Science Communication and Creative Teaching

A 10-days workshop at the Science Centre Singapore 6 – 17 June 2011

by

Professor Mike Gore (Founder of Questacon, Australia’s National Science and Technology Centre) &
Professor Sue Stocklmayer (Director of Australia’s Centre for the Public Awareness of Science at the Australian National University)

Overview
In this course, you will explore issues relating to the communication of science to various audiences, including the general public and your students, in the light of the most recent research. You will have an opportunity to explore what is happening on the international front and consider how this affects your communication of science in the classroom. One of the most important aspects of science today is the communication of current topics such as environmental degradation, genetically modified organisms, nuclear issues and chemical pollution. You will explore and critique the international focus on public awareness and science literacy. You will also create new ways of presenting science to your students in a manner that will facilitate interest, understanding and life-long learning.

This course is not designed to revisit pedagogical issues – that is, it is not a ‘traditional’ course on teaching strategies and on curriculum assessment and development. Rather, we hope that you will be able to look outside the traditional textbook-oriented curriculum, with its attendant educational theory and language, and be able to focus on real practice. In this way, we hope that you and your students will benefit through more hands-on activity, more creativity and an understanding of the “big picture” of science education.

Learning Outcomes
When you have completed this course you will have achieved the following outcomes:

1. You will have a general understanding of the public awareness movement, its problems and its current directions. You will be aware of its implications for life-long learning and for formal educational practice.
2. You will be able to describe and address specific problems attached to teaching science within the framework of your own discipline.
3. You will be able to develop creative activities to enhance your classroom teaching, and will be able to evaluate their use.
4. You will be able to “translate” current research into relevant curriculum materials.
Course Structure
The content of the course will be covered in a highly interactive format. Hands-on activities will be provided and discussed throughout. The course will consist of discrete learning blocks, involving content material drawn from the most recent science education and science communication research. The course will require lively interaction between participants and you will undertake some activities within the Science Centre.

All materials and resources will be provided.

Date: 6 to 17 June 2011 (excluding Saturday and Sunday)

Time: 9.00am to 4.00pm

Venue: Science Centre Singapore, Newton Room

Fee: S$500 (Crossed cheque made payable to Science Centre Board)

For enquiry please contact:

Ms Chew Ling Ling at ll_chew@science.edu.sg  Tel: 6425 2386

CLOSING DATE: 6 MAY 2011
Registration Form
Upon completion, please send to:

Science Centre Singapore
15 Science Centre Road
Singapore 609081
(Attn: Ms Chew Ling Ling)

Science Communication and Creative Teaching Workshop
(6 to 17 June 2011)

Name: (Mr/Ms/Mrs/Dr)  ___________________________________________________________

NRIC/Passport Number:  ___________________________________________________________

Occupation:   ___________________________________________________________

Organisation:   ___________________________________________________________

Mailing Address:   ___________________________________________________________

__________________________________ Postal Code: _______________________

E-mail:   ___________________________________________________________

Contact Number:   ___________________________________________________________

Diet consideration:  __________________________________ _____(For catering purposes)

Fee: S$500 (please enclose a crossed cheque made payable to Science Centre Board)

Cheque number: ________________       Bank: __________________________________

Signature: ___________________________                Date: __________________________________

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For official use:
Date received: ____________________       Process status: Accepted / On Waiting list
Candidate notified: Yes / No          Other remarks: _____________________________
Candidate acknowledgment date: ____________ (to attach email correspondences if applicable)