

## Criteria for Scinapse Activities

**Title** Criteria for Scinapse Activities

### **Briefing Note text** FOCUS

Scinapse (formerly Mid West Science Engagement Group) is focused on extending and increasing the impact of its members *existing or planned* science engagement activities *more than* creating entirely new events.

Scinapse focus is on partnering with organisations that will make some cash contribution to the shared activity *more than* organisations that can only contribute in-kind.

The Scinapse coordinator is focused on facilitating collaboration amongst network members *more than* acting as the coordinator of individual activities.

The focus of partners' proposed activities must be on providing engaging experiences to new public audiences *more than* professional development for existing science advocates.

### **CONTRIBUTION**

MWSEG's contribution to joint activities may include:

- **Cash** e.g. as a broad indication, Scinapse would like to partner on around 6 events in the next 6 months contributing around \$6000 of cash to costs,
- **Collaboration** e.g. encouraging members to contribute to each other's activities, create synergies, or share useful resources (e.g. venues)
- **Coordination** e.g. Creating a year-round calendar of diverse events. Avoiding clashes, quiet periods or too many similar events,
- **Communication** e.g. Using our networks, email lists and social media to promote the activity to the target audience.

### **PROPOSALS**

The image below illustrates the process by which proposals are usually developed:

1. A member or members have an idea
2. The idea is submitted as an idea or proposal
3. Other members are alerted to the proposal and are invited to comment and collaborate
4. The final proposal is submitted for Endorsement by the Committee (see Decision process here: <https://podio.com/wildpollinatorsorg/mwseq/apps/formal-notes/items/5> )
5. If Endorsed the proposal is delivered by the lead partner
6. Evaluations are completed
7. Reporting back to Scinapse, members and funders is completed

To be eligible for support from Scinapse, proponents should completed a "Proposal" and clearly explain how their activities meet the criteria below. The criteria are stated as questions, which should be answered in the EOI webform: [http://bit.ly/scinapse\\_eoi](http://bit.ly/scinapse_eoi)

### **CRITERIA**

1. Involve community members from a range of backgrounds and abilities in science engagement activities (IA) and in doing so, increase public awareness of Scinapse and members' activities (MoU) — "Please clearly define the the target audience and how many people will participate?"

2. Promote deep learning and the real world application of scientific concepts (IA) AND Stimulate curiosity (IA) — "What will the audience learn?"
3. Create opportunities for year-round science engagement through a Pathways\* program (IA) — "Are there particular pathways this activity will feed into?"
4. Be developed collaboratively and inclusively with a range of partners (eg: new funding bodies or partner organisations, or collaboration between Scinapse members) (IA and MoU) — "Are there other people or organisations collaborating this activity?"
5. Include existing resources where available and help build on developing resources where suitable (eg: venues/equipment) (IA) — "What are the partners each contributing (cash, in-kind)?"
6. Include a budget/proposal for funding and details of support sought from Scinapse — "What type and quantity of support are you seeking from Scinapse for this activity?"
7. Promote Inspiring Australia and Scinapse, and provide a benefit to members  
**"Please describe how will IA and Scinapse support will be promoted and is there any benefit to individual members?"**
8. Be a member of Scinapse, or be willing to join. **"Confirm that you are a member of Scinapse or willing to join if your proposal is supported?"**

\* Pathways = contains a "call to action" for the participants so they can identify, select and/ or participate in further STEM activities that extend their engagement. This approach often includes hand-outs at events that offer ideas about aligned activities around the region or even further afield via the internet.

**Status** Endorsed

**Image**



**Comments** **Learning Lead (Andrew)** 26/10/2015 12:28

26/10/15 Updated wording:

- Criteria 7 language changed from acknowledged to promoted
- Criteria 8 added re: requirement to join MWSEG if their proposal is endorsed for support.

**Catherine Belcher** 26/10/2015 13:38

[@MWSEG Committee](#), looks good to me :)

**Learning Lead (Andrew)** 03/11/2015 19:47

Updated to clarify terminology ("proposal") and process in writing and as image.

