

ASTC 2001

Association of Science-Technology Centers Incorporated

ADVANCING THE FIELD



October 6-9, 2001

Arizona Science Center

Phoenix Civic Plaza

Phoenix, Arizona

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Concurrent Sessions: 9:00am – 10:15pm



Organizing Science Centers: What Science Is Included?

Civic Plaza / Room 38

Although science is often found in each experience provided by science centers, a center's mission and conceptual organization may have profound impacts on the nature and type of science presented. Science centers with varying organizational structures will explore these relationships.

Session leader: Wayne LaBar, Vice President, Family Experiences, Liberty Science Center, Jersey City, New Jersey

Presenters: Al DeSena, President, Exploration Place, Inc., Wichita, Kansas; Graham Farmelo, Head of Exhibitions, Science Museum, National Museum of Science and Industry, London, England; and Jane Wagensberg, Director, Museum De La Ciencia De La Fundacio "la Caixa", Barcelona, Spain

Strand sponsored by Scientific American Explorations.

10:15am - 10:45am

Graffiti Wall Refreshment Break

Civic Plaza / Lobby 3

An opportunity to share your ideas and suggestions about this year's conference and future sites with ASTC's Conference Program Planning Committee.

Concurrent Sessions: 10:45am – 12:00pm



The Future of the Giant Screen Format Industry

Irene P. Flinn Theater/Arizona Science Center

Industry leaders will discuss the challenges and opportunities facing the producers who create the educational films shown in science centers and museums, and the impact these have on science centers' revenues and programming. Session ends at 11:45am. Preordered box lunches will be available at ASC for participants in this session.

Session leader: Sheila Grinell, President and CEO, Arizona Science Center, Phoenix

Presenters: Debra Hartnett, Manager of Film Distribution – Large Format, iWERKS Entertainment, Burbank, California; Patrica Brandino, Director, Film Distribution, Destination Cinema, Victoria, British Columbia; Mary Kaye Kennedy, Director of Marketing and Distribution, WGBH Enterprises – Giant Screen Films, Chicago, Illinois; and Marty Shindler, CEO, The Shindler Perspective, Calabasas, California

The Culture of Learning in Families

Civic Plaza / Room 39

How science centers can help the public connect more personally to the content of exhibitions and to a sense of themselves as science learners. Luis Moll, of the University of Arizona, who has done trail-breaking research on community learning, will discuss findings relevant to science centers.

Session leaders: Laura Martin, Vice President, Education and Research, Arizona Science Center, Phoenix

Presenter: Sally Duensing, Professor, The Exploratorium/University of Bristol, San Francisco, California, and Luis Moll, Professor, College of Education, University of Arizona, Tucson



Interactive Science Experiences in Different Cultures

Civic Plaza / Room 36

From Cardiff to Cape Town, informal science experiences can be developed to be relevant and enjoyable for people from very different cultures. Panelists will discuss the different styles of personal learning associated with each case study, gain insights on how to broaden the style of exhibits and programming to be more inclusive, and learn how working interculturally to develop exhibits and programs can enrich the experience for both designers and learners.

Session leader: Colin Johnson, Director/Chief Executive Officer, Techniquet, Cardiff, Wales

Presenters: Sally Duensing, Professor, Collier Chair for Public Understanding of Science, The Exploratorium/Bristol University, San Francisco, California; Vishnu Rancharan, Manager of Hosts and Demonstrations, Ontario Science Centre, North York, Canada; and Wendy Sadler, Public Programmer Manager, Techniquet, Cardiff, Wales

Make-and-Take NASA Student Glovebox for the Classroom

Civic Plaza / Room 21

A Glovebox is a self-contained research laboratory that is coming soon to a space station near you! Learn about NASA's Gloveboxes, how they work, what kind of research is done inside, and what inquiry-based activities are used inside them. Materials will be provided.

Advance registration required.

Session leaders: Carla Rosenberg and Carol Hodanbosi, Curriculum Specialists, NASA Glenn Research Center, Cleveland, Ohio

Presenter: Carol Hodanbosi, Curriculum Developer, NASA/Glenn Research Center, Cleveland, Ohio

Nitrogen Smile: All the Museum's a Stage

Civic Plaza / Room 23

Panelists explore the use of theatrical training techniques as a mode of enhancing museum programming and improving the performance of presenters, demonstrators, and frontline staff.

Session leader: Jeffrey Jordan, Coordinator, Science Theater, Carnegie Science Center, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania