Mission statement
The Office of Science Outreach (OSO) encourages & assists Stanford faculty to engage in science outreach—organized activities targeted at our nation's youth, school teachers, & general public—that will increase their interest, understanding, and involvement in math, science, and engineering.

Year established
2004

Factors/catalysts for establishing office
• Concern about U.S. STEM pipeline
• Concern about new NSF requirements & competitiveness of Stanford proposals
• Overall decline in scientific literacy of U.S. citizenry

How did office get established?
• Year-long effort to get buy-in from deans of science, engineering, & medicine
• Each school contributed ~$50K for one-year pilot
• Founding director very well connected across campus
• Advisory Group established
• Environmental scan of all outreach programs/activities on campus during 1st year

Best Practices for BI
• Convene Stanford Legal, HR & Safety experts to develop policy and procedures for minors in labs
• Identify all outreach programs & convene staff quarterly to share best practices, identify shared training needs, discuss opportunities for funding & collaboration
• Build bridges between Graduate School of Education & STEM researchers
• Develop broad network of K-12 school contacts, non-profits & museums eager to partner with Stanford PIs
• Document assistance on faculty proposals & track results
• Develop comprehensive website to document & publicize outreach

Revenue sources
- Individual Faculty Grants
- Foundation Gifts & Grants
- Federal Grants
- University General Funds

Expenditures
- Indirect Costs
- Special Projects
- Events, Supplies, Expenses & Travel
- Stipends (HS Interns & Grad Students)
- Stipends (Teachers)
- Staff Salaries and Benefits

OSO By The Numbers
$87M in awards obtained (incl 3 large center grants)
147 PIs assisted
311 internships (RET, REU, HS) arranged & funded
60 public lectures

Services Offered to Public
• Comprehensive website = portal to “all things science outreach” at Stanford, including speaker series, Bay Area Science Festival
• Guidelines, checklist and documents for hosting minors or unpaid interns in labs
• Help recruiting, selecting outreach & education staff for major centers or departments
• Programs/infrastructure to tap into:
  o RET program (~25 teachers/summer)
  o HS Internship program (~25 interns/summer, all low income, first generation or URM)
  o Internships for local community college students

• RET and HS internship programs
• Lecture series
• Exhibits & demos at large community events

Services Offered to PIs
• One-on-one help developing BI plans:
  o Identifying partners
  o Drafting/reviewing BI section of proposals
  o Obtaining letters of support
  o Planning evaluation
  o Advertising events on OSO website
  o Help recruiting participants

• Arranging & advertising lectures, workshops, events, including speaker series, Bay Area Science Festival
• Guidelines, checklist and documents for hosting minors or unpaid interns in labs
• Help recruiting, selecting outreach & education staff for major centers or departments
• Programs/infrastructure to tap into:
  o RET program (~25 teachers/summer)
  o HS Internship program (~25 interns/summer, all low income, first generation or URM)
  o Internships for local community college students

Contact For Further Information
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