



SEP 2018 NEWSLETTER

BUILDING BRIDGES

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Newsletter Committee

Shrawan (Sam) Kumar
Maurice Godfrey
Kim Soper
Liliana Bronner

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The content of this newsletter is solely the responsibility of the authors and does not necessarily represent the official views of the National Institutes of Health.

2018 SEPA Health and Science Fun Camp, Teacher Workshop & Other Upcoming Activities

Dr. Maurice Godfrey, Professor and SEPA Program Director

Happy New School Year and the start of year 14 of our SEPA program. While we have made many changes over the years, we have maintained our long term programs for middle school students through our Health and Science Fun Camp and for teachers through the many professional development workshops. This Newsletter features photographs of those and other programs that have been held over the past few months. For the past couple of years, we have hosted middle school students from the Wagner Community School who have visited some of the biomedical technology we have at UNMC. If you would like to bring your students for a similar visit, let us know at sepa@unmc.edu.

Our next event is our second Behavioral Health Conference that will be held on Tuesday October 30, 2018 at the Delta Hotel in South Sioux City. This is a time for upper high school (juniors and seniors) and college students to learn about behavioral health issues and pathways for those careers. Please share this information in your schools and communities.

SEPA will be joining the Center for Great Plains Studies and the University of Nebraska Medical Center to host: **WAKANYÉJA: A Symposium on American Indian Behavioral Health April 23 and 24, 2019**. More details will follow.

Summer Activity Highlights

We have held annual workshops, science camps, family science nights, and visits to schools to stimulate interest in science, provide guidance and science education to Native American communities since 2005.

Pictures Below: On the left, students from 6 different schools participated in Science Health Fun Camp at UNL and on the right SEPA Science Exploration Activities at UNMC—more than 50 students from Wagner Community School took part in the various science activities. All the students loved the state-of-the art science program at UNMC—the details are described in the next page:





SEPA Health and Science Fun Camp at the University of Nebraska Lincoln (UNL) June 10-13, 2018

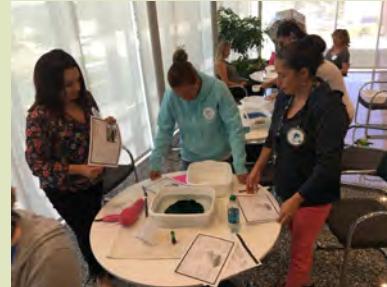
The 2018 SEPA Health and Science Fun Camp featured topic was "The Science of Water and Food". In total, 27 students from five schools (Marty Indian School, Umoñhon Nation Public School, Santee Community School, Winnebago Public School) participated in fun science activities. On day one, students were involved in a chemistry fun show, a S.T.E.M. based presentation by Dr. Eric Haas. Students had a great time, on day two, they learned about a Wastewater cleaning process. They also had a hands-on-activity about food processing. Dr. Dan Snow of UNL welcomed the students and talked about Water Science and they visited a water lab. In the afternoon, they visited the veterinary research building at UNL and learned about Bison and other large animal research. Students also visited the Saline Wetlands Conservation Areas and Marsh Wren Wetland Project, established in 2003, to provide habitat for birds and other flora and fauna. On the penultimate day, students visited the Department of Chemistry and engaged in hands-on-activities involving fabrication of soft robots presented by Dr. Steve Morin and his college students. Overall, students had fun and learned from various science activities in such a short time. All activities were planned in collaboration with faculty from the Water for Food B. Daugherty Institute at the University of Nebraska and University of Nebraska Lincoln.





