect scientists to a variety of programs that offer information and entry points in E/PO. MOOSE: http://aas.org/outreach/moose-menu-outreach-opportunities-science-education
Year of the Solar System: http://solarsystem.nasa.gov/yss/
International Observe the Moon Night: http://observethemoonnight.org

Speaker’s Bureau
NASA SMD has developed the Scientist Speaker’s Bureau online portal to connect interested scientists with those in the general public looking for a speaker for a single event or series. Joining the list is quick and easy – visit the URL below to include your name and other relevant information, (such as your interest in classroom visits, public talks, libraries, or virtual settings). When organizations need speakers, they input their needs and are connected only with those speakers whose information is a match. You will be contacted through an automated email with a request, which you can accept or decline.
http://www.lpi.usra.edu/education/speaker/

Getting Started Guides
Addressing the scientist’s need for information guides that are brief and easy-to-use, we are developing a series of short Guides to important topics in E/PO. Topics cover a wide range from “The Quick Introduction to Education and Public Outreach” to “Increasing Your Impact and Efficiency.” Also in development are One Page Tips and Tricks to assist with situations commonly encountered during E/PO such as “Classroom Do’s and Don’ts” and “Public Talks.” http://smdepo.org

Feedback from Scientists: Products are constantly in development and revision, and your feedback makes them more useful and effective. Learn more and become involved at http://smdepo.org. Contact Jennifer Grier (jgrier@psi.edu) or Sanlyn Buxner (buxner@psi.edu) for more information.