



June Theme of the Month



Sparking and Sustaining STEM Interest Through Informal Learning Experiences: *Reflections on Where We've Been and Where We're Headed as a Field* June 28th at 3pm EDT



Scott Pattison,
Moderator



Natalie R.
Davis



Flávio
Azevedo

Webinar Chat

Kim Descoteaux: Thank you for joining us today! This webinar is hosted by The STEM for All Multiplex (<https://multiplex.videohall.com/>) Funded by NSF #1922641 and CAISE (<https://www.informalscience.org/>) Funded by NSF awards DRL-1612739 and DRL-1842633. Opinions expressed are those of the contributors and not necessarily those of the National Science Foundation.

ilda D: hello All, i'm here in New Mexico :)

Mark G: Mark Griep, Univ Nebr Lincoln, Chem

John V: John Voiklis, Knology

Seneca M: Hi! Seneca (she/her) - University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ

Anita L: hello from Vermont! GEAR UP academic support coordinator

Emily F: Colorado School of Mines, Golden, CO

jennifer K: Jen K. TERC. in Austin Texas

Lesley I: Joining from North Dakota's Gateway to Science

Ann P: Greetings from St. Louis, Missouri - Harris-Stowe State University

Megan G: Megan Goeke, Science Museum of Minnesota

Sandra L: Lopatcong, NJ

Diane M: Diane Miller Detroit Zoo

Emily M: Hello from Chicago IL/Evanston IL

Jared W: Jared Wilkins from Questacon in Canberra, Australia.

jennifer K: hi Diane!

Lydia O: Hello Everyone, Greetings from Greensboro. Joining from NCAT.

Kayleigh B: Hello from the Carnegie Science Center in Pittsburgh, PA!

Sarah F: Hello from Atlanta, Georgia!

Monya L: Hello - Monya Lane, Quest Science in Livermore CA

Kristen C: Hello everyone! I am Kristen Calderon from The Tech Interactive in San Jose, California.

Lara R: Lara Roketenetz (s/h) from University of Akron Field Station in Ohio.

Carmela A: Carmela Amato-Wierda, UNH tech camp

Sarah A: Hello from the Chicago Academy of Sciences

Alyssa Z: Hi everyone! Alyssa Zajan from the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum in MD

Christina B: Hi everyone! I'm a postdoc at the University of Arizona. And Hi Flavio!

Jeff B: Hello from The Museum of Flight in Seattle

Carla S: Carla Stough Huffman, Greater Rochester Afterschool & Summer Alliance, Rochester NY

Kim Descoteaux: <https://multiplex.videohall.com/>

Deb B: Deb Bailey, Oregon Department of Education, STEM Education Specialist

Melissa R: Hello from the UCAR Center for Science Education in Boulder, Colorado

Chris F: Chris, Exploration Place, Wichita, KS

James C: Jim Callahan: Mobile Climate Science Labs -- we are provided multiple booths with hands-on labs by the hosts of mass scale STEM events in California. Attended by between 300 and 300,00 students and families in one day. Held all year long: science festivals, STEM events, field trip hubs, community events...

Tony P: Hello, Tony Perry postdoc education researcher at MIT

Yong J: Yong Ju Jung from University of Oklahoma

Kelly R: Hello! Kelly Reina with the National Girls Collaborative. Joining from Chicago.

Ibidunni O: I previously worked an ASL Lecturer at the University and from Lewisburg, Pennsylvania. Nice to meet you all. :o)

Kim G: Hi! This is Kim González with GBH and content manager for Design Squad Latinx!

Kim Descoteaux: Videos on the playlist can be viewed here:

<https://multiplex.videohall.com/playlists/3725>

jennifer K: like the focus on practices.

Anita L: thinking about all the intersections of identities. the leader/teacher/mentor probably brings their own definition of interest and therefore the goal of the given activity.

Kim Descoteaux: Videos on the playlist can be viewed here:

<https://multiplex.videohall.com/playlists/3725>

Ibidunni O: Interesting regarding the chemistry and biology aspect on our behavioral environments. It concentrates on disciplinary environments potentially aftermath of pandemic. Thanks.

