RIGOLE Logistics

A website, developed during the first year, constitutes a central platform for the workshop (http://rigole.galaxy.ibpc.fr/). It has the role of both presenting the workshop and recruiting students, furthermore providing all material that is used during the week (interactive tools, lecture booklet, slides).

For college students, the workshop is organized as a course integrated in the curriculum as an interdisciplinary 3-credit module (corresponding to 30 hours of presence in class), accessible to all first and second year students with a science major. A typical semester in the French college systems accounts for a total of 30 credits.

Since the format of a continuous one-week workshop does not easily fit within the regular course schedule, the RIGOLE course is offered at the end of the semester, after all regular classes are over, shortly before the closure of the semester. The course is presented to the students on the dedicated website, in addition to being presented by the usual means of the university (posters in the hallways, advertisement by teaching staff,..).

As a college course, the workshop has the requirement to deliver a grade to students. This evaluation is implemented by means of quizzes (chemistry, physics and modeling) that students take online through the university course platform at the end of the day of each of the modules (in this case quizzes are not used as a group activity but individually) and of the poster session. For posters, students receive 3 grades that are then combined: the grade of the professors involved in the workshop, the grades of other students in the class, a grade on how they graded other students' work. Since this poster session is rather elaborate we refer to a separate publication where all details are explained (Lopez, Hugo; Le Barch, Karine; Ethève-Quelquejeu, Mélanie; Pasquali, Samuela; Taly, Antoine (2018): Poster Session with Peer Grading. ChemRxiv. Preprint. https://doi.org/10.26434/chemrxiv.6726161.v1).

The hours spent by the faculty on the college workshop are accounted for in their regular teaching load as for any other course.

For high school students the workshop is mostly on a voluntary basis for both students and faculty (which we discovered results in a very positive and cooperative environment).

The workshop is scheduled in the first week of high school summer vacation, which for us is typically the first week of July. In January/February we take care of the administration related to hosting high school students at the university and make corresponding room reservations. These preparations involve contacting the legal office of the university making sure we have insurance coverage for the students participating to the workshop. In our case, this type of venue is already covered by the general university insurance. During this time we update the website with the new dates and other relevant changes with respect to the previous year. In March we send out the information of the workshop to local high schools. Since the university has partner high schools that participate to science fairs and other outreach activities, we send the information to them first, but we then extend it through other channels, such as local papers

or personal contacts. In our case the direct information reached some 20 different high schools, given the high density of such establishments in the Parisian area.

Students can pre-register with an online form where they indicate their contacts and the high school they are from. Usually we receive applications from about twice the number of students that we can accept (~80 applications for 40-50 available places).

In early May we make a selection of the participants based on a first come first served basis with the bias of not taking too many students from the same school and to have similar numbers of the two genders.

Students (and families) are then contacted individually and asked to finalize their registration by sending several documents: a full contact information (including emergency contacts), a copy of their ID, a parental consent and responsibility form, a copy of their personal insurance (which is mandatory to attend French schools), a commitment agreement engaging them to come and participate (in order to prevent them from dropping out without notice, since the workshop is free of charge for participants).

Around mid June all participants are contacted for the final practical information.

High school students do not receive any credit for their participation, but at the end of the workshop we deliver a certificate to them, officially signed by the dean, that they can add to their CV later for example when applying to college.

Faculty is involved mainly on a voluntary basis and for free. Only the physics department, as of today, provides the equivalent of 30 teaching hours to their professors.

The university provides the facilities for free.

All material used was purchased during the first year when we had a specific grant for the project.