

May 9, 2023 DEI Working Group Call

Attendees: Diana Dalbotten, Anna Sjodin, Jody Peters, Antoinette Abeyta, Olivia Tabares, Alyssa Willson, John Zobitz

Regrets: Nick Record, Jason McLachlan

Agenda/Notes:

1. Scheduling new calls - can we keep this time/day combination and meet on Tuesdays at 1pm US ET on June 13, July 11, Aug 15? Or should we poll to find a new time for calls for June to August?
 - a. We need to find a new time/day.
2. Other resources that may be of interest
 - a. [Macrosystems Ecology For All \(MEFA\)](#)
 - i. This is a new Research Coordination Network (same funding we have that supports the NEON Forecasting Challenge, Unconference, etc)
 - ii. From their website: "MEFA is a diverse and welcoming community for faculty in teaching-focused positions to gain the training necessary to become full participants in macrosystems science.
 - iii. We develop collaborative, multi-institution projects that address macrosystems questions, use existing environmental datasets, and serve as vehicles for teaching undergraduate students macrosystems concepts and data science. Our projects all include Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Justice (DEIJ) components and many emphasize community involvement."
 - iv. John spoke at their seminar series. They are just getting started. Characterize the group as being inclined to having a big tent approach. Participants are new to macrosystems ecology and ecoforecasting. Trying to ramp up training. They have an annual conference. It will be a good group to know about and keep in mind for potential places to overlap.
 - b. Papers (Jody added these to the [EFI DEI Bibliography](#))
 - i. [Indigenous Data Sovereignty in the Era of Big Data and Open Data](#) (from Australian perspective)
 - ii. [Indigenous Data Sovereignty and Indigenous Evaluation: Improving Philanthropic Practice](#) - A First Nations report, US perspective
3. Book Club - see this list of potential books (and feel free to add to it). **Discuss this on the May call**
 - a. We want to pick a book in time for the Unconference to promote it at that event.
 - i. Previous books have focused on how math can be misused, Indigenous science, Black and African American experience in the US, the range of experiences students have in higher education
 1. Weapons of Math Destruction - Summer 2022

2. Braiding Sweetgrass - Summer 2021
 3. Caste - Dec/Jan 2020-2021
 4. The Years That Matter Most: How College Makes or Breaks Us - Summer 2020
- ii. Try to broaden to cover different topics than has been covered to highlight areas where diversity might show itself
 - iii. **97 Things About Ethics - comes from multiple voices and think it will give many things to discuss**
 - iv. Other multiple voices books - Arts of Living,
 - v. A billion black Anthropocenes is a book that looks at the intersection of climate change gender and race. It is geo focused
 - vi. Will go with 97 Things. Jody will work on advertising. Will have recap at the beginning of the meetings.
4. Next Steps for Barriers to Inclusion in Ecological Forecasting Blog Post
 - a. Points for discussion
 - i. Jason's suggestions about changing from "alternative cycles" to "making inclusion explicit in forecasting cycles"
 1. Reinvisions the forecasting cycle as an inclusive set of processes - incorporating inclusion as a component of forecasting.
 2. Reimagining forecasting cycles
 3. It is not an add on, want to think about it through the entire process
 4. We propose other ways to think about the forecasting cycle
 5. Doesn't think it reads as a harsh critic
 6. Takes the step that Mike kicked off and bringing more voices into the discussion to amplify voices
 7. Inviting more voices
 8. From Antoinette: Maybe we can make a statement that says something to the effect of in order to make forecasting to be inclusive, we have to reimagine our forecasting cycle to emphasize and center marginalized groups.
 9. Like: Often existing forecasting cycles center research outcomes, leaving community as an afterthought. To make ecological forecasting to be more reflective of the communities we work with, we have to structure our forecasting cycles to center values that are important to the communities we serve. To address Jason's concerns.
 10. Be open that we are learning and are a work in progress as a group
 11. **Final decision - use Antoinette's text**
 12. **Also go back to this for the question at the of the Introduction**

- ii. Citations in the models section - do we need them for the blog post or save and get for the manuscript?
 - 1. Take them out. Reassess for more formal publication
- iii. Do we need the names for the different sections - Olivia, Anna, Nick?
 - 1. Remove names
- iv. Olivia has offered to provide a full translation to the post. Don't wait for the translation before we post that.
 - 1. Antoinette and Anna offered to help with the translations
- v. Additional slides - link to a read-only version. Add a title slide with details inviting people to send suggestions for alternative drawings.
 - 1. Jody will include those other figures as people share them
 - 2. Add a sentence to this paragraph about the purpose of these slides.
- vi. Have specific sections for the Figures - Figure 2 and Figure 3 as headings
- vii. Nick's internal lab values document
 - 1. Get rid of the sentence about values and make the text flow better. "In thinking about inclusivity, the Tandy Center..."
- viii. Could re-order the Figures to swap Figures 2 and
- ix. Notable weaknesses section - Good to make the changes
- x. Add a "Connect with Us" heading for the text that is deleted right before Table 1 at the bottom? This text is the same as written at the top, but Jody's goal is to encourage people to connect. Does the group think this is overkill?
- xi. Contact information - just direct to EFI
- xii. Table 1 - Antoinette added a lot. It is good.
 - 1. Ask for feedback on the Table as part of the blog post. Add text about this!
- xiii. Timeline/Plan: Get edits done by Friday. As long as there are no issues post early next week. Put it in the newsletter on Wednesday. Work with Olivia on tweet material.**
- b. Strategy/timeline for posting it on the webpage and through Twitter, Slack, newsletter, individual connections, Unconference, etc
 - i. Olivia is planning to do a twitter thread. Is there a way we can coordinate between Olivia's (and anyone else who wants to tweet) twitter posts and EFI's twitter posts?
 - ii. Get it out before the Unconference.
 - iii. Develop thread for Twitter together. Have Olivia post, EFI highlight it.
- c. Manuscript Ideas - we will first get the blog post out and see what kind of response we get. Jody is keeping these ideas on here for the future
 - i. Mike Dietze invited the group to consider submitting it to the joint special issue for [Meteorological Applications](#) and [Climate Resilience and Sustainability](#) entitled: **For a future informed by science at the climate-ecology interface**. Deadline is Aug 31 2023

1. We would therefore like to ask you to consider contributing a review, research paper or commentary. This special issue provides a high-profile platform to showcase state-of-the-art research and innovation at the climate-ecology interface with a particular focus on ecological forecasting. Full details of the Special Issue can be found at:
<https://rmets.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/hub/journal/14698080/call-for-papers/si-2022-011060>
- ii. Another option: ESA Bulletin is also a good place for something like this.