

Mid Atlantic COSEE Building Pathways Workshop

Evaluation Summary

Overview

NSF's main goal for funding the COSEEs was to bring together scientists and educators to benefit ocean sciences education. On May 3, 2004, the Mid Atlantic COSEE held a one-day workshop, *Building Pathways: Productive Partnerships Between Scientists and Educators*, and invited scientists and educators from across the U.S. to discuss pathways and barriers to accomplishing that goal.

At the end of the workshop, we surveyed participants to get their feedback on the success of the workshop, but more importantly to gather their ideas on how to proceed with building pathways. This is a summary of the results from 22 participants (a full report will follow).

Results

Overall, 64% of participants rated the workshop as good; 23% rated it as excellent (the average of ratings was 4.2 on a 1 to 5 scale). Highlights are:

- All of the participants (100%) stated they learned something new or gained new insights from the workshop.
- Nearly all of the participants (95%) stated they had gained a new understanding of science learning. Most (86%) said they were leaving with more contacts and networking opportunities. Many (64%) said they were leaving with concrete ideas on "building pathways."
- The greatest weakness of the workshop was that not enough time was allotted for interactions among participants (as indicated by 82%). Although they felt the presentations were appropriate and relevant, they wanted more time to talk with one another.
- Most of participants (86%) stated they would like to be involved in a future workshop; and 64% said they would help with such a workshop.
- The final questions asked about next steps, how to follow up. The top responses were – more interactions and more specifics. By the end of the day, participants were eager to meet with one another and develop specific strategies for working together.