

Education Update –July 2019

Prepared by Catrina Adams, BSA Education Director

Grant Funding Updates:

- We have received a no-cost extension on our Digging Deeper (DIG) grant (now ends September 30, 2020). We also received official permission to move the bulk of remaining participant costs into other budget categories, so we are in good shape to support staff at same level and continue to publish and disseminate research on this grant through year 5.
- NSF DRK-12 grant proposal declined: PlantingScience F2: The Next Generation of Collaborative Teacher-Scientist Professional Development (C. Adams PI, 4.3M). Reviews were generally positive but reviewers wanted to see published research results. Plan is to revise based on reviewer feedback and resubmit one more time in November.
- NSF RCN-UBE grant proposal confirmed: Conference: Educating for a Diverse and Inclusive Community in Botany for the 21st Century (C. Adams PI, Kyra Krakos coPI, \$63,599)

PlantingScience Improvements and Strengthened Partnerships:

- New PlantingScience module developed by American Phytopathological Society now available and will be adopted by several 5th grade and high school classrooms in a district in Georgia. Development of new module is coordinated by Education Technology Manager Jodi Creasap Gee. MSPT support partnership under consideration by APS.
- New mentor training module based on PlantingScience/Digging Deeper research under development for testing in Fall 2019. Will test feasibility of awarding PlantingScience digital badges to mentors as part of this effort.
- Pursuing online poster session feature for website to increase mentor involvement opportunities.

TA training partnership with Life Discovery/BioTAP/QUBES: potential grant to fund “future faculty mentoring networks” outside of department structure to provide opportunities for teaching experience and pedagogy training. Still in very early stages based on conversations at GRC.

Publications in prep:

Taylor, J., Westbrook, A., Adams, C., Creasap-Gee, J. (submitted Journal of Research on Educational Effectiveness). 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.

Hemingway, C., Adams, C., Sundberg M. (in prep). (Article will investigate career paths of early-career scientists serving as Master Plant Science team. Data collection/cleaning complete, analysis 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: Life Discovery Conference (C. Adams, March 2019), National Science Teacher Association (C. Adams, April 2019), American Educational Research Association (J. Taylor, April 2019), Gordon Research Conference on Undergraduate Education (C. Adams, June 2019).

Future Presentations/Invited Talks/Workshops: Plant Health (APS) (J. Creasap Gee, mentoring panel, August 2019), Plant Biology (ASPB) (C. Adams, August 2019: PlantingScience mentor workshop and mentoring panel). National Association of Biology Teachers (C. Adams, J. Creasap Gee, workshop and booth, November 2019).

Recommendation to the Board:

We propose changing the name of the Education Committee to Education and Outreach Committee. This does two things:

- 1) Allows us to formalize an effort to promote/support outreach and science communication in addition to "traditional" education/teaching.
- 2) Makes the distinction between our committee and the Teaching Section more clear.