

Education Update –February 2019

Prepared by Catrina Adams, BSA Education Director

Grant Funding Updates:

- We are in year 4 of the 4-year Digging Deeper (DIG) grant (ends September 30). We have recently filed a no-cost extension request to extend the project into a 5th year in order to continue to publish research results and fund dissemination efforts.
- NSF DRK-12 grant proposal pending: PlantingScience F2: The Next Generation of Collaborative Teacher-Scientist Professional Development (C. Adams PI, 4.3M).
- NSF RCN-UBE grant proposal in prep: Conference: Educating for a Diverse and Inclusive Community in Botany for the 21st Century (C. Adams PI, Kyra Krakos coPI, amount TBD)

PlantingScience Improvements and Strengthened Partnerships:

- New PlantingScience module developed by American Phytopathological Society is in beta testing this spring. Development of new module is coordinated by Education Technology Manager Jodi Creasap Gee.
- New mentor training module based on PlantingScience/Digging Deeper research underway: Part 1 developed and through beta testing, Part 2 in development now.
- New features/conveniences for administration scalability in place and tested: bulk upload of group information, assisted mentor selection, flag/feature post feature in place, new filter-able/browse-able student project gallery.

Publications in prep:

Taylor, J., Westbrook, A., Adams, C., Creasap-Gee, J. (in prep). The effect of participation in a student-scientist partnership-based online plant science mentoring community on high school students' science achievement and attitudes about scientists. Article is undergoing final editing and review by external evaluators will happen soon. Plan to submit to Journal of Educational Effectiveness in late March.

Hemingway, C., Adams, C., Sundberg M. (in prep). (Article will investigate career paths of early-career scientists serving as Master Plant Science team. Data analysis is underway, Marsh Sundberg has agreed to collaborate and submit research for IRB evaluation – we anticipate the study will be ruled exempt).

Presentations Given/Workshops Attended:

Inclusivity in the Plant Sciences: Using Scenario-Based Thinking to Discover Novel Paths for Increasing Diversity and Inclusion in the PlantSciences and Beyond (C. Adams, Jan 2019).

Future Presentations/Invited Talks/Workshops:

Plant Health (APS) (J. Creasap Gee, mentoring panel, August 2019), Life Discovery Conference (C. Adams, March 2019), National Science Teacher Association (C. Adams, J. Creasap Gee, April 2019), American Educational Research Association (J. Taylor, April 2019), Plant Biology (ASPB) (C. Adams, August 2019: PlantingScience mentor workshop and mentoring panel).

Botany.org education content update:

Survey will go out in March to education committee and teaching section to gather feedback and identify a committee of interested members to work on updating the education area of website.