FEATURED ARTICLE

STEP Forward for Science Communication

Congratulations to our STEP Forward fellows, who completed their communication fellowship at the Pacific Science Center this past November. The fellows have all designed and prototyped a hands-on activity to teach the public about their research-related topic. They have been (or will be) presenting their activity on the floor at Pacific Science Center’s Meet a Scientist, a public event on most Saturday afternoons.

Please come and support our STEP Forward fellows and our alums who were also PacSci’s Communication Fellows! Upcoming presentations for Meet a Scientist can be found at:

https://www.pacificsciencecenter.org/meet-a-scientist/

For our STEP Forward fellows, please remember to participate in at least three Meet a Scientist events by May.

Training in communication with the public is just the first step. Here is the list of upcoming events for STEP Forward, some of which are open to ALL alumni:

Dec-May: Participate in 3 PacSci events


April 17: UW Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Symposium – Encouraged for ALL!

Spring 2018: Training & networking event w/ local policymakers – STEP Forward Fellows

Summer 2018: Writing retreat (1-day) for preparing materials for publication – Open to ALL STEP alumni! More details to come...

WELCOME OUR NEW 2017-2018 STEP FELLOWS!

Congratulations to our new STEP cohort for completing the two intensive workshops on course design and active learning! They’re planning some amazing courses for the upcoming quarters, so please help us spread the word!

Current STEP Winter 2018 Courses:

How to build a visual system
Kathryn Jewett, Tera Levin, & Alex White (Mentor: Siddharth Ramakrishnan, UPS)

Your sense of sight is the result of millions of years of evolution and intricate development of specialized neural circuits. This course dives into the evolution, development, and design of both biological and artificial visual systems.

(Continued on next page...)

Photo above: Helen Stankiewicz, Justin Roby, and Curtis Easton discuss a question during the gallery walk activity while mentor Salwa Al-Noori listens in.
Call for proposals for UW’s 2018 Teaching and Learning Symposium

To ALL STEP Alumni and STEP Forward Fellows: Are you interested in presenting a poster about work that you have piloted on the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning? Did you develop an interesting learning module or activity that you would like to share with a wider audience? Consider submitting an abstract to the UW Teaching and Learning Symposium!

This year’s Teaching & Learning Symposium will be held on Tuesday, April 17, 2018 (2:00 – 4:30 pm) in the HUB Ballroom at UW Seattle. As stated in their call for proposals: “The Symposium is designed for interactive presentations and discussion with participants on innovative strategies in teaching, whether it is work you have done in the past, are in the process of implementing, or have envisioned for the future.”

Deadline for abstract submissions is Monday, February 5, 2018 at 5:00pm.


If you are interested and would like to see a sample abstract, please contact Becca (beccap@uw.edu).

New Discoveries at the Market

Providing a dose of science alongside the fruits and veggies

“Science at the Market” was founded by biochemistry postdocs and STEP alumni Karla-Luise Herpoldt (right), Gienna Foight (middle), & Parisa Hosseinzadeh (left), shown here with their “proteins” at the U-district Farmer’s market.

Fact or not? Addressing misinformation in science reporting about cancer, vaccines, and viruses.
Jesse Erasmus, Sasha Larsen, & Trisha Sippel (Mentor: Becca Price, UWB)

Students learn how to interpret scientific information and validate claims about cancer, vaccines, and viruses, and how to communicate their understanding to the general public.

On the cutting edge: Molecular scissors for gene editing
Joel Berleth, Alisha Mendonsa, & Elizabeth Speltz (Mentor: Becca Price, UWB)

In this course, we discuss the emerging technologies that have enabled us to edit and modify the DNA of any organism from bacteria to plants to human. We will focus on the technology and the ethical ramifications of gene editing.

STEP Women’s Group

Thank you to Christina Valensisi who is generously volunteering her time this year to organize the STEP Women’s Group.

The STEP Women’s Group is open to ALL STEP alumni (not just the women!) and is a venue for networking and discussing various topics and issues such as work-life balance, job searches, alternative careers, etc. Meetings are held every other month alternating between UWS and SLU.

The next meeting will be on Friday, February 2nd at noon in the Sze West Conference Room, Thomas Building, at the Fred Hutch. Mary Wallingford, a STEP alumni who has accepted a position at Tufts Medical Center in Boston, will be talking about her journey in finding a job.

Congratulations to STEP graduates with new positions!

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Institution</th>
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<tr>
<td>Will Conrad</td>
<td>Lake Forest College</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amitabha “Guppy” Gupta</td>
<td>Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mary Wallingford</td>
<td>Tufts University Medical School</td>
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Please keep us updated on your job searches!