

**NECC 1011 : Northeast Coordinating Committee
2011 Annual Meeting Minutes
Otesaga Resort, Cooperstown, NY**

Present:

Ben Amsden, Plymouth State University

Linda Kruger, USDA Forest Service

Dennis Propst, Michigan State University, Co-Chair

Erin Seekamp, Southern Illinois University Carbondale (now at North Carolina State University), Co-Chair

Fred Servello, University of Maine, Administrative Advisor

Bill Siemer, Cornell University

Christine Vogt, Michigan State University (remote participation via Skype)

Also present: Lori Barrow, Southern Illinois University Carbondale, graduate research assistant.

April 3

1:00 pm: Introductions (E. Seekamp & D. Propst)

1:15 pm: Update on NECC 1011 (E. Seekamp & D. Propst)

- Groups inception in 2007&2008
 - LOGIC models and CAP proposals in DC
 - multistate projects in outdoor recreation
 - most seem to be agriculture and rural state agriculture/ health
 - Process of developing a project

1:30 pm: Presentation USDA multistate projects: how they work, using them to establish collaborative teams, and need for integration (F. Servello)

- Multistate research
 - experiment stations designed to support agriculture station- in actuality, much for far reaching than that (multidisciplinary approach)
 - expectation to have an outreach education component
 - by law, collaboration among states shall include other state/research facilities and by legislation “open” to various support systems (more than exclusively USDA)
- usually use a development committee in NE they use the coordinating committee
- Within the list of research projects- notice the variability in the titles
 - reflects the true nature of the variability, not like a traditional research project
- Funding: stations have to spend 25% on multistate projects
 - Hatch Act- provided the funding to the stations, wasn't long until they realized they wanted more of a multistate approach (must also be accountable)

- puts you in a position to approach larger projects
- Primary Function
 - people like to talk about a multistate project as being fully integrated as the ideal
 - if you back off what you get is coordination rather than integration
 - some projects will lend themselves to integration
- NE1047: Weed management issues
 - three objectives that are fairly defined.
 - small group whom for the most part all know one another, yet don't really know the true nature and specifics
 - set a base of variables that everyone would measure off of in order to get shared data = coordination with real time awareness
- S1024: Entomopathogens
 - share variables across different studies
 - grasp that 'big picture' and tie it across different studies and variables
- Chestnut project = Multistate excellence award
- outcomes and impacts seemed to be used as accountability measures
 - objectives, milestones, timelines and outreach plans are all important aspects of implementation
- Functions of multistate research project:
 - develop integrated or coordinated research projects w/ extension and education component
 - proposal request to write
 - NERA approval
 - full proposal development and review
 - Assign administrative adviser/USDA rep (accountability and reliance)
 - Synergy!!! (pot of gold- idea of getting more by working together/cooperatively than independently)
 - topics must make sense, excite individuals, cohesive, tactic
- Cohesive and consistency across projects
 - the more diverse you are the more competitive you will be.
 - have dedicated individuals
 - have a means of reporting project participation and keep up on it
 - avoid duplication by networking (interdisciplinary, multi-level)

2 pm: Objective/Sub-objective Updates (Facilitators: E. Seekamp, D. Propst, and F. Servello)

Objectives

1. Substantiate and extend the evidence for the role of park and outdoor recreation services in promoting physical activity and associated preventative health benefits, particularly among youth.

2. Substantiate and extend the evidence for the role of park and outdoor recreation services in promoting environmental literacy among youth, and document the long-term influences of early lifespan connections with nature.

3. Substantiate and extend the evidence for the role of park and outdoor recreation services in promoting community vibrancy and resilience.

