

## Steering Committee Meeting - November 10, 2021

Attendees: Tracy, Wendy, Cynthia, Shibu, Betsy, Roslynn, Travis, Melissa, Jennison, Katy, David, Paul, Deb, Rick, Eric

### Action Items from today's meeting:

- **Betsy/Paul** -Continue developing operating protocols/processes; Melissa will join them in this work beginning in January
- **Deb** - Update the NECI "About Us" web page to include the new SC members
- **Ros/Jennison** - Look at poll results concerning new meetings schedule and send recommendations to the SC.
- **Ros** - Create short descriptions for member and professional development meetings; send to SC for feedback.
- **Paul** - Draft a response to APLU regarding lack of climate crisis content.
- **Paul** - Send emails to folks interested in serving on committees.

### 1. Welcome and Introductions - New Steering Committee Members (Wendy)

- See bottom of notes for more info on each new member.
- Travis Burke
- Shibu Kar
- Rick Schumann
- Cynthia Nazario-Leary
- Katy Hintzen
- Hans Schmitz - unable to attend today's meeting - will meet him at Dec. meeting

### 2. Updates on Action Items from Previous SC Meeting (Ros, Paul, Wendy)

- Create descriptions of the member meeting and the professional development meeting.
  - i. Ros will do this. She will send out to the SC for any edits
- Add missed agenda items (in red, below) to the next meeting.
- **Ros** - create a zoom poll for the next member meeting (Nov 4) asking folks about times/dates/etc.for separate member and professional development meetings.
  - i. The poll has been conducted and we will look at the results at a later meeting. Ros and Jennison will look at the results and send out a recommendation to the SC
- **Paul** - communicate with folks who want to be on subcommittees.
  - i. Paul is drafting an email right now. He will send it to the SC for thoughts/edits. Initial email now with more details to follow. Committees will meet at the beginning of the year. This timing coincides with the new hires. New postdoc starts just after the new year; Jennison has a .25 time climate communications fellow working starting soon for 1 year
- **Wendy** - communicate with folks who want to be on the steering committees.

### 3. NECI Protocols (Paul, Betsy)

- As of 11-9-21 not made any more additions to this document.
- See the draft document "[NECI SC SOP.](#)"
  - i. NECI has over 650 members now, and we now have national influence.
  - ii. Betsy has taken the lead on this document and she and Paul (and Melissa after the first of the year) will continue to flesh it out. Everyone can access it and make suggestions.

#### 4. WSU Extension Climate Team Meeting (Tracy)

- Here are the topics we covered - I know everyone was curious what we would be doing on the State level.
  - Washington all-extension training - we acquired materials from ROS for a starting point
  - Building connections to other systems and institutions to poise extension to be both a conduit of information and training for the public (prevention)
  - Liaison with groups that need to partner with specific counties which will experience high climate change impact i.e. coastal communities and those DEI/climate justice issues (mitigation)
  - Extension can be available for emergency networks including EDEN and Health Sciences/CDC (readiness and alerts)
  - Reported on large (and small) projects in the works or grants that are climate/extension related”
    - Leadership decided to form a Washington State climate team.
    - Main goal was to drill down on what it will look like at a state level.
    - Get all Extension staff trained on climate topics. See how it impacts various units.
    - Sea Grant attended (different university) - connections have already started.
    - Will take a bit of refining to see who needs what information and when.
    - Other potential partners - Migrant worker groups, non-profits
    - Have made a lot of progress in a short time. Please feel free to emulate this.

#### 5. Do we want to make a statement to APLU about the lack of climate change language?

- Paul will draft this response
- David - Whatever we can do to engage in dialogue with APLU is welcome
- Ros - call out our concern about the omission and also invite them to respond
- Offer to collaborate with APLU to craft language about the response to the climate crisis.
- Rick - don't use acronyms, jargon - communicate cleanly and clearly.

