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Some K12 Outreach Options for Higher Ed Faculty and Students

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Some K12 Outreach Options for Higher Ed Faculty and Students

This list starts with the simplest, lowest cost ideas and progresses to large scale projects. These are just suggestions; other options may be appropriate.

1. Host class visits to your lab
2. Give a talk/demo/hands-on activity to a visiting class or boy scout, girl scout, or 4H group
3. Visit a school to give a talk/demo/hands-on activity
4. If appropriate, give a talk/demo/hands-on activity as part of a STEM Ed summer institute
5. Present a half day workshop as part of the STEM Ed Saturday Seminar program
6. Advise teachers and students in after school science clubs
7. Host a teacher or high school student in your lab for some weeks in the summer
8. Present a one or two day workshop for teachers, possibly with a half day follow up session
9. Offer a week long summer program for teachers

What STEM Ed can do:

1. Advertise your program via our large email list and the lists/web sites that redistribute these announcements
2. Process applications and select participants
3. Find expert teachers with professional development experience to assist in planning and presenting your program
4. Make connections with after-school science clubs, classroom teachers, or other K12 organizations
5. Evaluate your program
6. Arrange as appropriate for optional graduate credits or “professional development points” needed by teachers for continued certification
7. Help with catering, materials purchasing, etc.
8. Help set up a half day or full day program for teachers highlighting your research
9. Arrange for evaluation if needed

Comments:

1. Reviewers are often concerned about the overall impact on students. One time visits are fine, but are generally considered to have little long term effects.
2. If you work with middle school or high school teachers, each teacher has about 100 students and you get an enhanced impact.
3. Involve your undergrad or grad students in the outreach, especially if you work directly with k12 students, since they are closer in age and more likely role models.
4. STEM Ed can do publicity free. Other services may require some funding.