- Objectives: when you do the full project proposal the objectives can be changed and modified
 - remodel objectives as 1,2,&3
- Obj. 1B: Environmental literacy: overlap and including it on other objectives.
 - with the request to write, it's not a project yet – must take an action step.
 - concern, if it gets rolled into the other objectives, it may disappear
 - small case study analysis, there is a need for such research
 - practical issue
 - need, much of the literature is old
- What is the projected timeline?
 - Proposals to get work in (including review process) by June 22th?
 - generally due the month before

4:00 pm: Form writing subcommittees & develop plan of action (Facilitators: E. Seekamp, D. Propst, and F. Servello)

- Dividing and allocating whom will take on the various projects (writing teams)
- Community vibrancy and resiliency: inclusive, identifying indicators, inclusion of justification
 - park and recreation magazine
 - Federal documents: identify potential gaps and communities
 - current research & previous research
- Include an outreach component/plan
 - How involved and developed do you want it?
 - capacity and implications of findings, whom can present and use the material
 - Intent bigger than bullets? (outcome...what are you going to get out of this research and what impact will it have)

5:00 pm: Adjourn

April 4

8:00: Writing Team Charge (E. Seekamp & D. Propst)

- Google groups overview
- Writing team subcommittees broke into sessions to work on various objectives

- Christine Vogt included via Skype

8:30 – 12:00 & 12: 00 – 1:30: Writing Committees Breakout Session

1:30: Writing Committee Update

- overview and reporting status of the text changes within the proposal
 - Option: Within the text under each objectives, include subsection titles that include components of objectives for reader ease and clarification
- Linda update on Objective 1
 - literature review with individuals from Oregon State University
 - APA style will be utilized as formatting
 - Placing the cited material in alphabetical order will happen when all cited material is included
- Dennis on Objective 2
 - Working on compiling and reading through literature
 - environmental literacy: two parallels going on
 - Traditional folks whom publish in environmental journals. focus on connection between knowledge and behavior change (complicated, piece-meal, non consistent results)
 - Nontraditional folks within citizen science (democratic science).
 - Science Communication (Journal)
 - Public Understanding of Science (Journal)
 - Potential piece that is missing is how this information relates to recreation

2:45 pm: Methods – which states will participate in which objectives and how?

- Move paragraphs above previous and related to be included within the methods section
- When you think about the methods, it may influence how you approach the topics
 - Need for broad sweeping, inclusive plan
 - the participants will be looking for cues from this section
- Brainstorm
 - Methods: IN: Health (obj. 1)
 - survey, observations, and direct GIS
 - Auditing/ assessment tools (e.g., SOPLAY)
 - Photo elicitation
 - behavior monitoring devices
 - pedometers
 - clinical diagnostic tools (concentration, performance test, cognitive test, clinical depression diagnostic tools, physiological measures (BP, Blood cortisol and immune system function)
 - Experimental design and large scale study

- Meta analysis and identification of unpublished data
- Focus is individual
 - ensure community level is included within objective 3
- Methods: IN: Literacy (2)
 - single case studies
 - Focus on research designs ***
 - focus on study design and then weave into the various other methods
 - will be less past research
 - quantify nature deficit disorder
 - interviews (explicitly state-add)
 - instruments to assess impacts (survey instrument/ research methods)
 - experimental and longitudinal design
 - quasi experimental designs (pro-social behavior)
 - add
 - direct observation
 - pre and post test (measure behavior)
 - ** note, literacy does not necessarily measure behavior change
 - Do we need to expand to literacy and pro environmental behavior??
 - nature-connection-pro-environmental behavior
- Methods: IN: Community (3)
 - variety of qualitative and quantitative measures
 - Testing of instruments
 - participatory action/observation
 - participatory modeling – Scale validation
 - outcomes for individuals, communities, ecological
 - Instruments to measure
 - Economic impacts
 - input/output modeling and counter factual
 - impact analysis
 - willingness to be taxed
 - include examples
 - Social network analysis
 - building resilience
 - resilience in governance
 - Define Community (acknowledge all)
 - communities of place and communities of interest

3:30 pm: Outputs/Outcomes/Projected Impacts Brainstorm (Facilitator: E. Seekamp)