#### Meeting Chat

09:01:40 From Betsy Newman (WRDC) to Everyone:

Good morning! Welcome all. Good to have you here today.

09:01:50 From Western Rural Development Center to Everyone:

Meeting Notes are at  
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1UA5mTbeX4Qqc9Ls-rxO37nsg2v57ydjTdMbiTh0aBw4/edit>

09:01:56 From Betsy Newman (WRDC) to Everyone:

David! Welcome back from COP.

09:03:37 From David Kay to Everyone:

Thanks, Betsy. 😊

09:05:31 From Jennison Kipp (she/her) to Everyone:

Yes, welcome back, David! So great to have had a NECI representative at COP26 and can't wait to hear all you learned - and shared!

09:17:34 From Jennison Kipp (she/her) to Everyone:

We are big Sea Grant fans!

09:23:45 From David Kay to Everyone:

Just wanted to note that Coming Together for Racial Understanding was just recognized with a National Diversity in Extension Award: "The National Diversity Award recognizes significant contributions and accomplishments in achieving and sustaining diversity and pluralism. The Coming Together for Racial Understanding Team, comprised of Extension specialists and administrators from 22 land-grant universities from 17 states, and other national representatives, is the winner of the National Diversity Award. The team helped train facilitators who guided community dialogues across the country around issues of race and discrimination."

09:28:04 From Melissa Ocana to Everyone:

Here are notes from our discussion on that Member meetings - non recorded, community building, sharing updates, subcommittees and advancing action items

Professional development meetings - recorded, webinar or sharing speaker, with discussion following

09:28:17 From Jennison Kipp (she/her) to Everyone:

Thank you, Melissa!

09:28:50 From Jennison Kipp (she/her) to Everyone:

And Thank you, Ros!

09:31:45 From Betsy Newman (WRDC) to Everyone:

Wendy, could you share with all of us the email addresses of our new SC members?

09:31:55 From Jennison Kipp (she/her) to Everyone:

Could all "new" members please drop your name and preferred email contact in the chat?  
Thanks!

09:31:59 From Wendy Hamilton to Everyone:

Sure

09:32:14 From Wendy Hamilton to Everyone:

climatetilter@gmail.com

09:32:29 From Wendy Hamilton to Everyone:

That was Richard Schumann

09:32:34 From Cynthia Nazario-Leary (she/her) to Everyone:

Cynthia Nazario-Leary [cnazarioleary@ufl.edu](mailto:cnazarioleary@ufl.edu)

09:33:31 From Wendy Hamilton to Everyone:

[Cnazarioleary@ufl.edu](mailto:Cnazarioleary@ufl.edu)

09:34:18 From Wendy Hamilton to Everyone:

Katy - [hintzen@hawaii.edu](mailto:hintzen@hawaii.edu)

09:34:31 From Katy Hintzen to Everyone:

[hintzen@hawaii.edu](mailto:hintzen@hawaii.edu)

09:37:45 From Jennison Kipp (she/her) to Everyone:

Here is the APLU Guest Post from Jack Payne (7 Dec 2015):  
<https://www.aplu.org/news-and-media/blog/guest-post-jack-payne-on-why-land-grant-universities-must-lead-on-climate-science>

09:37:50 From Paul Lachapelle (he/him) to Everyone:

Our University President is the current Board President of the APLU:  
<https://www.aplu.org/news-and-media/News/aplu-announces-2021-board-of-directors-montana-state-university-president-waded-cruzado-to-serve-as-chair>

09:38:13 From Melissa Ocana to Everyone:

Association of Public and Land-grant Universities =APLU

09:39:15 From Jennison Kipp (she/her) to Everyone:

Also, Jack Payne - again, now retired from his role as Senior VP of UF/IFAS - is a former chair of APLU's BAA Policy Board of Directors

09:40:42 From Melissa Ocana to Everyone:

Agreed on that one - I've long been in the climate adaptation community, but I'm still pretty new to extension and land grant lingo too. So much alphabet soup!

