



**All-OPAS Workshop 2009:
ETIC Internal OUS Grant Reporting
February 4, 2009**

**OSU SMILE Program
Career Linking in Rural Middle Schools
\$116,000**

**Motivate students in 12 after-school STEM
clubs to develop stronger career awareness in
STEM**

OPAS Vision for the Year 2020 - All Oregonians have the opportunity to choose and successfully pursue engineering or applied science as their field of study and career, thereby helping Oregon's industries innovate and prosper in the global economy.



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- Goal: Emplace 6 weeks of curriculum and activities to support greater awareness of STEM careers including teacher professional development
- *Best Practices Used/Shown*
 - Professional Learning Community
 - Connecting Students/Schools to Community through volunteers
 - Near-Peer connections through OSU science & engineering students

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From your Project Proposal “Needs to be Addressed” table:



All-OPAS Workshop 2009: ETIC Internal OUS Grant Reporting *SMILE – Career Linking in Rural Middle Schools*

Target Audience: <i>original targets revised for lower \$?)</i>	Grade Level	Subject Areas	Number of -	Contact hours	Recruitment efforts/results
Teacher (26;13 clubs)	6, 7, and 8	SMILE Club – science and mathematics	24 teachers	About 8 hours training on career-linking.	All 13 school districts were contacted. Six schools districts (7 teachers) participated in the study, but all 13 school districts participated in the training.
Students (260; 20 each in 13 clubs)	6, 7, and 8	SMILE Club – science and mathematics	60 – 80 students	~ 2 hours per week for three months	These are the students of the six school districts that participated.
Special needs / under-represented populations		>80% are ethnic minorities, all student are from underrepresented rural schools.			

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- **Biggest Challenges**
 - Recruiting schools and teachers to participate in the first year
 - Meshing university and school calendars
- **Best News**
 - Student opportunities to connect classroom and afterschool STEM learning to careers
 - Middle school student engagement with near-peer college engineering students

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- **Best News**
 - Partnership with Engineering Education Service Center
 - Partnership with Mechanical Engineering at OSU

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Key Learnings

- Classroom impact of university-school partnerships for OST programs
- Effective engagement of community liaisons
- Importance of context
- Establishing university-school-community partnerships

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