November 11, 2024 Education Working Group Call

Attendees: Mary Lofton, Rachel Torres, Antoinette Abeyta, Alyssa Willson, Jody Peters, Jason McLachlan

Agenda/Notes:

1. Story maps - how to create them (Rachel)
   a. Working with 4 students at Cal Poly on mini research project
   b. Students working lit review, looking at what data is available, and working on scientific questions
   c. Students used storymap like powerpoint for a presentation. It wasn't as Rachel envisioned with bringing in maps
   d. Rachel was interested in using the map the students created and the data they have. But can only do that if you add your data to the ArcGIS online dataset.
      i. The interactive maps are cool - but you can only use the ones available in ArcGIS
      ii. Has cool features - like the slide feature across a map to show 2 different views of the map
         ● Can add code snippets
   e. You can also save it as a picture and upload it if you don't want to add your data to the online GIS dataset
   f. Next will have the students explore Google Earth Engine - have them go through the existing resources to learn Google Earth Engine and will let Rachel know if they run into any questions as they go through the resources and to identify if anything is not helpful
   g. How are the students doing with coming up with scientific questions.
      i. Many are interested in climate change, but not domain experts. So Rachel has been finding information for them.
      ii. It has been a fire hose of getting information for the students
      iii. They are asking big questions that are years long of work.
      iv. Need to do presentation in December
      v. If students were able to go into a project that already has question identified then would be easy to focus on picking up the technology
      vi. If there is something in the forest health/fire world, Jason is willing to share with the students.
      vii. Or if there is some other topic that we can bring someone else in EFI to speak to them
      viii. As an undergrad, it can be a mystery about how to ask the scientific question
      ix. Would be good to have guests to help students meet with people who are doing research with applications
         ● Rachel has been meeting with the EFISA group as a way to make those connections

h. Will have a similar project next semester with both Cal Poly Humboldt students and U of New Mexico Gallup students so Rachel will continue to work on this.
i. Rachel is familiarizing herself with what is being done at CPH. It is a very research active community so as Rachel gets more connected there will be opportunities for additional connections.
j. Rachel has been helping the current students think about summer research and will continue to help them towards that
k. Grass GIS is like almost copy right infringement open source version of ARC and is closest to ARC
    i. A big challenge with student and any sort of GIS software is that you have to have a computer and cloud based often requires a lot of internet.
    ii. The students can get the skills to learn it, but having the computer to run the analyses can be hard. If you are trying to do things on a laptop it doesn't always work
    iii. Don't want students to be thinking about computational issues at the beginning
l. Uploading data to the cloud without being able to provide the metadata you want to is an issue that limits what can be done.

2. Code Review Blog Post Text (Jody)
a. Went through the draft text. Notes are in the draft text from the discussion on the call
b. Timeline - people can work on it during November and December
    i. Want to share it with Quinn to get input. He is traveling in November, so will check in with him in December
    ii. Jody will share it with the Theory group on their Dec call
    iii. Goal is to have a final-ish draft ready for review on the January call

3. Developing scaffolding material to help people in the EFI community know what code is available in the [EFI GitHub repo](#)
a. Project - can add a description that is more useful for the EFI project
b. Not sure if there is an overall ReadMe
c. Could make repo that is a guide to resources
d. It is possible to do a collection of code repos in Zenodo - could do one bin in Zenodo to see all the code that is published from EFI.
    i. Community in Zenodo
    ii. Provide benchmarks of the code
e. GitHub repository option
    i. https://docs.github.com/en/organizations/collaborating-with-groups-in-organizations/customizing-your-organizations-profile