**GK-12 Bioenergy Sustainability Project Weekly Meetings**

**(ZOL 895, Section 401)**

**Fall 2012 - Fridays 1:15 to 3:15pm – Stack Hall 145**

8/31/2012

Business

1. Friday Meeting Overview – sharing our goals
2. 2 minute round-up – This is designed to be BRIEF! We’re looking for 30s about your accomplishments this week, 30s about challenges you’re having and whether or not you have something *good* to do next week, and a minute of reflection/advice/ideas from the rest of the group to help you get through those issues.
3. Discuss Fellow Weekly Reports on GK-12 Project Website
4. Fall Workshop Dates Discussion
5. BEST Plots Binder collection and updating – collect any binders from your district that haven’t been returned yet and bring to the Sept 14th Fellows Meeting. We’ll replace outdated materials together and you can return these to your district teachers following the meeting.
6. Dinner with Nalini Nadkarni on October 19th?
7. Emerging Issues?

Professional Development

1. On the first day of class – introducing yourself and GK-12 to students.
   1. See the GK-12 Insider’s page for sample presentations
   2. Here are a few notes from former fellow Lauren Kinsman about how she introduced herself to MS and HS students – she produced two of the sample ppts available on our insider’s page. “For both of these, the first thing I had the students do was take a piece of scrap paper or a note card and 1) draw a picture of a scientist and 2) "define" science (I said just write something, doesn't even have to be a full sentence).  Then I would make the big reveal that I am a scientist after we talked a little bit about their pictures and their definitions.  For the MS one, I also played a little game where I had all the students dress up in "science outfits" (lab coat+beaker, waders + D net, overalls+soil corer) and had them guess which one was a scientist.  Of course, they were all scientists.”
   3. Here are a few notes from former Fellow Alycia Reynolds-Lackey: “When I went into HS classrooms, I modified the intro to the plots slides and added a bit about my own research. I also introduced my research more fully to elem students, and I think something like this could work for middle school, too (see the intro to sticklebacks ppt on the Insider’s page). In my first classroom visit, I felt it worked really well to:

- introduce myself and my research briefly, about 5 min (max 10 min)

- then do the "what does a scientist look like?" drawing activity - or for older students, you could use slides with pictures of yourself as a scientist, or different kinds of scientists, and ask "which one is a real scientist?" (You could even add pics of GK-12 students in previous years -- they count as scientists!)

- then help out with whatever lesson the teacher had planned / observe for the rest of the class time. This way, the students get a little bit of you, but you also have a chance to understand them, and you aren't "lecturing" for more than 10 min. If you blather on too long, the students might not be as excited about your next visits. The more active your first visit, the better.

* 1. Introduction to Bioenergy ppt and lesson– in binders also

1. Visit the following websites for helpful information on your first day:
   1. <http://www.unl.edu/gradstudies/current/teaching/first-3-weeks>
   2. <http://www.unl.edu/gradstudies/current/teaching/motivating>
   3. <http://www2.honolulu.hawaii.edu/facdev/guidebk/teachtip/dayone.htm>
   4. <http://www.cmu.edu/teaching/designteach/teach/firstday.html>
   5. <http://www.theideacenter.org/sites/default/files/IDEA_Paper_39.pdf>
2. Other Helpful Hints from Former Fellows
   1. Introduce yourself to district science teachers in addition to your partner teacher. When you’re comfortable in the classroom you will want to spend time with more than one teacher.
   2. Think about communicating with varied audiences – consider the types of language to use with MS and HS students.
   3. Anything else veterans?
3. **Peer Reviewing your Research blurbs – 200 words on you as a scientist for a general audience.** This will be posted on our website along with a photo of you doing cool science. Revised versions due to Robin next Friday.

Leisure Readings for next week:

1. Next week we’ll begin discussing Public Science Literacy and Science Communication Readings for 9/7 include: <http://www.ssireview.org/articles/entry/climate_science_as_culture_war> plus those posted on the Insider’s Page.

2. Please read all of the 2012 revised protocols (will be on the insider’s page) and look for things that need to be changed/improved. We’ll discuss as a group next week (9/7) and on 9/14 will replace outdated materials in the binders.