



News

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SWOSU Group Provides Teachers with Special Activity at Women in Science Conference



This screen shot of the teacher's activity recorded for the 2021 virtual Women in Science Conference featured Southwestern Oklahoma State University's Dr. Lisa Appeddu (left) and Dr. Gina McGrane of the SAGE STEAM Camp at SWOSU.

Southwestern Oklahoma State University (SWOSU) and the Southwest Alliance for Girls' Enrichment in Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts / Humanities, and Mathematics (SAGE STEAM) Camp in Weatherford recently participated in the 2021 Women in Science Conference.

The event provides hands-on activities and information about STEAM opportunities to Oklahoma teachers and students ranging from 6th to 12th grades. In response to the pandemic, this formerly in-person conference was conducted virtually this year by the OK NSF EPSCoR through a partnership with the Oklahoma Museum Network and Science Museum of Oklahoma.

The SWOSU group hosted one of eight, virtual hands-on Science and Recruitment Fair booths. A multidisciplinary team from SWOSU's departments of Biological Sciences, Language and Literature, Mathematics and College of Pharmacy worked together on an activity featuring yeast in food production. They created instructions for teachers, record sheets for students, and a script for the demonstration. While the activity directly featured science and math, the group incorporated the arts & humanities by including yeast's roles in health, history and art.

The demonstration was recorded by the Science Museum of Oklahoma. Each part was recorded individually to follow safety precautions while allowing masks to be removed. In addition, thanks to its supporters, the SAGE STEAM Camp supplied bags for 50 teachers. These contained the materials needed by 1,500 total students to conduct the activity as well as provided information about SWOSU and the camp.

The 2021 virtual Women in Science Conference may be accessed online at <https://www.omnwomeninscience.com/> -- the SWOSU virtual booth is found by clicking on Recruitment Fair and SWOSU. To learn more information about the SAGE STEAM Camp at SWOSU, search for SAGE STEAM at www.swosu.edu.

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