

Update to the NASA Advisory Council From Task Force on STEM Education

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Status update



- Recap: The STEM Education Task Force made and presented three observations to the NAC in December 2015.
 1. Revise the NASA Education Implementation Plan (NEIP).
 2. Strengthen the structure of NASA's education efforts and its ability to execute and communicate about them.
 3. Competitive allocation of funds to elicit projects that meet the objectives of the NASA Education Implementation Plan (NEIP).
- NASA Education has responded with preliminary actions and clarifications.

Key Questions Driving Our Conversations



1. What is the role of BSA vis-à-vis NASA education? How does their work intersect with the Taskforce and the Taskforce's observations and forthcoming recommendations?
2. How should NASA articulate crisp and prioritized goals for education that are commensurate with the allocated budget? (Should the next iteration of NEIP define these?)
3. Given NEIP goals, how can NASA organize education programs offered across the agency so it is a joint effort?

Next Steps



- Understand the funding profiles of programs (including mandatory programs, statutory requirements, and grant cycles).
- Explore the implications of “going deep” vs. being “spread wide” on education investments.
- Hold joint meeting with the Science Committee per request of the Chair (Dr. Bradley Peterson).
- Discuss the goal of efforts targeted at broadening participation in STEM fields.
- Translate observations into concrete recommendations.