8fed Gynhadledd Dysgu ac Addysgu

 8th Annual Learning and Teaching Conference

7-9 Medi | September 2020

# Crynoldebau / abstracts

Engaging the next generation of scientists

Scott Tompsett, Rachel Rees, Lauren Colbeck

Trio Sci Cymru is am ESF funded science enrichment programme aimed at encouraging secondary school students to take up science based careers. As part of this we have built up a learning community of school science contacts in 19 secondary schools in West Wales reaching over 1900 students and engaging in over 5500 hours of contact.

With the aim of nurturing interest in science before students begin making careers decisions we have focused on building “Science Captial”. Our workshops have sought to show students that people from all backgrounds can work using science. We have especially focused on the concept that science knowledge and in particular skills highly transferable and important in many careers including those not traditionally thought of as “science” roles.

We have engaged in a range of teaching styles to achieve this including hands on practical investigations based on our research, workshops highlighting health issues such as UV exposure, the use of Virtual Reality headsets and an inflatable planetarium to bring the solar system and galaxies to life as well as stage shows on the science of Harry Potter.

Through the COVID 19 crisis we have continued to work with our partner schools to provide resources digitally and work on ways of adapting the distance learning model used for degree level courses to the needs of pre-GCSE school students.