Get Involved in Planetary Science Education and Public Outreach! Here’s How!

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E/PO Resources Available to Scientists from NASA SMD

Active engagement of scientists in Education and Public Outreach (E/PO) activities results in benefits for both the audience and the scientists. The Planetary Science Education and Public Outreach (E/PO) Forum helps the Science Mission Directorate support scientists currently involved in E/PO, as well as scientists who are interested in becoming involved in E/PO efforts, find ways to do so through a variety of opportunities and resources.

SMD E/PO Forum Community Workspace

http://smdepo.org

The workspace is a place to view announcements and calendar events, share work in progress, and participate in group discussions about E/PO topics.

EarthSpace: A National Clearinghouse for Higher Education in Space and Earth Sciences

http://www.lpi.usra.edu/earthspace

EarthSpace is a searchable database of undergraduate classroom materials (from homework and computer interactives to course descriptions and lectures) for faculty teaching Earth and space sciences at both the introductory and upper division levels. In addition to classroom materials, EarthSpace provides news and information about educational research and best practices, funding opportunities, and ongoing efforts and collaborations for undergraduate education. All materials submitted to EarthSpace are peer reviewed, ensuring that the quality of the EarthSpace materials is high and also providing important feedback to authors – your submission is a reviewed publication!

Connecting Scientists and E/PO Professionals

http://www.lpi.usra.edu/education/speaker

The NASA SMD Scientist Speaker’s Bureau is an online portal to connect scientists interested in getting involved in E/PO projects (e.g., giving public talks, classroom visits, and virtual connections) with audiences. The intent of this system is to enable educators and institutions to contact NASA scientists who are interested in giving presentations, based upon the topic, logistics, and audience. The information input into the database will be used to help match scientists (you!) with the requests being placed.

Year of the Solar System Website

http://solarsystem.nasa.gov/yss

Thematic resources for teaching about the solar system can be found at the Year of the Solar System website. For each topic (volcanism, ice, astrobiology, etc.), find background information, missions, the latest in planetary science news, and educational products for use in the classroom and outreach – including those that are suitable for undergraduate classes!

Tools for E/PO Proposals

A webinar created to familiarize scientists new to E/PO with the NASA SMD E/PO terrain that introduces SMD E/PO organizational structure, funding opportunities, review criteria and gives pointers on writing a good E/PO proposal can be found at the IGES website:


An online proposal guide and review criteria for ROSES EPOESS – Opportunities in Education and Public Outreach for Earth and Space Science – can be found on NASA SMD’s website in the For Researchers section:


E/PO Tools for Scientists

- Resources guides for working with K-12 audiences and the general public
- Sample activities organized by thematic topic and NASA’s Big Questions in planetary science, including:
  - Volcanism in the solar system
  - Planetary evolution
  - Astrobiology
  - Water and ice in the solar system
- Tips for public speaking
- Guidelines for working with classrooms
- Professional development workshops at science meetings

E/PO Planetary Science Forum Contacts

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Learn more about the Forum and find resources at

http://smdepo.org