

EPSCoR ANNUAL SCIENCE CONFERENCE



APRIL 10, 2014, NORMAN, OK



8:30 AM - REGISTRATION (LOBBY)

This 2014 EPSCoR Annual Science Conference will directly engage the broad, interdisciplinary team in decisions and updates related to the research mission of our NSF EPSCoR grant. Focus Area I (Socio-ecological Observatory) will be highlighted.

8:45 AM - OPENING SESSION (AUDITORIUM)

WELCOME - DR. JIM WICKSTED (15 MIN)

Jim will welcome the EPSCoR team and any visitors to the conference. He will introduce the staff of the Oklahoma EPSCoR office and describe their job duties so that the research team knows who to contact for questions that may arise. He also will introduce our evaluator, Cindi Dunn, and briefly describe her role.

CONTEXT SETTING, NEW MEMBERS - DR. ALICIA KNOEDLER (15 MIN)

Alicia will overview the context for this meeting and the ground rules for active participation. She also will introduce our newly hired EPSCoR faculty members and will ask that post-docs, graduate students, and undergraduate students introduce themselves.

OVERVIEW - DRS. RENEE MCPHERSON & DUNCAN WILSON (15 MIN)

Renee and Duncan will outline the agenda for the day and explain the desired outcomes.

9:30 AM - SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH UPDATES & DISCUSSION (AUDITORIUM)

M-SISNET - DRS. CAROL SILVA & HANK JENKINS-SMITH (60 MIN)

Hank and Carol will overview the development of the M-SISNet, discussing its current status (e.g., sampling techniques, recruiting sample participants, survey instruments) and outlining future plans. They will also present preliminary results from our first wave of survey respondents. For active discussion, we will talk about future directions of the M-SISNet, including progress toward recruiting the oversample for the five special study areas, possible topics for a recurring battery of experiments and special purpose questions, and additional sources of external data that may be of potential value to EPSCoR team members.

10:30 AM BREAK & POSTER SESSION (HALLWAY)

11:00 AM - SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH UPDATES & DISCUSSION (AUDITORIUM)

PUBLIC POLICY RESEARCH - DRS. GLEN KRUTZ, JACK FRIEDMAN, AND BETH CANIGLIA (30 MIN)

Glen, Jack, and Beth will share examples of how water-allocation related hypotheses, stakeholder interviews, and ethnographic work has been tested or conducted in other water basins. For active discussion, we will provide suggestions and ideas about how to incorporate appropriate hypotheses, methods, and questions in the research areas of our Oklahoma EPSCoR project.

WATER RESEARCH IN OKLAHOMA CITY - DR. TRACY BOYER (20 MIN)

Tracy will overview research being conducted in Oklahoma City to value ecosystem services. She will discuss opportunities for EPSCoR collaborators to engage with this research.

12:00 PM LUNCH (CONFERENCE ROOM)

LUNCH IS SERVED (15 MIN)

Yummy lunch options will be available for the conference participants. Grab your lunch and find a seat for the discussion.

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CYBERINFRASTRUCTURE ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION – JONAH DUCKLES, MARK STACY, GEORGE LOUTHAN, AND HENRY NEEMAN (60 MIN)
During lunch, Jonah, Mark, George, and Henry will lead a roundtable discussion on EPSCoR-related cyberinfrastructure. Topics will include the OneOklahoma Cyberinfrastructure Initiative and how EPSCoR team members can get involved, plans for data access and long-term data stewardship, and integrating informatics into complex data- and computing-intensive research challenges through embedding experts into research teams and providing mentorship.

1:15 PM BREAK & POSTER SESSION (HALLWAY)

1:45 PM NATURAL SCIENCE RESEARCH UPDATES & DISCUSSION (AUDITORIUM)

STREAMFLOW MONITORING – DR. BOB PULS (20 MIN)
Bob will summarize the status of current stream gauge deployment in the state, what they measure, and how that is accomplished and provided to users. For active discussion, we will talk about where to best locate these new stream gauges given stakeholder input and the objectives of the EPSCoR project. Some options for location selection and deployment will be presented as well as project constraints and limitations. Detailed discussion will later occur in the Collaborative Exercise.

GROUNDWATER MONITORING – DR. DAVE ENGLE (30 MIN)
Dave will overview EPSCoR's role in expanding automated real-time groundwater monitoring, a program jointly operated by Oklahoma Mesonet and the Oklahoma Water Resources Board. He will have an opportunity to ask questions of our Mesonet and OWRB partners. For active discussion, we will explore options for location selection and deployment given the constraints and limitations. Detailed discussion will later occur in the Collaborative Exercise.

THE WATER PORTAL – MARK STACY & DESMOND HO (20 MIN)
Mark and Desmond will demonstrate a publicly accessible water data web portal, developed by the Oklahoma Water Survey in collaboration with EPSCoR. The portal provides a central location for water resource information for use by the public and water resource managers. The demonstration will provide a general overview of the current web portal, featuring water data search, data availability, data type, output formats, and the web portal's dashboard functionality. There will be time for discussion and questions as well as suggestions for improvements and enhancements.

3:00 PM COLLABORATIVE EXERCISE (AUDITORIUM)

OVERVIEW – DR. DUNCAN WILSON (15 MIN)
Duncan will overview a framework to tightly weave the social and ecological observatories through strategic research questions.

PANEL – DRS. JACK FRIEDMAN, CHRIS ZOU, JOE RIPBERGER, DAVE SHIDELER, & RENEE MCPHERSON (75 MIN)
Using GIS mapping and flipboards, we will overview the development of observatory sites, discuss current and planned activities in the intensive study regions, and envision how our collaborations can be enhanced to break the "silos" of knowledge between disciplines and institutions as we mature in the EPSCoR program.

4:30 PM WRAP UP (AUDITORIUM)

FUTURE MENTORING MEETING – DR. BETH CANIGLIA (15 MIN)
Beth will brief the participants on plans for EPSCoR post-doc mentoring and discuss a future meeting on mentoring activities.

SUMMARY – DRS. RENEE MCPHERSON & DUNCAN WILSON (15 MIN)
Renee and Duncan will summarize the action items from the conference.