Na Keiki o Ka ‘Aina Summer Adventure Camps:
Teaching and Inspiring the Next Generation of Scientists on Kaua‘i
Kimberley Mayfield, Keiki Camp Coordinator
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Being surrounded by a diverse crowd of professors, graduate students, undergraduates, high school students, and other researchers from every walk of life in one giant building for a whole week was quite an exhilarating experience. Listening to both research and outreach talks and imagining ways to bridge the gap between the two was certainly my favorite part of the conference. During the presentation of my outreach poster, I felt like I made a lot of valuable connections with others in STEM outreach positions, and the conference motivated me to continue improving STEM outreach efforts on Kauai because of the impact they obviously have in the long run on students’ academic success.

In my opinion, the youth symposium was the best example of a session that bridged that gap effectively by engaging the youth in science by giving them ownership of scientific question, methodology, and project. I hope to see more youth sessions in the future and look forward to the Ocean Sciences Meeting in 2016.

Aloha,
Kimberley K. Mayfield