09:40:59 From Betsy Newman (WRDC) to Everyone:

Jack Payne also served as Utah State University's VP for Extension and during that time was the Chair of the WRDC's Board of Directors. I mention this as he has a good national scope of Extension and APLU.

09:41:09 From Paul Lachapelle (he/him) to Everyone:

Here is the sample email: I will also send by email for your comments:  
Hello Colleagues,

On behalf of the NECI Steering Committee, I would like to extend our appreciation for expressing interest in our new National Extension Climate Initiative Committee work.

While we expect this Sub-Committee to draft and work on what ever strategies they feel most appropriate, we do anticipate this committee to work broadly on the following topics:

Communications Committee:

- Help to facilitate internal and external communications;
- Connect and partner with existing climate communication experts;
- Investigate strategies to integrate Extension communications with new stakeholders.

We will be in touch before the New Year and anticipate the first committee in January to hit the ground running with monthly meetings as per times that are convenient to you all.

Again, many thanks for your interest and commitment and stay tuned for more information.

-Paul

09:41:20 From Melissa Ocana to Everyone:

Hans presented recently at our monthly meeting on NC3!

09:41:29 From Jennison Kipp (she/her) to Everyone:

Action Item: create a glossary of NECI-relevant acronyms - so we can share (and avoid using) them!

09:41:30 From Roslynn McCann to Everyone:

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1EIKnpt15gqpojRmp0drm55Y\\_h1cs4sIVd8sYDxPcc/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1EIKnpt15gqpojRmp0drm55Y_h1cs4sIVd8sYDxPcc/edit?usp=sharing)

09:43:22 From ENORLAND to Everyone:

I had to step away. Apologies. I'm back. For new members: I'm Eric Norland, USDA-NIFA, National Science Liaison, Environment and Natural Resources. I'm the NIFA liaison to NECI and the ECOP Climate Change Priority Action Team.

09:45:03 From Rick Schumann to Everyone:

Can someone send out the chat in an email. I'm on my phone and can't save all of the good links and comments.

09:46:06 From Betsy Newman (WRDC) to Everyone:

Rick, we will post the chat in the minutes from today's meeting. That can be found here:  
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1UA5mTbeX4Qqc9Ls-rxO37nsg2v57ydjTdMbiTh0aBw4/edit>

09:46:23 From Melissa Ocana to Everyone:

Betsy - I'm having to work on and look more at SOP after Thanksgiving!

09:46:49 From Betsy Newman (WRDC) to Everyone:

Wonderful, Melissa! Happy to have your input on this important effort.

09:50:16 From Betsy Newman (WRDC) to Everyone:

December guest presenter: Mike Hoffmann, Executive Director Emeritus of the Cornell Institute for Climate Smart Solutions and a fellow at the Cornell Atkinson Center for Sustainability. Giving a presentation based on his new book, "Our Changing Menu: Climate Change and the Foods We Love and Need," and the companion website. Book:  
<https://www.cornellpress.cornell.edu/climate-change-and-its-effect-on-our-food/> Website:  
<https://www.ourchangingmenu.com/>

09:51:05 From Betsy Newman (WRDC) to Everyone:

David and I have made arrangement for Allison Chatrychyan, Cornell, to introduce Mike at the December meeting.

09:51:56 From Katy Hintzen to Everyone:

Nice! I always feel land and sea grant need to collaborate more

09:53:26 From Betsy Newman (WRDC) to Everyone:

Deb, in the coming weeks will you update the NECI website's "About Us" page to include our new SC members?

09:54:22 From Wendy Hamilton to Everyone:

Excellent point Katy - I agree

09:54:55 From David Kay to Everyone:

Betsy, FYI, Mike Hoffman was one of about ten of us from Cornell who attended the COP.

09:55:14 From Rick Schumann to Everyone:

Apologies but I have to go.

