

Spotty Rain Advisory Board Meeting

1st March 2019



Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Introduction of Team
 - a. Grant Team
 - b. Advisory Board
3. Project update
 - a. What have we done achieved thus far?
 - b. What do we want to achieve next?
 - c. What we hope to do together?
4. Discussion

NSF Program: Advancements in Informal STEM Learning, DRL-1811506

Title: Enhancing the Capacity for Rural Libraries to Engage the Public in Drought Science, Monitoring, and Adaptation

Length: 5 years, June 2018-June 2023

Where: 90 Rural libraries in Oklahoma, Colorado, and Nebraska (and Iowa)

What: Professional development webinar, Materials (poster, drought infographic booklet), and Library programs



Project Objectives



- To enhance the capacity for rural libraries to engage their communities in citizen science opportunities.
- To explore the social contexts for STEM learning and community participation in volunteer drought monitoring.
- To design and pilot educational materials that translate scientific knowledge about drought in useful and usable ways.

Grant Team

Co-PIs:

Dr. Nicole Colston, Environmental Science

Dr. Tataleni I. Asino, Educational Technology

GRAs:

Ayodeji Ibukun, Educational Technology

Meghan Martin, Environmental Science



Advisory Board

Drought Science

Deke Arndt, NOAA

Tyson Ochsner, Oklahoma State University

Rural and Small Libraries

Keliann LaConte, NASA/STARNet

Michael Hull, SE Public Library System of Oklahoma

ISE Research & Evaluation

Sue Allen, Maine Math and Science Alliance

Rodney Hopson (external evaluator), University of Illinois

Project Update

Year One milestones include Phase 1 participant recruitment, exploratory needs assessment, and educational media design.

Design research protocols

Initiate participant recruitment

Conduct exploratory research

Design professional development workshop

What we have achieved?

1st Quarter - **What just happened?**

Getting to know each other, Identifying GRAs, and IRB/Evaluation

2nd Quarter - **What is a rural, small library?**

Attended ARSL, MPLA, and NE Library Association Conferences, Build database and contact lists, and Making friends in OK and beyond

3rd Quarter - **What are we adding to the conversation?**

Posters for AISL PI, CitSci, and OK Governor's Water Conference, the FabLab AR Rain Gauge, and Building website resources/map

What is next?

More Situational Analysis/Refine Research Protocols

Interviews and focus groups with rural librarians aimed at assessing their needs and interests related to the project

***Oklahoma Library Association Exhibit Table (Mar 13 -15) in Norman, OK**

Professional Development Webinar (with CoCoRaHS/NDMC)

To introduce the resources necessary for training volunteer drought monitors and supporting citizen science practices and processes

***Make Your Own Report**

What we hope to do together...

Annual Meeting (including one visit)

Provide Feedback and Formal Advice for Evaluation
Opportunities for Collaborative Research Work

Focused Input (as needed)

Informal Guidance on Project Implementation & Research
Making Connections for Innovation and Broader Impact

Research Questions

RQ1: What professional development opportunities and resource materials help rural libraries to engage their communities in citizen science opportunities?

RQ2: How do librarians tap into the web of relationships and dense social networks in rural spaces (across generations, cultures, community sectors, etc.)?

RQ3: In what ways do rural communities engage with citizen science programs at the library (e.g. entry points for STEM, economy, motivations/attitudes/behaviors)?

RQ4: Does the Spotty Rain improve the communication of science-based knowledge about drought risks, impacts, and adaptive technologies?



Thank you!

Looking forward to working together

