Welcome to the NGCP February Webcast!
We will begin in at 11:00 AM Pacific.
While you wait, please respond to the polls below.
National Girls Collaborative Project

The National Girls Collaborative Project (NGCP) brings together organizations that are committed to informing and encouraging girls to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM).

www.ngcproject.org
Current Regional Collaboratives

http://ngcproject.org/map_regions.html

California                  Midwest
Connecticut                 North Carolina
Florida                     Northeast
Great Lakes                 Pacific Northwest
Kentucky                    Pennsylvania
Maine                       Texas
Mid-Atlantic                 Tennessee
**Project Goals**

1. Maximize access to shared resources within projects and with public and private sector organizations and institutions interested in expanding girls’ participation in STEM.

2. Strengthen capacity of existing and evolving projects by sharing promising practice research and program models, outcomes and products.

3. Use the leverage of a network or collaboration of individual girl-serving STEM programs to create the tipping point for gender equity in STEM.
Best Practices in Creating Successful Collaborations: Lessons Learned from the National Girls Collaborative Project
Agenda

• Shared Definition of Collaboration
• NGCP’s Foundation of Collaboration
• Benefits and Challenges
• Best Practices
• Measuring Increases in Collaboration
• Questions and Answers
• Collaboration in Action
Defining Collaboration

“The process of achieving a goal that could not be attained efficiently by an individual or organization acting alone” (Wang, Haertel, and Walberg, 1997, p.7).
Connecting Needs and Resources

- A professional organization sponsoring an annual science fair with major scholarships as prizes wants to attract more students to the event.
- An after school program for middle school students living in a low income housing project needs ideas for motivating and engaging the students.
- A teacher needing mentors for girls hoping to pursue senior projects related to science and technology.
Foundation of Collaboration -
The NGCP Model

- **Framework** of bringing together different groups in person and online
- **Connecting** needs and resources using strategies such as speed networking, action planning
- **Incentives and support** for collaboration activities
Benefits of Collaboration

- Effective use of resources and funds
- Integration and alignment
- Synergy
- Sharing promising practices
Challenges to Collaboration

- Resources
- Structure
- Commitment
- Turf
- Diversity
- Communication
Best Practices in Successful Collaborations

1) Prepare
2) Look
3) Plan
Prepare

• Reflect on past collaborations and the characteristics of successful or ineffective collaborations.

• Create a quick summary of your program services you can easily share when you first meet potential collaborators.
Prepare

- Identify your program/institutional strengths and challenges.
- Identify the program/institutional resources you have to offer.
- Identify your program/institutional needs.
• Find the “home” of your audience who can benefit from your research findings/program products and services.

• Identify assistance or guides that can help you.
Plan

• Be flexible and **patient**
• Allow for organizational **diversity**.
• Create a **positive** relationship based on mutual trust.
• Create a collaboration **agreement** or action plan.
• **Debrief** the collaboration.
Collaboration Rubric

Networking (1)
- Aware of organization
- Loosely defined roles
- Little communication
- All decisions are made independently

Cooperation (2)
- Provide information to each other
- Somewhat defined roles
- Formal communication
- All decisions are made independently

Coordination (3)
- Share information
- Share resources
- Defined roles
- Frequent communication
- Some shared decision making

Coalition (4)
- Share ideas
- Share resources
- Frequent and prioritized communication
- All members have a vote in decision making

Collaboration (5)
- Members belong to one system
- Frequent communication characterized by mutual trust
- Consensus is reached on all decisions

Potential Collaborators

• K-12 teachers
• K-12 counselors
• Higher education STEM faculty
• Higher education academic counselors
• Higher education STEM program
• K-12 after school STEM program
• K-12 school day STEM program
• American Associate of University Women Branch
• Corporate or business partners
• Non-profit organizations, e.g., Boys and Girls Clubs, 4-H
• Girl Scout Councils
• STEM professionals
• Professional organizations
Collaboration Rubric Analysis

