

EREN Workshop Agenda

10:00AM – 11:00AM – Introductory Presentations

EREN Overview – Laurie Anderson

Turtle Project – David Bowne

Permanent Forest Plot Project – Erin Lindquist

Decomposition Project – Carolyn Thomas

11:00AM – 12:00PM – Project Session 1 – Participants choose 1 of 3

12:00PM – 12:45PM – Box lunch (provided) and networking

12:45PM – 1:45PM – Project Session 2 – Participants choose 1 of 3

1:45PM – 2:45PM – New Project Development – Participant ideas

2:45PM – 3:00PM – Wrap Up/Assessment survey



A Research Coordination Network (RCN)
Funded by the NSF Research Coordination Network-
Undergraduate Biology Education Program

The EREN Mission

- To create a model for **collaborative** ecological research that generates high-quality, publishable data involving undergraduate students and faculty at primarily undergraduate institutions (PUIs)



Coordinating undergraduate research across many sites will enhance the scientific and educational value of these activities.

EREN Founders

- Anderson, Laurel - Ohio Wesleyan Univ., OH*
- Bowne, David - Elizabethtown College, PA
- Gartner, Tracy - Carthage College, WI*
- Kuers, Karen - Sewanee: The Univ. of the South, TN*
- Downing, Amy - Ohio Wesleyan Univ., OH
- Dosch, Jerald - Macalester College, MN
- Hoopes, Martha - Mount Holyoke College, MA
- Hornbach, