LIPS 2017 Post-It Note Comments
Data to Dome Ending Discussion—led by Mark S.

- Questions to Mark:
  - What do you have to know to get the data on the dome?
  - What skills should you look for in an employee to get data onto the dome?
  - Mark commented on a desire to make the process easier as well as to encourage more collaboration—not every facility has the same amount of resources as the Adler, for ex.
- Recommended source of data: ESO.org
- Need to understand the data before presenting/explaining it. Presenters improving because of this need as well as resources.
- Constraint: Lack of budget/time/resources for prepping data, concerns about how to begin.
- Constraint: Technology issues and limitations. Storage/processing/learning curve. Old computers without enough processing power.
- Need an outline/list of resources for getting started.
- Need ways to access information that is closed source (i.e., journal articles available only with subscription).
- Suggested way to get started:
  - Pick one data set, see if you can do it.
  - Start with looking at the primary source, if possible. If that is not possible, look at secondary sources that reference the primary source.
- Goal of DtoD initiative is to change what a planetarium is and does:
  - Non-astronomy topics, for example, weather and politics (immediacy).
  - Affect how the public and scientists interact.
  - Also looking at best practices, how to keep planetarians from being overwhelmed.
- Comment from those who have done shows featuring current data: Good response from the public, good interest level.
- There are "buttloads" (quote) of data available for GIS. You can even cover topics such as sports in the dome.
- Data can highlight connections between disciplines/topics.
- Comment from Monica Marshall that it gives her hope for the future, particularly in showing the effects of climate change in meaningful ways. Can inspire audiences and get them thinking in different ways.
- Comment: It will be a long process to learn the techniques. (Note from Karrie: This is on my list of professional development topics for LIPS and other conferences/PD opportunities.)
- Question: Can the models shown give audiences misinformation?
- General dichotomy:
  - Info-viz: Information represented (usually in 3D) in abstract space (things like pie charts and scatter plots, but also much more sophisticated things)
  - Sci-viz: Information represented in a physical space (most of what out digital planetarium software does)
- Idea to have a tool for small data, so that kids can get involved
- Also a movement to have the audience collect data—citizen science type projects
- Wish list generated by attendees (in a VERY short amount of time)
  - Suggestions for Do It Yourself, how to's/tutorials
  - Identification of barriers, as the community is at many different stages
  - Professional development on prepping and presenting the data
  - Techniques for getting people comfortable with absorbing constant flow of new info
  - Need to build a community of practice

- Need to tackle institutional inertia: What we're doing is working fine, so why change?