

Education Committee 8/7/23
Plant Biology 2023

In attendance: Erin, Val, Susan, Jonathan, Jen, Crispin, Gustavo, Ross (Zoom), Divya (Zoom)

Plant Science Saturday Debrief:

- “Success!” -Jonathan
- Very appreciative community, lots of thanks from families
- Early morning crowd- more locals, later crowds- tourist. Mixed audience
- More challenging to capture tween age group
- Logistics for Hawaii- would need to rent a car
 - o Had conversation with Hawaii rep
 - o Community College farmers market- is on Wednesday afternoons (Honolulu farmers market)- KCC
 - o Botanical Gardens
 - o Local farms with shops
 - o Brainstorm some activities to engage an adult population
- Symbols in passport to designate age specific guidelines and/or modifications
- DNA bracelet – need an alternative for lower elementary
 - o Build a plant bracelet- flower, stem, leaf
- Pick 4 activities to complete (instead of all)
- Tokens- buy a root, buy a leaf
- I spy game instead of purchasing game
- More interactions with growers/farmers
- DNA bracelet activity- need more worksheets.
 - o Laminate and use dry erase marker, or:
 - o Have the worksheet in the passport
- Activity for Adults
 - o Conversation on GMOs- bananas, papaya, pineapple in Hawaii
 - Alliance for Science?
 - o Lima bean dissection- a lot of fascination about the baby plant
 - o Apps for plant identification
 - o Connect with extension agents- for community college/university, USDA
 - o What’s in my ---? How many plants did you eat today? Connect it to food?
- Volunteer Training
 - o A little more tips on science communication (mostly for children, but also the parents)
 - o Breakout groups for those interested on extra tips
- Assessment
 - o QR code as we complete the certificates- ask parents to share feedback about the event:
 - How did you hear about this?
 - Would you come back?
 - What kind of activities would you like?

- Did you find the activities engaging and informative? (Scale of 1-10)
- Bringing up support for this event in NSF grant

Council Debrief

- Education and outreach one of the big goals of ASPB strategic planning
- Need to increase visibility of EdCom's work
- Many suggestions for E&O were activities that we already do
- Confusion about education and/or outreach: public engagement vs formal K-12 educational systems
- 4 goals for strategic plan
 - ASPB
 - Scientific community
 - The society and public
 - Education
- Visibility- working with Leann and Ian Wallace to select speakers in as much of the plenaries as possible that have an education lens to accompany their talks
 - Distribute ourselves throughout the entire conference
 - Push that education is not sole responsibility of EdCom- an entire society initiative
- Membership models
 - Membership only constitutes 5% of ASPB funding, most is funded by journal income
 - Grow membership by making it more accessible
 - Challenges for K- 12 educators- what benefits do we offer them?
 - Continuing education credits, credentialing, hours for teachers
- Look for faculty member in education- training education, K12 familiarity
- Among BLOOME grant recipients- looped in to review next round of awards
- NSTA offers credits