

Outreach and Public Engagement Network (OPEN)

Friday 17th of November 2017

Time	Session
10.30	Registration and refreshments
10:45	Welcome, H&S, introductions and outline of the day Prof David Mowbray, Chair of OPEN Advisory Group
11:00	Learning from others' mistakes OPEN network members
11:30	Connect Physics Dr Dominic Galliano, SEPnet
13:00	Lunch
13:45	REF and public engagement Dr Catriona Firth, HEFCE
14:45	Refreshments and networking
15:00	Public engagement: what are the challenges? Toby Shannon, IOP
16.00	End of day

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Aim of the Network

These Network meetings will:

- 1) support colleagues who outreach to schools/colleges;
- 2) provide an opportunity to network and share experiences with colleagues working in similar roles at other organisations;
- 3) provide a forum for the discussion of ideas for improving the quality of activities delivered and opportunities to share best practice.

Session Details

Connect Physics

Dr Dominic Galliano, SEPnet

ASPIRES tells us we should be looking to maintain and raise science capital in the classroom, rather than simply inspire. Over the last few years SEPnet has been developing a set of Year 8 workshops that do just that: Connect Physics. These workshops add context to the physics component of KS3 science by connecting classroom science to the latest research, everyday scenarios & varied possible careers. The workshops are also designed to show how anyone can do physics by reintroducing the scientific method. All these workshops have gone through a development process involving freelance science workshops creators, evaluators, teachers and Outreach officers. There will also be an opportunity for you to find out how your university can run the workshops and join our yearlong evaluation.

Public engagement in REF 2021

Dr Catriona Firth, REF Deputy Manager, HEFCE

This session will explore the high-level decisions taken around impact in REF 2021, focusing on the role of public engagement. Building on insights from REF 2014 impact case studies, it will offer an opportunity to discuss the diverse ways in which public engagement may lead to impact and reflect upon the ways in which evidence might be gathered. Participants will also have a chance to feed into broader conversations on the guidelines required to ensure that institutions feel confident in submitting impact case studies based on public engagement.

Public engagement: what are the challenges?

Toby Shannon, IOP

This session will see attendees working in groups to identify and explore some of the most common challenges facing group members when embarking upon public engagement activities.