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Research Presentation

Attention science educators, we have a problem: lack of global functional scientific literacy

ABSTRACT

Who among us believes we live in a scientifically literate society? In today's society, scientific issues are increasingly present. Citizens are repeatedly, and often urgently, faced with decisions that impact their health and envisioned future. These decisions impact society as a whole. What do people draw upon to make such decisions? Do we, as a society, have the scientific literacy to make sense of what is facing us? Scientific literacy is essential for enabling individuals to understand, evaluate, and engage with the world through scientific reasoning. Why aren't we getting anywhere with respect to scientific literacy?

When a large section of our population doesn't know, believe in, or trust science, we have a problem. Society is facing a crisis. How can we as science educators address these serious issues? This concern isn't about who has the best version of science. This concern isn't a competition or rivalry among academic scholars. This is a call about finding best solutions to the persistent problems of scientific illiteracy and mistrust in science.

SPEAKER

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