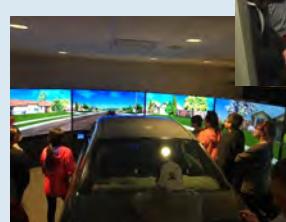
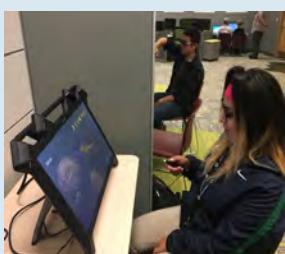
SEPA Teacher Workshop: Diving into Oceans — June 27-29, 2018

SEPA provides teacher workshops with a way to help teachers directly apply what they learn in their classroom. Research shows that professional development leads to better instruction and improved student learning when it connects to the curriculum materials that teachers use. 18 teachers participated from the following schools: Andes Central School, Marty Indian School, Umo'ho Nation Public School, Wagner Community School, Walthill Public School and Wausa Public School. The three-day workshop was held at the UNMC campus. The topic was "Diving into the Ocean" which included Oceanography (Day 1), Beaches, Dunes, and Tidal Zones (Day 2), and Open Ocean, Deep Sea, Animal Adaptations & Pharmaceuticals from the Sea (Day 3).



Wagner School Community Visit to UNMC Campus — April 27, 2018

Wagner made their second visit to UNMC for a program focused on the importance of early exposure to STEM, which is helpful for students' career aspirations. More than 50 students visited our UNMC campus on **April 27, 2018**. They were involved in various science hands-on-activities which included: 1. Mind & Brain Health Lab—designed to improve mind and brain health, mobility, and quality of life across the lifespan. 2. Learning Anatomy and 3D technology—the Anatomage Table, as seen in the picture below, provided a life-size interactive 3D learning tool—students were very excited and had a great time learning about anatomy of different species. 3. iEXCEL—(The Interprofessional Experiential Center for Enduring Learning) is a transformative model for health care education, training and research. As seen in the pictures below, students are engaged using the technology and learning about health and science.





ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS

1. BOARD MEETING: : Marina Inn (Delta Hotel) in South Sioux City, Nebraska **September 14, 2018 Time:** 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

2. SEPA Behavioral Health Day for college students and high school juniors and seniors (Delta Hotel, South Sioux City, NE): The 2018 conference to promote behavioral health careers to Native American students from Nebraska and South Dakota will be held on **Tuesday, Oct 30, 2018.**

3. WAKANYÉJA: A Symposium on American Indian Behavioral Health **April 23 and 24, 2019.**

Email us with your questions at sepa@unmc.edu

SEPA PROGRAM NEWS: South Sioux City Ambassador Conference 2016 was organized by SEPA and BHECN .

This can be viewed now on YouTube—here is the link: <http://bit.ly/SEPA2016>

Historic trauma, contemporary tribal issues and the opportunity to create positive change were the focus of the daylong conference



SEPA Publication - *The Power of Role Models*

Digital information about the careers and role models features in the Native American Role Model Poster project is available online at: <https://nativeamericanrole.wixsite.com/rolemodels>

Role Model Poster Set #9 is now available !

Role Model Poster Project

The Role Model Poster Project features Native Americans in many health and science professions. Each poster includes the name, photograph, and tribal affiliation of the person featured. Additional information for each role model can

The posters have been a great source of inspiration and motivation to the students and teachers.

There are currently **nine** sets of posters and each set features five tribal members.

Pictured here is a sample of our latest set:



Wagner School Community Visit to UNMC Campus — April 27, 2018

Summer School at Wagner — July 9-13, 2018

The SEPA team helped to teach summer school lessons at Wagner Community School in July for 5 days. More than 100 students from primary and middle school took part in various science fun-filled activities. The program is aimed to keep students mind engaged over the summer.

- The theme for the K-4 students was on invertebrates and also the solar system.
- Grades 5-7 did the powers of 10 including astronomy and measuring out a model of the solar system.
- Grades 2-4 went on a field trip to Butterfly house and aquarium on a field trip and grades 5-7 went to Sanford Research Labs on Friday, July 13 to learn about research and what it takes to be a scientist.
- Guests included Alexa Waldron and Adam Weiner from New Jersey and Rob Sparks from The National Optical Astronomy Observatory in Tucson, Arizona. We were also fortunate to have 3 graduate students from UNK coordinate the Physical Education portion of the week. Many thanks to Quinton Hite, JP Rech, and Jordan Cox for all of their help.

