

TAG Meeting Notes

06-15-05 (at STEM Summer Workshop)

[observer's thoughts and clarifications in brackets]

4:56 pm

TAG meeting begins. Steve Iona introduces Noah, who begins by introducing Eli. [Talk to this Eli Quinn (sp?) about what he is organizing]. Noah also mentions that Mike Fuchs will be the PhysTEC T.I.R. next year and that Trish Loeblein is the PhET T.I.R. for next year.

Noah emphasizes community development nature of the TAG and extends an invitation for folks to come up and visit the Physics department at CU. He also offers for CU students to go out to the schools and do demonstrations, etc.

Noah asks for feedback from teachers on what worked and what didn't as far as the TAG goes. Mike Fuchs said it was nice to have Pat Kohl visit his class. Steve Reeves said that the CU student who visited his class helped students "in the LA style" (Socratic), which was *different* but not necessarily *bad* [it would be interesting to know more about what he means by this].

Valerie talks about how the TAG teachers have helped to shape the STEM workshop for this year.

Steve Iona emphasizes the fact that the TAG has been good for building a continuing connection between practicing high school teachers and CU.

Noah says that one teacher mentioned to him that this workshop was cool because the CU faculty actually showed up to it and care about high school education.

Dick points out that it's not that the faculty members don't care about what goes on in the high schools, but it's that they don't know how to do anything about it.

Roberta Tanner mentions that she wants to know more about the research in physics going on at CU [see TAG notes from 03-05 for a similar comment that she had emailed to the group].

Jenny Knight asks Noah how to make this TAG work at the department level. [She and Mike K. are interested in starting one in MCDB] She says that they have no education "component" in their department for support. How do they get it going?

Noah says that they only need a few interested faculty members for support, and that the easiest way to start is "just to start" (and get some money for providing dinner).

Noah tells the group that he is interested in what people are looking for out of these collaborations.

Dick talks about the vision of the TAG program and the need for the TAG teachers to help build it.

Steve Reeves mentions that they want to share what they've done in their high school classrooms, but they also want to grow professionally through these collaborations. He values sharing their knowledge and learning from CU connections as well.

Noah fishes for more feedback from the teachers.

Paul Mahon (?) mentions the time and scheduling constraints that he has to deal with as a high school teacher, but he says that he wants more visits to his classes [by CU students and faculty].

Mike Fuchs suggests meeting more often.

Valerie suggests that some of the TAG meetings could be at the teachers' schools. Others pipe in that this may be difficult and that CU is kind of central for all of the teachers whereas some of the schools are too far for all to go to.

Noah says that Eli is working on coordinating high school participation in various CU programs. Eli explains that he is trying to get more contacts in the schools and explains some of the possibilities for collaboration (visits to CU, visits of students to high school classrooms, etc.).

One of the LA's (Chloe?) says that she would love to visit and observe a high school classroom- Noah says that he can help facilitate that.

Roberta Tanner says that she is sad that no one came to her school. She suggests that Eli tries to get schedules from each of the interested teachers in order to facilitate the visits. This begins a murmur of talk about the logistics of arranging LA visit, etc.

Noah then introduces Chandra, who asks about the possibility of some sort of TAG newsletter or some other method of communication between CU & schools. She suggests that teachers could contribute with vignettes about their classrooms, etc. The discussion dies.

Steve Iona wraps up the meeting

5:47