



2019 LARGE FACILITIES WORKSHOP

APRIL 2-4 | TEXAS ADVANCED COMPUTING CENTER

Information Section

Topic:	EPO Best Practices and the Diversification Challenge
Speaker(s) Name, Title:	Donna Charlevoix, Sue Ann Hetherly, Roxanne Hughes, Jim Madsen, Kristin Roberts, Tim Spuck
Session Description:	Best practices in STEM education and workforce development, diversity, and inclusion, and building collaborations
Session Time Slot:	Tuesday, April 2, 3:20 p.m.
Purpose and Desired Outcome:	Share best practices, explore future projects and collaborations.

Notetaking Section

Scribe Name	
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Disclaimer: *These are raw notes that were captured by the assigned scribe during this session at the 2019 Large Facilities Workshop. This is one individual's interpretation of what took place during the session, and its content does not necessarily represent the viewpoint of the National Science Foundation.*

Notes and Key Points:

- You don't need cutting edge equipment to create an authentic research experience
- 50% of first year stem majors drop out & don't finish
- Transportation is a barrier to underrepresented students visiting a facility
- If we don't change the environment, we won't get different types of people in STEM (need to value work other than publishing papers)

Best Practices:

- Connect undergrad STEM students with younger ones (K-12)
- Immersive research experiences need to engage on a deep level
- Give students high-quality, informal interactions with professional scientists
- Allow students to experience what research really is
- Have a themed "open house" event to bring a different audience to your facility
- Print magazine allows multiple facilities to collaborate and publish long-form articles
- Provide materials (e.g., slides) for people in your partnership to explain what your partnership is
- In partnerships/collaborations, people should have flexible guidelines so they can do what works for their organization

Actionable Recommendations (Action Owner Name & Organization):

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Decisions:

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Session Summary

NSF-funded facilities are committed to reaching broader audiences and engaging underserved audiences; this session highlighted partnerships, collaborations, and EPO best practices that have helped us work towards that goal, although much work remains to be done. There was also discussion about programs that engage young people authentically, and keep them in STEM fields throughout their education. The importance of international collaboration was also highlighted.