International Teacher-Scientist Partnership Conference
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The Albert Einstein Distinguished Educator Fellowship Program
Where Classroom Practice Inform Policy

Bringing Research Experience to the Classroom

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Teacher’s Role in Education Outreach

- “Front line” role model for students
- Where highest leverage and impact occurs
- Can “make or break” student career choices
- Links authentic research and textbook

Professional development is critical to delivering engaging, authentic lessons
Scientist’s Role in Education Outreach

- Window to scientific advances
- Tangible example for student career exploration
- Dispels myth of white lab coats and test tubes
- Allows teacher PD by using primary sources

Science research shows students what textbook concepts really look like
Informal Research Partnerships

- High teacher to scientist ratio
- Train-the-trainer model
- Immediate classroom application
- Primary sources integrated into curriculum
- Creates network of like-minded educators

Biggest bang for the buck
Interactive blogs are highly engaging

- Earthwatch Arctic climate change
- Earthwatch Costa Rica sea turtle extinction
- US Space & Rocket Center

Scientist Skype lessons into classroom from field

- Marine biologist lesson with live turtle specimens

Primary sources for lessons “from the field”
Mr. T’s TurtleBlog
www.turtletambara.wordpress.com

Mr. T’s IceBlog
www.ktambarara.wordpress.com

Mr. T’s SpaceBlog
www.astrotambara.wordpress.com
Next Actions …

- Scientists – look for outreach activities
  - Informal venues (organizations, societies, museums)
  - Connect with local community (class visits, talks)

- Teachers – look for PD opportunities
  - Field research, local community
  - Workshops, Fellowships, RETs