Neuroscience Outreach through Science Olympiad

www.soinc.org

James E. Olson, Ph.D.
Wright State University
james.olson@wright.edu
What is Science Olympiad?

• “Science Olympiad is an international nonprofit organization devoted to improving the quality of science education, creating a passion for learning science and providing recognition for outstanding achievement in science education by both students and teachers.”
• Science Olympiad is a team competition of middle school and high school students in areas of science, engineering, and technology.
• Science Olympiad began in Grand Haven, Michigan and now is in its 23rd year.
• Currently teams from 14,000 different schools across the nation participate in Science Olympiad.
Science Olympiad Events

**Biology**
- Anatomy and Physiology
- Microbe Mission
- Disease Detectives
  *(Epidemology)*

**Earth Science**
- Astronomy
- Rocks and Minerals
- Remote Sensing

**Physics**
- Optics
- Protein Modeling
- Sounds of Music

**Chemistry**
- Forensics
- Chem Lab
- Thermodynamics

**Engineering**
- Gravity Vehicle
- Helicopters
- Towers

**Inquiry**
- Write it, Do it
- Experimental Design
- Fermi Questions

**AND Neuroscience!**
Support from SfN members

• Help Coach a Science Olympiad team

• Sponsor Coaches or Competitor Clinics

• Supervise a Science Olympiad Competition Event
Support from SfN members

• Help coach a team.
• Ohio has about 50 middle school and 50 high school teams at the Science Olympiad state competition.
• These come from 4-5 regional competitions with 30-40 teams at each.
• We have about 50 schools in SW Ohio.
• **Bottom Line – 1-2 hr/week for 6 months**
Local Science Olympiad Teams

Beavercreek – Dayton Islamic
Belfontaine – Belfontaine High
Centerville – Magsig, Tower Heights, Watts, CHS
Clayton – Northmont
Dayton – Miami Valley School, Holy Angels, Meadowdale High
Defiance – Tinora High
Kettering – Alter High
Piqua – Piqua Jr. High, Piqua High
Springboro – West Carrollton High
Springfield – Ridgewood
STEM – Dayton
Tipp City – Tippecanoe High
Troy – Troy High
West Liberty – West Liberty-Salem
West Milton – Milton-Union
Local Science Olympiad Teams

Batavia – Ameila High
Carlisle – Carlisle High
Cincinnati – Horizon Science Acad, Finneytown, St. Teresa, St. Aloysius Gonzaga, Seven Hills, Colerain, McAuley, St. Xavier High, Sycamore, Seton, Cincinnati Hills Christian, Indian Hill
Fairfield – Fairfield High
Hamilton – Ross,
Harrison – Wm. H Harrison,
Kings Mills – Kings Jr. High
Lebanon – Lebanon High
Liberty Township – Lakota Plains Jr.
Loveland – Loveland Middle, Loveland High
Mason – Mason High
Morrow – Little Miami Jr. High
New Paris – National Trail
West Alexandria – Twin Valley South
Westchester – Lakota Ridge, Lakota West High
Wyoming – Wyoming Middle, Wyoming High
Support from SfN members

• Sponsor Coaches Clinics in the Fall.

• Sponsor Competitor Clinics in the Spring.
  – Last one was March 8, 2009 at WSU Interdisciplinary Teaching Labs.
  – A single event (e.g. Anatomy and A&P)
    • High School in the morning
    • Free lunch
    • Middle School in the afternoon

• Bottom Line – 24-36 hours over 2-3 weeks
Support from SfN members

• **Sponsor an event at a competition**
  – Invitational Competitions in Jan-Feb.
    • At WSU in 2010, 2011, and 2012
  – Regional Competitions in March, 2013
    • Cleveland, Cincinnati, Akron, Lorain, Marietta, Grandview Heights, Piqua
  – State Competition
    • April 27, 2013 at OSU
  – Create examination, proctor, and grade.

• **Bottom Line – 24 hours on a single day**
Support from SfN members

- **Sponsor an event at a competition**
  - National Science Olympiad Tournament at WSU on May 16-19, 2013.

- **Create, proctor, and score examination**
- **Volunteer during competition day**
  - [http://www.wright.edu/scienceolympiad](http://www.wright.edu/scienceolympiad)
- **Bottom Line – 24 hours on a single day**