

Multicultural Training Breakout Session :

Topic: Pre-College Programming

Summary of Bold Steps and Actions

Facilitator: Sara Hernandez (Cornell University, IBP)

Discussion Leaders/Summarizers: Liesl Hotaling (CCO) & Elizabeth Vernon-Bell (COSEE-SE)

Near-term Actions and Bold Steps

Scaling-up local and tailored activities -

Expanding dialogue - Scientists, community, elders, etc.

Move current programs to next steps by engaging parents and others –

Example: Elizabeth Vernon Bell's (COSEE-South East) pilot program focusing on elementary schools in Charleston, SC. Both schools have low socio-economic demographic and high percentages of African American students. By reaching out to the parents in years 2 and 3 of this project (we are completing year 1 now), we might deepen the impact and exposure to ocean sciences to these underrepresented audiences.

ID and expand partnerships to leverage resources (SACNAS/ASLO/IBP etc)

COSEE NCO has an existing relationship with SACNAS, Corey Garza is a wonderful advocate. It would be great to continue to build this relationship; It will take education of the board and elders within that community to recognize ocean sciences as a worthy intellectual pursuit before we can make real gains within the SACNAS community. Plus there are many other organizations out there that can assist.

Put yourself out there! Learn from other fields/disciplines.

- More Details: This comment was in reference to Sharon Walker's (COSEE GOM) comment about having attended an environmental justice meeting and trying to explore alternative avenues to gain perspective and support for the field.
- Perhaps environmental justice route is one COSEE should explore, and would start to link in the legal community as well. The theme is a great hook to engage students, and could lead to greater understanding by citizenry of damage being done to the ocean damages ourselves.

Local partners- building blocks

- More Details: This comment was in reference to looking to corporate opportunities for funding (ie: company offering to match an amount raised).
- Also, there is the opportunity to involve local churches and communities surrounding schools. For example (from Elizabeth Vernon Bell, COSEE-South East), there may be one school that has a strong relationship with a neighborhood church. In EV's program, this church raised money each year so that each student in the elementary school could attend four field trips per year.

Educational department – State specific resources

- More details: Encouraging people to investigate funding and support offered through various school districts and state education departments

Toolkit Development – pilot involving technology and engineering

- In reference to research and activities already underway by the engineering community with reaching out to underrepresented audiences