Progress report on NANO outreach project

Lilian Krug
On behalf of NANO Outreach team

NANO meeting
Cairns, 2015
Background

NANO Meeting Berlin, 2013

How to encourage alumni on doing outreach
- What is the purpose of knowledge if not sharing it
  - Particularly important to environmental scientists
  - Improve public awareness on threats for marine life and environment and their effects on society
  - Share experience with younger scientists

- Benefit for the alumni
  - Improving their project management and organisational skills
  - Very important in modern sciences
    - Often required in research proposals

Group of alumni designated to prepare proposal of outreach project to NANO
Monika Orchowska (Coordinator), Olga Shatova, Lilian Krug, Priscila Lange, Anna Rumyantseva, Lailah Akita, Kanthi Yapa, Joeline Ezequiel
Background

Proposal: *Educational platform for the dissemination of outreach activities*

- Submitted Dec/13
- Approved Feb/14

Objectives

1. To engage active participation of NANO members in thinking globally but acting locally through online outreach tools for dissemination of ocean science information.

2. To support NANO members in providing ocean science education in schools (e.g. presentations, seminars, films, posters, stickers, etc.) through partnerships and involvement with national educational associations.

3. To motivate young people in pursuing of marine science and to promote sustainable use of the ocean through sharing of experiences and scientific passion in the local media.
NANO Outreach actions

Three fronts

1 – Keep an online catalogue of educational tools (PPTs, posters, support material)

2 – Encourage initiatives of outreach organized by alumni in their institutes/communities by offering small funds (max. US$500)

3 – Offer insider information/advise to students on ocean sciences “academia world”
Online Catalogue

• **Contacting alumni**
  - Targeting specific members (Since Mar/14)
  - General email campaigns
  - Contest for educational tools (Apr/14; May/15)
  - Call for presentations (May/14; May/15)
  - Volunteers for translations (Oct/14)

• **Outcome**
  - Online Catalogue page launched in May/14
  - Initially External Material only
  - 13 presentations (online since Nov/14)
    - 2 in two languages (Portuguese and Spanish)
    - 3 from NANO Friends
    * All from alumni present at Lisbon meeting 2014
      * 7 submitted by POGOnians year 5 (PPTs elaborated during CofE)

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**Page views**

Since Dec/14

* Peaks of visualization: Dec/14 (FB post) and May/15 (citation on new call)
Outreach activities

Call for proposals

• 1st round – August 2014
  7 proposals submitted
  5 funded (India, Ghana, Argentina, China, Bangladesh)

• 2nd round – May 2014 (still open)
  2 proposals submitted
Aside the fact that all of our alumni have passed through a selection process to attend one of NF-POGO training courses, 60% of our members have participated in at least one another training course, have received a MSc / PhD studentship or awards on presentations in conferences and for outstanding thesis.

*Considering alumni associated with NANO (total of 165 members as of March, 2014)*

So it is safe to say they can have valuable tips when the subject is how to apply for training opportunities, fellowships or prepare a seminar presentation.

Here we resume few tips provided by alumni members and supported by Friends on how to prepare an excellent application, CV or other survival academic needs.

**Click here** to ask a question or even provided your hint on these matters. If you prefer, contact us (see NANO outreach team contacts).

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**THE TIPS:**

1. "How to send an application to a graduate school" compiled by Anna Rumyantseva
2. "How to choose and apply for a summer school/training course"
3. "Interview for a PhD/postdoc position. What to expect?"
4. "You and your scientific adviser. How to keep good relationships between you two?"
5. "Creating a perfect CV"
6. "How to start, continue and finish writing a research paper/PhD thesis?"
7. "Preparing a Scientific Powerpoint Presentation" by Ms Laura Raney, available from Oklahoma Biological Survey website (Original link source)
8. "Scientific Poster Design - How to keep your poster from resembling an abstract painting" by Cornell Center for Materials Research (Original link source)
Members involvement

- NANO Outreach team
  - 8 alumni
  - 2 senior mentors (POGO Office)

- Online catalogue
  - 10 alumni (sharing material and translating)
  - 5 NANO Friends

- Outreach activities
  - 9 alumni

- NANO has +200 alumni members
  - Currently ~5% are involved in Outreach
How to encourage participation

Online catalogue

• Sharing of material produced during the training
  • Instructors would remind the scholars they have the choice of sending PPTs, posters, etc
  • Approach the scholar right after training

Outreach activities

• Offering example of successful initiatives (and how to organize one)
  • NANO News 9 - special issue on Outreach

Advertising tools

• Email, NANO News and Facebook (POGO group)
IDEAS?!

http://www.nf-pogo-alumni.org/NANO+Outreach

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