

## OPAS Motivate Workgroup Meeting #2

Wednesday, April 11, 2007 – Capital Center & teleconference

**Attendees:** Ryan Collay (OSU/SMILE), Mary Beth Horton (BEC), Jo Oshiro (OUS?OPAS), Ray Vandiver (OMSI), Roger Rennekamp (OSU/4H), Ben Manny (NOISE/OPAS), Endi Hartigan (OUS), Eileen Boerger (Agilis/ ETIC)

*Italics indicate activity since the meeting.*

### Summary as posted April 13, 2007

The most recent meeting was April 11, 2007. Subgroups summarized their current status:

- Volunteers (Mission: Increase the presence of STEM-knowledgeable volunteers in the classroom by identifying and overcoming barriers to volunteers' participation.)
  - Ben has been doing field research at Hilhi and talking to Morgan Anderson at Intel (a log of that conversation is on the website).
  - Endi, Ben, and David drafted a volunteers survey, which OMSI will help polish in its final form. As of April 13, a beta-test version of the web-based version of this survey is linked to the workgroup webpage.
  - Worksystems, Inc. may be part of a grant working on creating an infrastructure to connect volunteers to the classroom.
- Businesses (Mission: Increase the connections between businesses and educators by targeted recruitment.)
  - This year 200 volunteers from 30 companies (4 sponsoring) participated in the National Engineers' Month program administered by the BEC; OPAS was able to piggy-back some questions on the follow-up survey for participants and to provide a menu of additional volunteer activities:
    - Out of over 150 respondents, 55 agreed to do more including teaching at Saturday Academy (Joyce is contacting these); Science Fair Judging (contacts sent to Linda Mantel, PSU); mentoring robotics teams (contacts sent to Cathy Swider, ORTOP); help with additional NEM recruiting (BEC is working on these and will report in 3 months as the recruiting process is not quick).
    - OPAS will get a sample overview report.
- NOISE (Mission: Increase the resources and synergies among STEM education providers by collaborating with NOISE (Network of Informal STEM Educators)).
  - [www.oms.edu/noise](http://www.oms.edu/noise) now providing meeting notes and additional materials. A question about listserv responses getting through was raised; Ray will follow up with OMSI's IT people, and also provide website and listserv activity data.
  - The Leadership committee has met twice, discussing and factfinding structure, overarching goals, and operational details ; Funding met once; Communication met once, and is soliciting input on needs from the other committees and members. Connecting to formal education is not off the ground.
- Recap of the ETIC (part of higher education) budgeting:
  - Asked for \$20 million base budget – seems secure.
  - Asked for additional \$34 million; governor recommended \$17 million.

- Ways and Means recommended \$7 million; ETIC is trying to get that back to \$17 million.
- Roger and Ryan will provide some references linking informal education to results in the formal sphere, including improved test scores.
- The Group began working on the Funding Worksheet; the discussion will continue via email; Ben is collating the results.
- The Group agreed another longer face-to-face meeting in June would be valuable.

The next meeting will be Wednesday May 9, 3:30 – 5:30 at the Capital Center.

### **Additional points, resources and ideas discussed**

Volunteers: (Ben)

- OMSI will help with generating the final survey.
- Ben has been doing volunteer work at Hilhi to see what the experience is – what infrastructure is necessary? He’s talked to Morgan Anderson who works with Intel volunteers and see what her experience says is necessary. *He is trying to establish a relationship with the formal group of Intel retirees which meets periodically.*

