

PAST / COSI joint announcement

Central Ohio has a history of creating dynamic educational and inspirational learning environments for children and adults. Two of the areas most valuable resources, COSI and PAST Foundation, are now collaborating to bring additional opportunities to students and teachers.

PAST Foundation via their PAST Innovation Lab is a leader in transforming education in schools across the country. Their work with students, teachers and schools brings transdisciplinary problem-based learning with a STEM focus to the classroom. PAST knows that learning by doing – solving problems through experiences – significantly impacts student learning and prepares them for life.

COSI, the dynamic Center of Science and Industry, a premier science center for families, has been inspiring scientists, dreamers and innovators since 1964. With a focus on health and medicine, energy and environment, technology and innovation, and early childhood education, COSI has connected with hundreds of thousands of people through on-site visits and award-winning outreach programs.

COSI President & CEO David E. Chesebrough, Ed.D and PAST Foundation President & CEO Annalies Corbin, PhD, announced the new partnership at a joint presentation of the film *Underwater Dreams*. The movie documents the remarkable experiences of two high school teachers and their students who formed a robotics team who took on MIT, and won.

“Working together, PAST and COSI can share resources, facilities and expertise to create new learning opportunities in our community,” said Dr. Corbin.

Dr. Chesebrough agreed, adding “Our goal at COSI is to build communities around the learning process. The alliance of COSI and PAST fits perfectly with that goal.”

The first joint project planned is an ROV Challenge. The Deep Water Tank at COSI will host underwater remotely operated vehicle (ROV) challenges and competitions. PAST is working with teams of students from area high schools to design and develop their ROV, then compete against each other, executing technically precise operations. The first ROV challenge is planned for November 20, 2014. A more difficult challenge planned for spring 2015 and will include high school and college teams.

Both organizations are working together to develop summer workshop and camp schedules. Programs will reach out to students and teachers, with a focus on enhancing STEM learning experiences. This partnership will continue to develop and evolve – COSI and PAST are committed to creating more robust transdisciplinary problem-based STEM education opportunities in central Ohio, giving all students the opportunity to develop skills they need for 21st century careers and to succeed in life.