

# Top 3 Lessons Learned from Hosting Virtual Cross- Cultural Outreach Activities

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Expanding Educational Opportunities for  
Secondary and Post-Secondary Educators and Students  
in the Technology and Applications of Unmanned Aircraft Systems  
(NSF DUE#2201214)



# Background

- Virtual summer drone academy for high school students via Zoom
  - San Diego County
  - Palau (~7,000 mi away, 16 hours ahead)
  - American Samoa (~4,700 mi away, 4 hours behind)
  - Topics covered: Drone Piloting, Block Programming, 3D Modeling
  - Cross cultural exchange:
    - Collaborate and troubleshoot in breakout rooms
    - Drone acrobatic and 3D modeling competitions/presentations
    - Industry guest speakers from California and the Pacific Islands
      - “They can [be] extremely useful in ways I’ve never thought they could be used in”
      - “I learned how helpful it is to other locations as well and how the applications work”



# Tip #3: Scheduling

- Decide on a date/meeting time early!
  - High school end dates
  - Culture of graduation festivities
  - Competing summer obligations
  - Time zone differences



# Tip #2: Logistics

- Ship equipment/supplies early!
  - Customs declarations
  - Hazardous materials
    - Lithium batteries (can only ship by ground/boat with limited quantity in each package)



# Tip #1: Partners

- Find local partners at the ATE PI conference!
  - Edna Noga, co-PI of *Adopting the STEM Guitar Curriculum to Prepare Students in American Samoa for Technician Education* (DUE#2100418)
    - Recruited American Samoa students
    - Secured private sponsorship from ASTCA to provide supplemental resources to students (facility, wifi, food, mobile devices)
    - Ensured drone equipment reach the students (batteries, numerous post-office pick ups)