Howard D: This "interest" discussions reminds me of other discussions (seems long ago) of "motivation" and "self-efficacy"

Anita L: yes Howard

Howard D: one way i avoid slipping into deficit thinking or actions is focus on students' belonging to the group. my identities are less important than theirs.

ilda D: I agree, there is relevance socially & politically, as opposed to before where our movers & shakers tried to avoid controversies. this opens up a wider scope for us to be of help.

James C: Interesting recent experience: Last week we shared hands-on science labs at a STEM event for 500 students (mostly students of color) in front of City Hall in San Francisco. Who hosted the event?: San Francisco's Public Defenders Office!! The host holds the event for two main reasons: 1.) If students receive life changing positive experiences in STEM, they will be less likely to need the services of the Public Defenders office later in life. Instead, being able to attend a university, and a much better path in life. 2.) The local schools are simply NOT up to the task of providing engaging high quality STEM experiences. So... they hold informal setting STEM events and invite the best STEM education specialists in the Bay Area to exhibit. It was a great event!

Jared W: That's an interesting point Howard. I was thinking about "connection" but "belonging" is more interesting. Belonging removes the deficit idea, is far more inclusive and lines up with STEM pathways.

Howard D: Wow. "The local schools are simply NOT up to the task of providing high STEM experiences." That is such an intense statement. So, so sad.

John V: We were hoping that moral motives would speak to relevance rather than interest. If we seek to learn people's needs (personal, interpersonal, and collective) and speak to those needs, then we can convey relevance...this would put the onus on the STEM communicator/educator...the failure to learn and convey relevance is a communicator/educator deficit

Anita L: how do we promote this long-term aspect of engagement/interest?

Nada M: How students can explore STEM and ways to investigate their ideas about STEM :)

Anita L: there's engaging for students/young people/community and then there's a space to be heard

Sandra L: Am thinking that 'Interest' fuels motivation and engagement, and sparks the student's innovation and talent to discover their own STEM career path which can be directed into a fulfilling path by the educator involved.

James C: Plug for the Showcase :-) Large scale community-based informal STEM events are GREAT opportunities to gather fantastic video footage: hundreds of students taking part in hands-on STEM labs. Clearly being amazed, filled with joy. Asking high level questions. Turned on to STEM in ways they will never forget. -- It is OK to take video, where it is not in the schools.

Emily M: Can you put the link in the chat?

Godwyn M: <https://make.co/educationforum/>

Kim Descoteaux: We'll be closing breakouts in just a few minutes.

Mark G: <http://chemweb.unl.edu/griep/chem-education-research/>

John V: My cousin was inspired to go into physics & chemistry to address his father's existential crisis: he discovered exoplanets so he can tell his father that we might not be alone. Did he think about this every day, but it returned to him whenever it seemed had and pointless

Emily M: PEAR has tools to consider: <https://www.pearinc.org/stem>

John V: So many typos, sorry

Mark G: <http://chemweb.unl.edu/griep/scicomm-infographics-videos/>

John V: Maybe other topics and the explicit connections between them

Jamie Bell, CAISE (he/him/his): Thanks for these contributions to and resources for the the ongoing discussion, All!

ilda D: thanks you all, i'm headed into lrgc conf rm

Kim Descoteaux: Continue the conversation on the Multiplex - <https://multiplex.videohall.com/playlists/3725#discussion>

Godwyn M: <https://make.co/educationforum/> for anyone interested in attending or presenting at this virtual conference about bringing more hands on learning into schools

Anita L: Thank you all for pulling this together. Great ideas, loved hearing from the panelists and the opportunity to process some of those ideas in the small group.

Elysa C: Thank you to the speakers and organizers, this was great!

Kim Descoteaux: Continue the conversation on the Multiplex - <https://multiplex.videohall.com/playlists/3725#discussion>

Sandra L: Thanks to the organizers and speakers, quite informative.

Ibidunni O: Thanks so much for wonderful presentations. :o)

Jamie Bell, CAISE (he/him/his): And thank you, Scott for your expert moderating!

Tony P: Thank you all!

Mary Ann D: Thank you all—this was excellent and inspiring!

James C: Thank you panelists! Joni, Kim! Thank you everyone!

ilda D: many thanks!

Nada M: Thank you, Natalie, Flavio, Scott and everyone!

Devika N: Thanks all!