

## **NSF ESIE Opportunities & Resources**

- Joan Ferrini-Mundy (jferrini@nsf.gov) - NSF Director of Elementary Secondary and Informal Education
- Provided potential resources / NSF programs relevant to NRCEN attendees
- DRK-12 Program - first awards Summer 07.
  - Applied Research - evaluative studies NSF-funded resources / tools, studies learning progression, studies of teachers and teaching.
  - Development of Resources & Tools - curriculum for teachers. Research what works and why.
  - Capacity Building - STEM system research and STEM education research scholars (PhD students)
- REESE (PreK-Graduate, Informal/Formal) - Research Engineering Education - more basic research in STEM education. Synthesize knowledge and education already conducted. Special interest bring cutting-edge science into classroom/informal environments.
- ISE (Informal Science Education) - also potential partnership opportunity to work with museums or other non-formal contexts. Joan indicated that collaborations with Museums is a supported activity for the ISE Program.
- Arenas for NRCEN Participation
  - Peer Review Panels
  - Submit proposals
  - Join "conversations"
  - Apply to become Program Officer at NSF

## **Neo-Sphere Website**

- Jill Andrews - Research Investigator, University of Michigan School of Information
- Neo-Sphere (stands for **NSF Education and Outreach**)-**Sphere** - called for in NRCEN strategic plan, provides opportunity to continue conversations in face to face NRCEN meetings. Areas of site allow as a repository for best practices, communication tools, reports, links, etc.
- The site is an incentive-driven system, and "points" are given for voting for resources available on the site.
- There's also a support network for users, including NRCEN

- members, that access experts and provide opportunities. Conference members requested that the site provide a different levels of access - so that site members can view information on users, but guests cannot see user information, which is a new user requirement.
- Ann Zimmerman - providing feedback on how Neo-sphere meets needs of target users, and is conducting a formative evaluation to find out this information. She's conducting interviews to find this out.

### **NSDL - Evolution of Digital Library**

- Karen Henry, Technical Projects Manager, NSDL
- Digital Library Evolution. NSDL interested in making NRCEN materials "discoverable" via NSDL - adding metadata and other tagging to dissemination materials created to a larger audience.
- Library points to over 1.5 million objects, including full range - journal articles, course modules, interactive learning objects, assessments, digital video, data sets, online exhibits ...
- NSDL does not "house" the data, but has metadata, rights management, and URL information.
- Pathways are the lead organizations for NSDL collections.
- NSDL provides tools and services for EOT assets - including cataloging tool, expert voices blogging service, search box, concept map service
- NRCEN plans to partner with NSDL to catalog materials, make materials discoverable.
- "CWIS" (Linux based open-source tool) is a potential tool that can be used to send content to NSDL