**College Student Outreach**

**7.4 Student Ski Day – Vermont Section**

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| **1. Section, Branch** | Vermont Section |  |
| **2. Section/Branch Size** | Small |  |
| **3. Project Contact** |  | |
| Name | Erik Alling, Past President | |
| Phone Number | [(802) 864-0223](https://www.google.com/search?rlz=1C1GCEU_enUS867US867&sxsrf=ALeKk01nDdK0ja5bW9rlznFjStU4UnnaxQ%3A1594308769924&ei=oTgHX6r6N-uFytMP162f4AE&q=stantec+vt&oq=stantec+vt&gs_lcp=CgZwc3ktYWIQAzICCAAyBggAEBYQHjIGCAAQFhAeMgIIJjoFCAAQsQM6BAgAEEM6CAgAELEDEIMBOgcIABCxAxAKOgUIABCRAjoICAAQsQMQkQI6BAgAEApQ8bYJWODCCWCAxAloAHAAeACAAWWIAcYFkgEDOS4xmAEAoAEBqgEHZ3dzLXdpeg&sclient=psy-ab&ved=0ahUKEwjqzpL_vsDqAhXrgnIEHdfWBxwQ4dUDCAw&uact=5) | |
| Email | erik.**alling**@**stantec**.com | |
| **4. Project Category** | College Student Outreach | |
| **5. Project Description** | We organized a Student Ski Day event for the three Student ASCE Chapters in Vermont where the ski passes were provided at a reduced cost and a lunch presentation was provided. The lunch presentation was given by an associate at a local engineering firm, Greg Edwards of Stantec, about the non-technical skills necessary for engineering and management. | |
| **6. The Process**  (What you did, When and How) | We applied for a grant through ASCE by focusing the presentation on a couple of their strategies – The Leader Involvement Strategy and the Competency Strategy. We organized a group rate with a local ski area, Sugarbush. We contacted Greg Edwards about making the presentation. We reserved a room at Sugarbush for the lunch presentation and organized the lunch to be catered with pizza provided by Sugarbush. We knew that the only way to get a good turnout with the students was to provide the ski day at a very minimal cost ($12). We contacted the  Student Chapter Board of Directors and Supervisors and asked them to promote the event and let us know how many people will be attending from their prospective schools. | |
| **7. Those in Charge** (Committee, Task Committee, Etc.) | It took the effort of the Section President, President-Elect, and the UVM, Norwich, and VTC Student Practitioner Advisors. | |
| **8. Time Frame**  (When Started, When Completed) | We started organizing in December of 2007 and held the ski day in February of 2008. | |
| **9. Success Factors**  (The Parts that Worked Really Well) | We had a great turn-out and the students found the presentation very informative. More importantly, having a room all to ourselves all day allowed for the students from the various schools to come and go as they please and leave all their stuff in the same room. Students of different schools met each other and hung out and bonded over the experience. | |
| **10. Setback Factors**  (The Parts that did Not Work Well) | The only issue was with RSVPs. We needed a good head count to give to Sugarbush because we had to buy the tickets all together to get the group rate and to order food for lunch. In all of my experiences with students, they are completely unreliable. We had a ton of last minute additions and cancellations and no-shows. | |
| **11. Creativity**  (This is something off the wall that we did) |  | |
| **12. Administration**  (What was most Important?) | The essential administration was the Student Practitioner Advisors who kept open the lines of communication between the event organizers and the participants at all steps along the way. Also, the administrative work that went into applying for the grants was essential. | |
| **13. Follow-Up**  (What was most important?) | Talking with the students about active participation in the society after graduation occurred during the event as well. We followed up with the students who showed interest and now two of them hold active positions with our section (webmaster and newsletter editor) | |
| **14. Recommendations**  (What you should ALWAYS do with this project?) | Take pictures and talk to the students about what more they can do for the society. The pictures help to get funding for future years. | |
| **15. Cautions**  (What you should NEVER do with this project?) | Try to predict the weather | |
| **16. The Outcome** | VERY, VERY successful. We used all the grant money and had about 50 students come out for the event. | |
| **17. Ongoing Activity**  (Would you do it again?) | We are currently drafting up a letter to send to the engineering companies in Vermont asking if they would like to sponsor the event and provide promotional material to be handed out and/or present to the students during lunch. | |
| **18. Speaker Contact Information**  (person from your Region who would be willing to speak about the Best Practice) |  | |
| Name |  | |
| Address |  | |
| Phone Number |  | |
| Email |  | |
| **19. Additional Comments** | This Best Practice includes the following attachments:   * Photos of the event | |



