

Abstract Submitted
for the DPP99 Meeting of
The American Physical Society

Sorting Category: 3.2 (Education/Outreach)

Scientist in the Classroom: The First Year Highlights of a Plasma Outreach Program¹ A. NAGY, Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory, C.A. DANIELSON, R.L. LEE, P.S. WINTER, J.R. VALENTINE, General Atomics — The General Atomics education program “Scientist in the Classroom” uses scientists, engineers, and technicians to discuss plasma physics with students in the classroom. A program goal is to make science an enjoyable experience while showing students how plasma physics plays an important role in their world. A fusion overview is presented, including topics on energy and environment. Using hands-on equipment, students manipulate plasma discharges using magnetic fields and observe their spectral properties. Students also observe physical properties of liquid nitrogen, infrared waves, and radioactive particles. The benefit of this program, relative to facility tours, is that it optimizes cost and scheduling between the scientific staff and students. This program and its equipment are receiving accolades as an adjunct teaching option available to schools at no cost. This year we have presented to over 1000 students at 11 schools. Student exit interviews reflect strong positive comments regarding their hands-on learning experience and science appreciation.

¹Supported by U.S. DOE Grant DE-FG03-97ER54402 and Contract DE-AC02-76CH03073.

- Prefer Oral Session
 Prefer Poster Session

A. Nagy
nagy@fusion.gat.com
Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory

Special instructions: Education/Outreach, immediately following RL Lee

Date printed: July 16, 1999

Electronic form version 1.4