



Be part of a growing national Coalition

COPUS invites academic departments, universities, and scientific organizations to participate in a community-wide effort to encourage public understanding of and engagement in science and celebrate 2009 as the Year of Science.

What is COPUS?

- **Coalition on the Public Understanding of Science (COPUS) Network**
A grassroots coalition of diverse, science-interested stakeholders united by a shared desire to engage and inform the public about the nature and process of science. Through this peer network, participating organizations will communicate, collaborate, and share information as well as best practices related to improving the public understanding of science.
<http://www.copusproject.org>
- **The Year of Science 2009**
12 months of activities celebrating science and highlighting the value of science to society. Local and national events will be registered in the COPUS Web site's publicly searchable directory of events & programs.
<http://www.yearofscience2009.org>
- **The Understanding Science Web site**
New content-rich Web site being developed at the University of California Museum of Paleontology (set to launch later in 2008) for science educators and the general public to clarify what science is, how it works, and misconceptions about science.
<http://www.understandingscience.org>



Get Involved!

- Join the COPUS network: <http://www.copusproject.org/register>
- Share, lead and participate in science outreach programs
- Support the planning and development of national outreach programs
- For more ideas, check-out: www.yearofscience2009.org



Additional COPUS Activities

Program and Event Directory

The public understanding of science program and event directory is a searchable database that aggregates information about programs, events, and resources in science. This directory is freely accessible to the general public, education, and scientific communities. The directory serves to raise awareness of the diversity of programs being offered by the science community. It encourages sharing of resources between network participants and highlights exemplary programs. It serves as a central repository for programs and resources that encourage science engagement and learning. Add your organizations programs and event to the directory on the COPUS Web site at: <http://www.copusproject.org/listings/>

Regional Hubs

A COPUS hub is a locally-based community of COPUS participants and science stakeholders that works together within a designated geographic region to promote the public understanding of science. Its members are self-determined and can include scientists, universities, K-16 educators, informal science education centers, government agencies business leaders, and other professionals who work together to develop or coordinate activities that engage community members in science. Its activities are self-determined, but have as their focus the public understanding of and engagement in science. A single COPUS participating organization should serve as the "host" of the hub and as the liaison to the COPUS network.

To see an up-to-date map of hubs that are forming visit the COPUS Web site at:
www.copusproject.org

We can't imagine not participating in COPUS and the Year of Science 2009. We are deeply committed professionally and personally to public understanding of science and think that the COPUS effort ... provides a credible public and professional platform for our efforts. We want to raise the public consciousness regarding both the values of science and the value of science to society. We want to highlight the dangers in politicizing and dismissing the findings of science and promote scientific literacy for voting citizens. COPUS will enable our Michigan hub to reach further, nationally and internationally, than it would otherwise; it will help us in planning, creating and offering our programs by the sharing of ideas.

David Mindell, University of Michigan Museum of Zoology

There is no cost to join.

Encourage your organization to participate in the Coalition.

Complete the online registration form at: <http://copusproject.org/register/>

If you have questions about participation or would like to receive updates about COPUS and Year of Science 2009, please contact Sheri Potter at spotter@copusproject.org.

