Facilities Statement

Office of Science Outreach (OSO), Stanford University

Since its founding, Stanford has been a pioneer in cross-disciplinary collaboration among faculty, students and researchers, producing innovative basic and applied research in all fields. The university is unusual among its peer institutions in having seven schools on one campus, all of them possessing exceptional breadth and depth of excellence, as well as a dedicated Office of Science Outreach (OSO) to assist faculty across all STEM disciplines.

The Office of Science Outreach serves as an umbrella organization throughout campus to help individual PIs and research centers plan and facilitate Broader Impacts activities and programs. This support includes proposal development, site visit preparation and support, and (occasionally) assistance with program implementation and evaluation. The OSO website (http://oso.stanford.edu/) serves as a portal for faculty, students, staff and the general public to identify programs, resources and materials related to science outreach and the integration of Broader Impacts with research.

The OSO has developed partnerships with dozens of K-12 schools throughout the San Francisco Bay Area, providing teachers with more than 200 research experiences within the University's STEM research laboratories. The OSO-sponsored RISE Summer Internship Program has also engaged almost 200 first generation low income high school students in research since its inception in 2006.

Stanford's Office of Science Outreach is a founding member of the national National Alliance for Broader Impacts (NABI) launched in 2014 with funding from an NSF Research Collaboration Network (RCN) award (MCB-1408736) to the University of Missouri-Columbia.

The OSO is housed in an office suite with sufficient space for small meetings and a nearby conference room that holds 10-12. Two staff members (1.55 FTE) have two desktop PC s, a black and white laser printer, a color printer, a copy machine, fax machine and a scanner. As an entity of the Dean of Research office, the office has access to research administrators, Financial Managers/Analysts, Risk Management and Legal staff, all of whom are available as resources for this project.

Stanford's OSO staff and infrastructure is funded by the University's general operating funds. Funds to initiate new programs and pay Participant Support costs are raised from the federal government, local corporations and foundations.