- Outputs

- Are there outputs that are unique to this work?
 - publications: audience, some practitioners
 - presentation and sessions: audience, some practitioners
 - ½ pg syntheses/fact sheet with template
 - outreach to organizations and to program managers
 - methods training-scientists
 - sharing of instruments
- Extension: audiences with websites and publications
 - NARPA, NARP
- Outcomes
 - Outreach
 - add tangibles
 - program managers
 - workshops and webinars
 - identification of other audiences
 - Knowledge
 - Health:
 - add statement regarding outdoor recreation and youth obesity, ADHD, opportunities for outdoor recreation for youth
 - reducing adult stress
 - Focus on physical health benefits
 - condition change: knowledge- recreation- focus-literacy/school overall
 - Statement regarding healthy human habitat, we don't need to do a lot more work establishing that there is a benefit, what we need to know more about are the mechanisms through which these health affects/benefits occur
 - Literacy:
 - link contact with nature and literacy
 - improve knowledge
 - EE programs and literacy
 - literacy and pro environmental behaviors
 - trends in time with unstructured outdoor play
 - Community
 - local community leaders and entrepreneurs awareness
 - tools and methods (10a): researchers and long –term benefits
 - standardized measurements
 - ecological, economic, and social contributions of outdoor recreation to vibrancy and resilience (benefit awareness)
 - community
 - government
 - NGOs

- Actions: Community
 - infrastructure approved by community to respond to new knowledge
 - rec planning revised with increased engagement and related planning documents and policy
 - public participation in the planning process and more engagement in the process itself
 - planning document that incorporates resilience, vibrancy and recreation
 - Forecast recreation visitor volume and trends and appropriate responses
 - linking to economic impact analysis ??
- Conditions
 - Outcomes: Community
 - From NECC1011 Logic Model: (4, 5, 7-10) for #9, delete rural

Possibly introduce a general statement prior to the topics that applies to all community types (scope statement)

- Outcomes: Health: Actions
 - increase in active outdoor recreation (emphasis youth)
 - health education provisions include more outdoor rec (park Rx)
 - outdoor therapy
 - Schools – increase rec programs which would result in healthy lifestyle choices
 - provides the people whom have to justify expenditure a really good reason if they can focus on reducing health care costs
 - Infrastructure increases
 - School youth increased ped/bike transport (20%??)
- Outcomes: Health: Conditions
 - reduce levels of obesity
 - reduce strain on healthcare costs and the system in general
 - Reduce dependence on prescription drugs
 - improved social networks and communities ties
 - Increase work productivity
 - reduction of depression, increase self esteem (psychological benefits and perception)
- Outcomes: Literacy: Action
 - (5)(6a)(7b)
 - Increased funding/focus in curriculum changes
 - experiential EE
 - increased civic engagement in pro environmental behaviors
- Outcomes: Literacy: Conditions
 - greater support for environmental policies (attitude change)
 - increase informed participation in deliberation process
 - informed on tax contributions to natural resource and recreation service delivery management

- increased understanding of land use and land use management planning (increase participatory discussion)
 - open place zoning and use
- awareness of environmental footprint (individual)
 - including recreation footprint

4:00 pm: Milestones Brainstorm (Facilitator: D. Propst)

- Begin with program development and clause/forward as well as all three objectives simultaneously moving forward
 - **2013:** joint grant proposals initiated (flesh out the strategic plan of program(resources, contributors, and funding)-facilitated networking); instrument and scale initiated; website ; increasing participation (hosting a webinar)
 - identify individuals whom are doing work
 - categorize and inventory the projects that are already occurring
 - **participation= recruitment and building ideas, building a constituency**
 - **2014:** grant inquisition (a), acquisition of integrated collaboration and coordination(b), coordination in ongoing research into the strategic plan(c); outreach information dissemination of existing projects(d): reported information- engaged research
 - **2015:** scales and instruments replication(e) + a,b,c,d
 - **2016:** national/ international conference: 3 panels (perspective)+ a,b,c,d,& e
 - **2017:** national/ international conference: 3 panels (perspective)
 - reassess greater program evaluation to determine next multistate project

4:30 pm: Identify Needs & Action Plan (Facilitator: E. Seekamp)

- Identify five potential reviewers
 - Suggestions from extension, people from human health area
 - Dorothy Anderson
 - Original members of the coordinating committee
 - Taylor Stein University of Florida
 - Tom Fish
 - John Dego sp?
 - Steve Selin
 - Sue Stewart
 - Rudy Schuester

5:00 pm - Adjourn