



SOCIETY OF PHYSICS STUDENTS

An organization of the American Institute of Physics

Future Faces of Physics Award Report

Project Proposal Title	WISE STEM Camp for Girls
Name of School	Abilene Christian University
SPS Chapter Number	Z13-0006
Project Lead (name and email address)	Megan Cromis mmc12b@acu.edu
Total Amount Received from SPS	\$300
Total Amount Expended from SPS	\$300

Summary of Award Activity

Abilene Christian University's future faces of physics event was a STEM demo show for middle-school aged girls, presented by the women of our chapter and several community organizations. The roughly 60 participants were be divided into groups, each with a mentor, and traveled to several hands-on and demo stations in order to foster creativity in future female scientists. Our SPS group ran a spectroscopy and light demo, and several more hands-on experiments with the students.

Statement of Activity

Overview of Award Activity

- Brief description – The girls were divided into groups of about 10, and we ran through the demo and allowed each of the groups to go through both sets of experiments, a lens experiment and a “how to light a lightbulb” experiment.
- Outcomes – Brought together two generations of future scientists and engineers.

- Audience – The participants were middle school aged girls, with roughly 60 in attendance.
- Context of the Project – This allowed for the women of our chapter to work on something together, and brought us closer as a group.
- Highlights and stories – After the demo/experiment session, the entire group, along with the other sponsors and student participants all ate lunch together. This allowed for more one on one conversation between the middle-schoolers and the SPS members.

Impact Assessment: How the Project/Activity/Event Promoted Physics across Cultures

Our goals were...

“Our event, The Women in Science and Engineering (WISE) Camp, as stated in the abstract, strives to foster creativity in future female STEM students. We will have several STEM related stations that will allow young girls to experience the fun of science while making friends. Another overall goal of the project is to allow for the women of ACU to get to work together on the planning of the event, and build closer friendships.”

We accomplished these goals, and many more. The chance to reach out to a younger generation of girls who may have never met a female scientist before was amazing!

Impact Assessment: How the Project/Activity/Event Influenced your Chapter

This event was the first big thing that our new SPS subset group for women had done together. It brought us closer together, and got the physics department to really recognize us as a group for the first time.

Key Metrics and Reflection

The Future Faces of Physics Award is designed to promote projects that cross cultures. What cultures did your project attempt to bring together? (Please be as specific as possible.)	Women
How many attendees/participants were directly impacted by your project? Please describe them (for example “50 third grade students” or “10 high school volunteers”).	60 middle school participants 5-10 female high school volunteers
How many students from your SPS chapter were involved in the activity, and in what capacity?	4 volunteers on the day, with several others helping plan
Was the amount of money you received from SPS sufficient to carry out the activities outlined in your proposal? Could you have used additional funding? If yes, how much would you have liked? How would the additional funding have augmented your activity?	It was sufficient. Though, we could have done more experiments with additional funding.
Do you anticipate repeating this project/activity/event in the future, or having a follow-up project/activity/event? If yes, please describe.	Yes, this is something that happens yearly
What new relationships did you build through this project?	Relationships with the high schools and other ACU science departments
If you were to do your project again, what would you do differently?	Get more student participation, if possible.

Press Coverage (if applicable)

N/A

Expenditures

We used the funding to buy several things for the spectroscopy demo. Most of the other equipment we borrowed from the physics department.

Expenditure Table

Item	Please explain how this expense relates to your project as outlined in your proposal.	Cost
LED arrays	Used in the demonstration.	~\$200
Various replacement lightbulbs.	Light demo.	~\$40
Electricity Usage Monitors	Demo to show difference between LED, CFL, and fluorescent bulbs.	~\$60
Total of Expenses		\$300

Activity Photos



ACU Spectroscopy Demo
Credit: Hannah Hamilton



ACU Spectroscopy Demo
Credit: Hannah Hamilton



ACU Spectroscopy Demo
Credit: Hannah Hamilton



ACU Spectroscopy Demo
Credit: Hannah Hamilton



ACU Lightbulb Experiment
Credit: Hannah Hamilton



ACU Student Volunteers
Credit: Lori Houghtalen



If you have any questions, please contact the SPS National Office Staff
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