09:55:25 From David Kay to Everyone:

Tracy, great to hear about everything leveraged by NECI.

09:55:28 From Betsy Newman (WRDC) to Everyone:

Thank you Rick! Great to see you today.

09:55:39 From David Kay to Everyone:

Sorry I have to head out for another commitment now too.

10:02:10 From Betsy Newman (WRDC) to Everyone:

Happy Thanksgiving!

## New Member Info

### Richard Schumann

Rick is currently a Master Gardener with the UF/IFAS Seminole County Florida Extension;  
He is involved with several climate organizations, most notably as a trained Climate Reality Leader and Mentor with former VP Al Gore's Climate Reality Project;

B.S. in Geological Engineering from the Colorado School of Mines; Rick's professional career has included:

Digital signal processing of seismic data and meteorological modeling in support of Nuclear Test Ban Treaty monitoring;

Developed a system used at Cape Canaveral and Kennedy Space Center to track the diffusion of toxic chemicals in the event of accidental releases; Systems engineering related to radar tracking, telemetry and command of rocket launches at the height of the Space Shuttle Program;

Was lead engineer for design, integration and test of the Weather Forecast Facility at Cape Canaveral and Kennedy Space Center - the most heavily instrumented weather station in the world.

He first became involved with NECI at the April 2021 Forum;

Has been seeking to understand CES and its role in climate change education – something we can all relate to!

Welcome Rick! Plz note his email address - [climatetilter@gmail.com](mailto:climatetilter@gmail.com)

### Shibu Kar

Recently joined Illinois Extension as an Assistant Dean and Program Leader for Natural Resources, Environment and Energy;

Still going through the onboarding process.

He would like to strengthen Illinois Extension Climate Change programming and hopes that his participation through NECI and the SC will be helpful to that goal;

He is pleased to be able to join us;

But is going to be cognizant of overcommitted.

Welcome Shibu!

### Cynthia Nazario-Leary – [cnazarioleary@ufl.edu](mailto:cnazarioleary@ufl.edu)

Dr. Cynthia Nazario-Leary is a University of Florida, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences Environmental Horticulture County Extension Agent.

She has degrees in Landscape Contracting, Horticulture, and Natural Resources & Environmental Management;

She's studied tropical ecosystems, ethnobotany, breadfruit propagation, and native plant agroforestry systems.

She's worked in Extension as an urban horticulture agent in Hawai'i;

Coordinated the Master Gardener Volunteer program, directed urban gardening initiatives, and supported the county's floriculture industry.

After 20 years in Hawai'i, she moved with her family to Gainesville, Florida in 2020,

Hired as a science education and training specialist for the Center for Precollegiate Education & Training at the University of Florida;

She developed and delivered a virtual climate change resiliency summer youth program.

Cynthia is very excited to be back in Extension and looks forward to sharing her passion for communicating science-based information and engaging with the community.

**Katy Hintzen** - [hintzen@hawaii.edu](mailto:hintzen@hawaii.edu)

An Extension Agent with the [University of Hawai'i Sea Grant College Program](#) specializing in coastal resilience;

Also Climate Adaptation Services Liaison with the [Pacific Islands Climate Adaptation Science Center](#).

Her work focuses on helping communities prepare for and adapt to changing climate conditions, coastal hazards, and sea level rise.

Is also the Projects and Partnerships Coordinator for the [Sea Grant Center of Excellence in Integrated Knowledge Systems \(CIKS\)](#) where she works to further more collaborative and equitable partnerships between coastal communities, resource stewards, and researchers across the Pacific Islands region.

Hintzen is a co-author team that developed the [Kūlana Noi'i](#), a publication seeking to build just and generative relationships between researchers and community members

Attends this meeting at 6am Hawaii time.

**Hans Schmitz** Will Introduce Dec 8<sup>th</sup>

Purdue Extension – Posey County [hschmitz@purdue.edu](mailto:hschmitz@purdue.edu)