

The Rural Science Education program enabled faculty in 3 Colleges and 14 departments to collaborate. In addition:

- Additional advisors of OSU Fellows and other OSU faculty outside the program, visited the classrooms and discussed topics such as bee behavior, plant structure, opportunities in animal science, entomology, etc. One faculty member in collaboration with the Fellows implemented a unit on mold in [Seven Oak Middle School](#).
- A Rural Science Education Fund was established in the PI's home department for donor support for program sustainability.
- The program provided leverage for a second grant from Toshiba America Foundation (TAF) grant for a 'Discovering Partners in Nature' program. This was remarkable as TAF rarely provides grants to universities.
- Newspaper article provided great visibility for the program and for OSU, and resulted in teachers in two rural schools approaching the PI for inclusion. The teacher in Seneca School 300 miles from campus provided suggestions on a Science Blitz model that can be used for distant schools.
- The ex-mayor of the neighboring city, Eugene, heard about the program, visited [Cascades Elementary School](#) to see the Fellows in action, and is now helping generate additional funding for the program.
- Program participation contributed to PI's early advancement to Associate level with tenure.
- Program motivated PC to enroll in PhD program and focus thesis on rural communities.

Ripple Effects:

Interactions between faculty mentors and OSU Fellows' advisors provided a model of interdepartmental collaboration for OSU Fellows. In addition:

- Fellows invited their advisors to the classrooms to provide new activities or present career opportunities in their disciplines.
- OSU Fellows participated in outreach event organized by Year 2 Fellow in her rural hometown 300 miles east of the OSU campus. In Year 3, she persuaded her supervisor, an extension specialist, to participate in the school's career day
- OSU Fellows arranged classrooms visits by parents, partners, and friends who discussed topics such as ocean floor changes and formation of tsunamis, humpback whales, tobacco smoke effects on cancer in mice, and research at the Caltech Jet Propulsion lab.