

## December 11, 2020 DEI Working Group Call

Attendees: Diana Dalbotten, Nievita Bueno Watts, Anna Sjodin, Alyssa Willson, Jody Peters, John Zobitz

Agenda/Notes:

1. Prep for [Panel #2 - January 20 at noon US Eastern](#); What does culturally competent data science training look like?
  - a. Advertising
    - i. Send link and text Diana and Nievita
    - ii. Post on EFI Slack, Twitter - on Jan 5 of 6 and again on the 15th
    - iii. Let program officers know about this and the link.
    - iv. Brandon - Diana/Nievita's contact
  - b. What Poll EV question to start with?
    - i. What does regular data science training look like?
    - ii. What doesn't culturally data science training look like.
    - iii. **What is your favorite tool in teaching or learning data science, if any. - use this question.**
    - iv. When you were learning data science - what helped you learn?
    - v. What is data science training
  - c. Overview of data science and example of ecological forecasts. Instead of Mike giving EFI overview, what if we had someone give some examples of ecological forecasts? Nievita had a good question on the Nov panel - what kind of forecasts are people doing? What kind of data do they use?
    - i. Agenda item for the future: Examples of what ecological forecasts are in simple language to add to the website
  - d. Format: Go with the panelists and the Q&A session. Don't include the breakout
    - i. Q&A moderator - Alyssa
  - e. Open up Poll EV while the panelist talk
  - f. Keep breakout group questions in our back pocket just in case the conversation lags. Then we can say "Let's go for 5 minutes to talk on this concept"
    - i. What would these breakout group questions be?
  - g. Idea from Nov 19 panel was: Woman and Innovation listed by Forough Ghahramani from [Edge](#) a non-profit technology services provider and member-driven consortium for the nation's leading education, research and healthcare organizations.
2. February Panelists: What do community colleges need to support their students to transfer into data-driven 4-year programs?
  - a. Diana suggests: [Julie Maxson](#) at Metro State Community College in the Twin cities
    - i. This is a 4 year college now. Serve similar community that would attend a community college

- b. Anna suggests: Caroline Brinegar. She's a grad student who went to a community college and is now interested in stats and urban ecology, among other things. She retweeted Ethan's post about the forecasting challenge and has posted some stuff about different data analysis stuff, including stuff about using NEON data. She's at UNC Charlotte in the department of geography and earth sciences.
    - i. Anna sent Caroline an email and Caroline is on board! Jody will reach out to her after her defense on Nov 23.
  - c. Courtney Kwalzack - Diana's contact on the Gadaa project.
  - d. Jody to send invite to Diana and she will send out
  - e. Q&A moderator: Anna Sjodin
3. March Panelists: What kind of online tools are useful and work well for remote learning?
- a. Bill McHenry the Executive Director of the Mississippi e-Center at Jackson State University could be a good panelist for this topic if do not invite him or he is not available for the January panel.
  - b. Catherine Hulshof is an EFI Member from Virginia Commonwealth University. She has tweeted about diversity issues and her website specifically says "We value open-source tools because they create access to career pathways that have traditionally been exclusive."
  - c. Anna suggests that having a student "consuming" online tools would be good to include. Emilia Obodum Kusi is one of Catherine's students, an EFI Member, and attended the NEFI course last summer. Anna worked with her during the course and knows she has a lot of online training. Jody can reach out to Emilia.
  - d. Cayelan Carey from Virginia Tech is a founding EFI Member who leads the Macrosystems EDDIE project which is developing flexible classroom modules to introduce undergraduates to core concepts of macrosystems ecology and simulation modeling through the lens of limnology.
  - e. Alyssa suggestion: Speakers from QUBES webinar: Hayley Orndorf and Andrew Hasley (Jody has worked with Hayley when putting together the RCN QUBES site she can reach out)
4. RCN workshop on culturally aware pedagogy - Alyssa update
- a. Goals: 1 day online meeting. Small group (30 max).
  - b. Challenge: Make sure it is open for diverse participation, but limiting the size
  - c. Advertising - they are working on how to advertise and who to attend
  - d. Topics - identify aspects of accessibility for students with accessibility. Inclusive pedagogy for online vs in-person.
  - e. 2 documents to formulate to help to move into Education meeting and bigger picture of RCN
    - i. Best practices already known about (e.g., similar to Olivia's infographic on R)
    - ii. Biggest Challenges moving forward - what can EFI do with those challenges

