



Building bridges from research to education and back at CIRES

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Geoscientists are in a unique position to make contributions to the educational endeavor, with the ability to contribute robust understanding of the scientific process, deep content knowledge, and access to cutting edge research projects and opportunities. The CIRES Education and Outreach program collaborates with geoscience research teams to achieve positive educational as well as scientific outcomes. The program also maintains partnerships with educational communities that benefit from contributions from researchers. This talk will describe examples of the contributions that may be made by scientists within education and describe strategies to increase the success of these endeavors. Building strong bridges between these communities requires flexibility, a thorough understanding of the needs, language and motivations of each group, and tenacity. Some strategies that support this bridging work are described in a CIRES study about the factors that engage and hinder scientists' involvement in education and outreach (Andrews et.al., 2005), while others are based upon experiences gained since agencies started to place more emphasis on the integration of research and education.

URL: <http://cires.colorado.edu/education/k12/>

Andrews, Elisabeth, Alexandra Weaver, Daniel Hanley, Jeff Hovermill, Ginger Melton. 2005. "Scientists and Public Outreach: Participation, Motivations and Impediments." *Journal of Geoscience Education*, May 2005.