

Final Cruise Report - Outreach

Sarah Anderson, a high school teacher from Boerne, Texas, was responsible for educational outreach activities on the cruise. Sarah received assistance with these activities from PolarTREC, a project of the Arctic Research Consortium of the United States (ARCUS). The PolarTREC website (www.polartrec.com) served as a repository for information about the cruise, journal posts, photos, etc. During the cruise 81 questions were posted and responded to as part of the “Ask the Team” section of the web site. To date, more than 40 journal entries have been posted outlining the activities of cruise participants. Also included in the journal entries was information about Antarctic exploration, animal and plant life, research activities taking place, and other topics of interest. Many entries also included lesson prompts for teachers or ideas for further investigation.

A Webinar hosted by PolarTREC was held on October 16. Scientists Steve Ackley, Brent Stewart, and Chris Fritsen joined teacher Sarah Anderson in a conference call and Internet slide show from the Palmer with more than 80 students and adults from across the US. Sarah participated in research activities during the cruise as a part of the geophysics team.

Outreach activities will continue after the cruise including the development and distribution of lesson plans for grades K-12, conference presentations, and speaking engagements in classrooms and the community.