- Mean level of collaboration across all individual organizations surveyed increased significantly.
- Increases were significant in two categories: collaboration with STEM professionals and with higher education STEM programs.
- Twenty-three percent of annual survey respondents indicated that participating in the NGCP had a moderate or high impact on their level of collaboration with other programs. They specified that they are more aware of other programs, shared their resources more, and feel that the project was a catalyst for developing a project with another organization, and increased their opportunities to interact with other programs.
Questions and Answers
Collaboration in Action

The National Girls Collaborative Project and SciGirls!
A TELEVISION SERIES, WEB SITE, AND OUTREACH INITIATIVE
Encourage and support girls’ interest in STEM by:

● Showcasing girls engaged in inquiry-based activities

● Using storytelling to build and sustain interest

● Using technology to tell personal stories
What’s different about SciGirls on television?

- real girls doing real investigations they’re passionate about
- focus is on the total girl, not just her interest in science
- blurs the boundaries between television and the Web
What makes a **GREAT** SciGirls investigation?

- girls are genuinely passionate about the subject
- investigation is in-depth enough to sustain a half hour
- involves a mentor
- topic is kid-friendly and visual
SciGirls Potential Topic Areas:

- Sports
- Engineering
- Arts
- Psychology
- Environment
- Energy/Technology
- Archaeology
- Health
Possible Investigations

Do you know girls who aren’t currently involved in an investigation but might want to participate?

Ask us! We’ll give you some ideas.
A few ideas….

• Dogs are colorblind. Fact or myth? Design an investigation to test it out.

• How much garbage does your school generate every day? How can it be reduced? Figure out a way to measure it and then reduce it.

• How good are kids at multi-tasking? Design an investigation to test out how many things you can really pay attention to at one time.

• Design and build props or set elements for a school play, such as a dinosaurs that move or a boat that “sails” across the stage.
Casting for SciGirls

What’s the process?

- Would you like to see girls from your science program featured on SciGirls?
- Do you know bright, energetic, articulate girls who might be right for the show?
- Contact us at www.scigirls.org/blog
Welcome to SciGirls, the ultimate destination for girls who love science! SciGirls is an upcoming PBS TV show, a website, and a resource provider for educators, club leaders and mentors who are working with girls doing science.

Are you a girl who thinks science is fun and interesting? Or do you know a girl who fits this description? Then we want to hear from you! SciGirls is starting production on a brand new TV show and website and we're looking for girls to feature. Tell us who should be a SciGirls star!

Want to know more about us? Click here.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2009
SciGirls Partners | Florida State University
SciGirls TV is an expansion and transformation of our national outreach program, also called SciGirls. Through grants, SciGirls outreach helps informal educators deliver hands-on science engagement and career guidance to girls in their communities. Here is one of our partner's

SEE OUR WORK
Watch the SciGirls series pilot.

TALK TO US!
Do you know a great SciGirl, scientist mentor, science project, or STEM program for girls? We'd love to hear more!

name:

email:

I want to tell you about a

www.scigirls.org/blog
• Watch the SciGirls Pilot

• Tell us about girls, mentors, and programs

www.scigirls.org/blog
SciGirls TV will:

- showcase the *process* of science.
- demonstrate the *power* of science.
- empower and engage girls in science.

Production begins in early 2009.

The series will premiere in 2010.
Time for Questions

Please use the Chat section of your screen and type any questions you have for the presenters. We will answer as many as time allows.

In case we can’t get to all of your questions, presenter contact information will be available in the archived webcast materials available at:
www.ngcproject.org/events/webcastarchive.cfm
More NGCP Information

Program Directory
www.ngcproject.org/directory

Mini-Grant Application
www.ngcproject.org/mini-grant

Join the NGCP listserv
www.ngcproject.org/resources/newsletter.html

Upcoming Webcast
Wednesday, April 8, 2009, 11:00-12:00 (Pacific time)
www.ngcproject.org/events/webcasts.cfm