Business: (Mary Beth) –

- More detail on BEC’s National Engineers’ Month – 30 companies, 4 sponsors including OMSI. Kudos to OMSI for going above and beyond classrooms and videocasts.
- The presenter/participants’ followup survey
  - over 150 responses;
  - 55 people to agreed to do more volunteering, selecting from a menu of choices; these leads have been passed on and are being followed up:
    - Saturday Academy (Joyce Cresswell)
    - Judge volunteers for regional science fairs (Linda Mantel with PSU)
    - Mentoring robotics teams – 9 leads passed on to Cathy Swider, ORTOP. Good news is great response.
    - Further recruitment for NEM also got good response – about 20 responses on that. We will be able to tell how these played out in about another three months.
- *A sample overview report was sent to the OPAS office in hard copy.*
- *An additional podcasting resource: Sarah Cofer with the 4H Bit program, DesChutes county office. Contact info given to Mary Beth.*
- We may be able to use this same model of an additional menu of choices in a followup survey, essentially doing lead generation, with NWSE (Northwest Science Expo). Contact person: Stephanie Jones at PSU would be the contact person.
- Kathryn Schwartz is leaving SAOF and has resigned from the OPAS Motivate and Succeed Workgroups. Rane Stempson at Microsoft is leading an effort between SAOF and Microsoft to implement some sort of school-to-work database, possibly at the request of the OBC (Oregon Business Council). This may parallel or overlap with an effort of UO, CIS, and Worksystems, Inc. being done with grant money. Ben will follow up; *at some point we may want to contact Rane and put her in touch with that effort and/or Dacia Ermatinger at Washington County School-to-Work.*

## NOISE (Ray)

- Detail: The NOISE leadership committee met twice. Their primary interest is to look at how to provide focus towards an annual conference of informal STEM educators and trying to establish the structure, funding, and communication that will make that happen. Continues to be discussion over structure, overarching goals and objectives; what constitutes membership; etc. Leadership doing factfinding, looking at similar institutions and associations – should be 501©3? (leaning to yes).
- Leadership's core ideology: "NOISE is a network of providers and partners dedicated to providing lifelong learning opportunities for informal STEM education."
- Three of four committees have met – leadership, funding/sustainability, communication. Connecting to formal education not yet off the ground.
- Funding committee – looking to leadership for some direction re: scope and need. Fees? Pass costs to participants? Fundraise for widest access?
- Communications committee - Discussion re: alignment and support for TechnoScience Supersite – How can NOISE support that and help it evolve? There is a post on the meeting on the NOISE website. BEC especially feels that the next step for the TSSS requires a major step in technology and support. (Ben expects that there is some commercial package out there that would meet the specs. If not, anything developed could be offered to similar organizations.) Needs more constituent input. Funding, resources, etc. One model: Young Audiences – *see* <http://www.arts4learning.org/supportmaterial.aspx?smid=5324>; note that there is also a website specific to the Oregon chapter of Young Audiences at <http://www.ya-or.org/home.cfm?CFID=4340557&CFTOKEN=36320219>.
  - Ben: How do we get people to use the infrastructure (website, listservs)? 0 people replied to the ideology – mary beth said she did. We need to check and find out where the traffic went – she sent it to [noise@omsi.edu](mailto:noise@omsi.edu). Ray will chase it down and see where it went.

## Other:

- Jo gave a quickie tour of the OPAS website – Workgroup index page, Motivate webpage, Motivate archive webpage, Master Resources List.
- Jo gave a steering committee report, which focused on funding options.
  - Eileen – governor recommended \$17 of the \$34 we asked for. Comes out of ETIC budget. Ways and Means gave \$7 million. ETIC in the process of trying to get back to at least \$17 M. This is over and above \$20 M base budget. ETIC counts as higher ed.
  - Ask Bruce if there is any way to tap into the money allocated for K12? *Bruce says highly unlikely.*
  - Ryan: 2 big missing pieces – linking higher ed (esp 13-16) to K-12 and into P-20. Some discussion about how informals enhance formal. There is an absolute link between informals and test scores and formal. (Ryan please get me these refs. Ryan and Roger will work together on this.)
  - Ben: maybe foundations are a better place to tap.

Funding worksheet (sent out via email the morning of the meeting):

- Ben will collate the workgroup input on this.
- Ryan: one idea - FOSS kits, building on the GK12 model only using volunteers. Educational Service Districts (ESDs) usually cover a county to a county and a half, cross districts, and have a history of a lending library model for resources including equipment. *(Jo reviewed similar grant proposals submitted to ETIC by Dave Johnson – estimates costs to include kits, materials, some travel, some professional development, and a stipend for a coordinator at the local ESD to track and maintain kits at \$25-\$30,000 for at least 2 elementary schools of about 360 students or 20 teachers. Figuring the maximum number of classrooms that could be serviced depends on travel time and other scheduling/logistics constraints.)*

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday, May 9, 2007 3:30 – 5:00 at the Capital Center and via teleconference.