



## SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING AMBASSADORS NEWSLETTER – June 2008

### NEWS

Welcome to the June newsletter for Science and Engineering Ambassadors and the last one for this academic term. Schools only have 3 weeks to go so the requests are starting to slow down now! Thank you very much for all your help over this last year. I know that teachers very much appreciate the time and effort that Ambassadors give to schools and many Ambassadors have told me how much they have enjoyed their experience, so everyone's a winner!

A big welcome to new Ambassadors who have joined in order to help at the Glasgow Science Festival and I hope you continue working with schools once the Festival has finished. For many of you it will have been a new experience to be involved with school pupils and I hope all, if not most, of you have found it to be a rewarding and worthwhile experience. I would also like to welcome the new Maths students who have recently joined as part of the Undergraduate Ambassador program and hope you enjoy your projects in schools next year.

Over the summer we will be collating all activity from SEAS during the last academic year and measuring the coverage in schools across all 12 local education authority areas that we work with. By December 07, 45% of schools have had the experience of an Ambassador. Considering that there are 1100 schools in our region this is no mean feat! We would like to increase this number until every school has utilised a SEA in one way or another. It is thus very important that we can record your activity, no matter what it is (as long as it is related to promoting science, technology, engineering and maths). **If you have not already done so, please let me know of any activities you have been involved in since August 2007.**

### Dumfries Academy

Dumfries Academy is hosting 2 days of careers related events at the end of June and they are looking for a degree-qualified engineer to talk about his/her career to a group of Fourth Year pupils. The group will consist of about 20 pupils so it is not a large audience. Typical topics to cover are; subjects you chose at school, why you subsequently chose to study engineering at University, experiences of university and then your career since leaving University. It does not have to be long, 10 - 15 mins at most and then answer questions afterwards.

There are 2 sessions organised but the school recognises that the same person might not be able to do both sessions. Hence if you can do EITHER (or both) date please let me know ASAP.

**Dates: Mon 23rd June at 12:50pm and Tues 24th June sometime between 9 and 10am**

SEAs update, June 08

SETPOINT Scotland, Kelvin Building, University of Glasgow, G12 8QQ. Tel: 0141 330 5370.

NB: You are receiving this mailing/email as we have your details on our SEAS database. We only use your details for SEAS administration and operations, they will not be shared with any third parties.

## **Institute of Physics – Lab in Lorry – A unique opportunity!!**

Here is a unique opportunity for Lab in a Lorry volunteers!! The IOP organiser is looking for a team of volunteers to travel to **Argyll and Bute for a week or two with full expenses paid**. The project was recently awarded funding from the Scottish Government to visit more remote areas of Scotland and Argyll and Bute has been identified as the area to visit. The tour will be August/early September this year.

The funding application to Scottish Government will help pay for volunteers visiting the remote areas. Although they cannot pay for your time volunteering, they can **pay for all expenses: b&b/hotel, travel, all meals etc.** So in addition to Lab in a Lorry, you may also get a little holiday out of it!

Provisional itinerary below:

24 August - arrive in Dunoon  
25 August - based in Dunoon Grammar School - Rothesay Academy to join in during the afternoon (tbc)  
26 August - also Dunoon Grammar School  
27 August - Lochgilphead High School  
28 August - Campbeltown Grammar School

2 September - Tarbert Academy (am) (pm - travel to Islay)  
3 September - Islay High School - then travel to Kennacraig and on to Oban  
4 September - Tiree High School(out on morning boat return evening boat to Oban)  
5 September - Oban High School - with Tobermory High School to join if wished

If you are interested in getting involved then please let me know as soon as possible. If the numbers interested are high then it is likely they will split the two week tour in two so that 3-4 volunteers do one week and 3-4 different volunteers do the next. Once everyone has registered his or her interest, the organiser aims to confirm everything in July.

## **Auchinairn Primary – East Dunbartonshire**

There is a new head teacher at Auchinairn Primary who wants to raise the profile of science in the school. He is looking for an ambassador to run a new science club for a few weeks at some point next academic session.

If you would like to volunteer to help with the Science Club sometime during the August-October term please let me know and the Head teacher can then incorporate this into his planning for next year.

## **Glasgow Science Festival – Fun Family Day 15<sup>th</sup> June**



In addition to the public lecture program has been running since 10th April and the vast schools program that has been running last week and this week, there is another Fun Family day on Sun (15th June) at the Hunterian Museum at Glasgow University. There will be lots to do with free stuff to make, discover and explore. Live Science Shows during the day include Science of the Circus, Specsavers Bionic Ear, Seeing Life through a New Light See the 'un-seeable' in a microscopic world, CSI River City Catch the criminal with chemistry as well as the chance to hear Heather Reid present "And here is the weather"

The day runs from 10am to 4pm so please bring your family (or just yourself) along!

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## AMBASSADOR REQUESTS

Please see below schools that have requested Ambassadors. If you are able to help please contact me as soon as possible. If there is a particular school you would like to work with next year then please contact me and I can contact the school on your behalf.

SCHOOLS REQUIRING AMBASSADORS	AREA	HELP REQUIRED
St Mary's Primary, Greenock	Inverclyde	Help with K'Nex in general. Have little experience and would like to make better use of the resources they have.
Auchinairn Primary	East Dunbartonshire	Help with setting up a new Science Club in new academic session (Aug 2008)

EVENTS REQUIRING AMBASSADORS	DATE	HELP REQUIRED
Institute of Physics – <b>Lab in a Lorry</b> Two week visit	Argyll & Bute	See section above in newsletter for more details
Rapid Response Engineering Challenge – various areas	2008/09 session	Motivational Speakers required

## INDUCTION TRAINING

If you have not already undertaken your induction training, the next session will be run on **Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> August at 3:00pm** in the University of Glasgow. If you would like to register for this induction please email or call me and I will reserve a place for you. The training will last around 1.5 hours and will enable you to complete your disclosure form also.

## DISCLOSURES

Remember that Ambassadors **MUST** have a valid disclosure to work as an Ambassador. You are not covered by STEMNET insurance if you do have a valid disclosure. Disclosures are valid for 3 years so if yours has expired, or nearing its renewal date, please contact me to arrange to get a new disclosure processed. At the end of April we will be undertaking an administration check of all Ambassadors and those without a valid disclosure will be requested to complete a check or be removed from the SEAS program.

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If you wish to volunteer for any of the activities or schools listed please contact me as below.  
Remember to keep looking at our website [www.setpointscotlandseas.org.uk](http://www.setpointscotlandseas.org.uk) for updated activities

Regards

Aileen Hamilton

Science and Engineering Ambassadors Co-ordinator

Email: [a.hamilton@physics.gla.ac.uk](mailto:a.hamilton@physics.gla.ac.uk)

Tel 0141 330 6396

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