The Lawrence Hall of Science

Using "Science as a Human Endeavor" to Foster Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Secondary Science Classrooms

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Science Education for Public Understanding Program



Mission:

To foster student agency and engagement in science by developing and supporting issue-oriented, evidence-driven, and hands-on curriculum that is relevant and accessible, and positions teachers for classroom implementation that is equitable and inclusive.

- Curriculum Development
 - Science and Global Issues: Biology high school program
- Teacher Professional Learning
- Research
 - NGSS-aligned Summative Classroom Assessments of Three-Dimensional Learning

Today, 2:20-3:20pm, International Ballroom A

NGSS Understandings about the Nature of Science

Science is a Human Endeavor

- Science is a result of human endeavors, imagination, and creativity.
- Individuals and teams from many nations and cultures have contributed to science and to advances in engineering.
- Scientists' backgrounds, theoretical commitments, and fields of endeavor influence the nature of their findings.
- Science and engineering are influenced by society and society is influenced by science and engineering.

Leveraging and building on this crosscutting concept for inclusion in the high school biology classroom

Science as a Human Endeavor Resource Page

Goal: Create a resource and framework to convey science as a human activity:

- Done by people from all across the world and varying backgrounds
- To answer questions and address challenges important to them.
- That youth and their communities can participate in

Guiding Principles:

- Acknowledge the value and importance of diverse perspectives and experiences to scientific advancement
- Emphasize scientists as members of society and their communities
- Uphold an inclusive narrative about who can engage in science and engineering



Letter to Students

If someone asked you the question, "What is science?," how would you answer?

"Science is a way of exploring and understanding the natural world."



"Science and engineering are human activities. People from all over the world engage in science and engineering and use scientific information and technological solutions."

"Science and engineering can be done by people of all ages and backgrounds, including people like you."



Science as a Human Endeavor Resource Page

https://tinyurl.com/science-human-endeavor

Introducing... Dr. Nicola Smith and her story



Marine Ecologist



Communities engaging in scientific problem-solving



Invite your students to participate in community science

You may wish to participate in an already existing community (or citizen) science project, like one of the projects linked here.

<u>CoCoRaHS</u>: share your measurements of backyard precipitation



Using Science as a Human Endeavor Resources

- Use the Letter to Students as an introduction to your science course/year
- Use a scientist story to start a lesson activity or unit
- Use a community spotlight/profile to highlight ways that communities are engaging in science to address local challenges
- Invite your students to participate in science now (not just in the future!) through community/citizen science as an extension or class activity



Selected web-based resources

Scientist Stories and Profiles

- I Am A Scientist
- Scientist Spotlights

Community Spotlights

AAAS How We Respond

Community/Citizen Science

- SciStarter
- GLOBE.gov

Questions?

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Slides can be accessed at: tinyurl.com/SEPUP-NSTA-2023