- f. Article related to this from John:  
<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/ece3.7062>
- g. Do things by invitation - who can you invite to talk about specific topics
- h. RCN registration list from overall meeting and see who can pull in
- i. Want leaders within EFI and diverse people
- j. Is the purpose of the workshop to gather or disseminate information?
  - i. Annual RCN meeting is focused on Education. Purpose is to inspire people to create resources for ecological forecasting and talk about what gaps exist in the resources
  - ii. For this 1-day workshop - there is a lot of discussion of the necessity of having inclusive pedagogy, but for the workshop want to get past that to discuss the practical aspects of actually how to incorporate inclusive pedagogy
- k. Have a couple articles about relevant pedagogy to read before the meeting
- l. Nievita is hearing 2 things. 1) focus on disabilities and 2) culturally relevant which don't necessarily overlap. Haven't narrowed down topics on what to cover. Will narrow it down based on the interest of EFI members and who is participating.
- m. For disability related material Diana and Nievita have a colleague IAGD (Institute for the Advancement of Geoscience Diversity) - they have excellent resource on making materials accessible
- n. The workshop is under the umbrella of inclusivity - different color, genders, abilities, etc.
- o. Don't need to spend as much time on disability resources. Just talk to the experts that already have the resources already worked out. Need to be aware of it and provide the disability aware resources.
- p. Having materials that are culturally relevant is more complicated
- q. Access to computing resources is something of interest. This has been a big challenge for ecological forecasting. This is different from having culturally relevant materials.
  - i. Access to computing, computing clusters, education in programming languages.
- r. Diana recommends the [Eric Jolly](#) paper the Trilogy of engagement (excitement to learn) , capacity (knowledge you need), and continuity (access to resources in their institution that lets them take the next step).
- s. Could have a Google doc with a resource packet in advance. Then let people in the workshop build on that material. Use this as a resource to share with people in the Education workshop.
  - i. The plan is to synthesize the inclusive pedagogy workshop and provide an overview of that at the beginning of the education workshop
- t. Do you want experts or students for the pedagogy workshop? Mix - want people and students passionate about this and incorporating it going forward. But want experts to help provide input

- i. Diana was on panel with people in ESA - Carrie O'Connell - session integrating fieldwork and the human-dimension
- ii. ESA Traditional Ecological Knowledge section had watercooler chat on Oct 13th - could look into this
- iii. Look at abstracts from last ESA for culture and diversity. If there are people putting on panels, then we should include them.

5. DEI Book Club

- a. Anna will moderate
- b. Put 2 questions into Poll Everywhere and upvote them
- c. Make it anonymous
- d. For January - have Poll Everywhere open early.

6. Geoscience Alliance - ideas for making connections

- a. Travel funds in Sloan proposal for EFI grad student/EFI faculty to attend GA meeting next fall? Or use RCN participant funds for students?
- b. GA meeting wants to cap attendance at 150
- c. GA meeting: [nced.dash.umn.edu/ga/](http://nced.dash.umn.edu/ga/)
- d. Tribal data needs and sovereignty. Training in data management, GIS, etc
  - i. Most of the data management positions are not held by native members.  
Want to get the tribal members to where they can do it themselves
- e. EFI data scientists attend and bridge the gap and make relationships
- f. RCN could sponsor the conference. Support 5-15 students. Currently can support 45 students.
- g. Workshop at conference - any kind of workshop that involves students getting hands on keyboards. Involve computational thinking.
- h. Speakers - have a data speaker. Critical Zone Work
- i. Think about creating an ecological branch in the GeoScience Alliance

7. Jody will send poll for recurring meetings for Jan-May