

## November 21, 2019 DEI Working Group Call

Attendees: Jason McLachlan, Anna Sjodin, Diana Dalbotten, Jody Peters

### Agenda/Notes:

- EFI invited to submit a full proposal for a Science Technology Center
  - This is awesome! But will be distracting until mid-January when the proposal is due
  - On Education side of thing - develop curriculum with Carpentries that are targeted to Tribal Colleges
  - The bottlenecks that we identify in this group will be useful for the proposal
  - Connecting with the other groups on diversity will be important. Would be good for our group to share the bottlenecks with the other groups
- **Strategic Plan** - here is the text **for the plan [LINK REMOVED]**.
  - Discuss input/comments from group provided in the last month
    - Diana needs input! Would be good to expand this group on the call to get input. 20 minutes for each phone call. Tackle one item during those 20 minutes to go over/brainstorm the barriers
    - Jason and Diana to connect next week before Thanksgiving
    - Partners we already have or barriers we know of
      - One idea for barriers - work with Methods group who are working on a list of resources/tools used for forecasting. There are tons of resources/tools - but how do you know what is useful/useable. Who are these Tools useable for? Can anyone jump in and use the tools that the Methods group is recommending. For the Methods group - who is their audience that you expect will be using the tools
      - Diana - this is similar to a problem they had in NSED. Developing tools for river management and getting them into the hands of practitioners. Needed people who were working directly with practitioners and needed to remember to send when the tools are updated.
      - Create tool that will be monitored/updated and will be targeted to different groups (partners, undergrads, grads, etc)
      - CUHASI has been successful at this (hydrology people at NSF - a whole database on tools for hydrology with descriptions of the tools). Community/non-profit work done in collaboration with NSF
      - Describe issue and layout concrete efforts. What can be done to promote diversity. What are the concrete stps that need to be taken to make the tools more accessible to Tribal Colleges or resource managers
      - Identify the groups and then get a call with those groups to hear their input/needs.

- Set up small working group to talk about diversity and to get the Tribal Colleges/partners together. Write small proposals to apply for through STC (similar to how people apply for Incubator funding) and for writing other proposals to get this funding
- What steps would we take to get someone working at a Tribal College to join a phone call?
  - Identify the people we know who already know us as they will be most likely to respond.
  - Call everyone individually to ask if they are interested in participating with or if there is anyone else at their institution that would be interested in joining
  - Diana has used the GeoScience Alliance in the past to make connections.
  - Data sovereignty has been a big issue with tribes. Diana could find out who is involved in those meetings and see if anyone is interested in joining calls or attend next EFI meeting
    - Diana wants the next GeoScience Alliance meeting to be on data sovereignty and will be working on proposal for that this spring. If they get the funds for this conference, then it would be great to have EFI involved/attend
  - Jason will check in with Steve Jackson at AZ to follow up on the workshop put on by Carpentries to Tribal Colleges and resources managers.
- Any progress on Step 1 - Identify and Clarify the problem. Diana and Jason were going to work on this if they could find the time.
- Are there actions we want to take to work on Steps 1, 2, or 3
- Networking - how do we work with the larger EFI membership to think about utilizing our collective assets/relationships to expand members in our meetings, phone calls etc.
  - How do we convey/define why other disciplines/partners should think about ecological forecasting and how other disciplines connect
- Look at website text together. What would we like to update? It would be good to update the Working Group description. Who wants to take the lead to draft text?
  - Maybe the text from the STC proposal can be useful for updating the website text
  - Do we want to create a blog post from the Strategic Plan? And then link to the Strategic Plan blog post in the Diversity Working Group text?
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- Survey for EFI Members
  - We had discussed this during the last call, but before we can move forward on the survey, we need to figure out the IRB.
  - Jody suggests waiting on this until after the STC is submitted in mid-January
- Next Call

- Scheduled for Thurs, Dec 19. Diana, Jason, Caylen, and Jody will be at VT working on STC. Let's skip this call and meet up in January. Jody will send out a poll in early January for next month.
- Send out the STC proposal to the group after the VT meeting.
- Notes from John Zobitz who wasn't able to make the call
- I did some looking around at diversity and inclusion efforts for some professional societies:
  - [AGU](#): They also have a strategic plan and publish demographic data by gender for each of the AGU sections.
  - [AMS](#) (American Mathematical Society): This is an interesting moment because in their latest newsletter a [column by the vice-president](#) that has been perceived as very against diversity and inclusion efforts
  - [MAA](#) (Mathematical Association of America) - not much of a statement, but more of a collection of links.
  - [AMS](#) (American Meteorological Society)
  - [ESA](#): Like AGU, they have a strategic plan in place.
  - The best place for statistics and data I found is from the [NSF](#) (highly recommended)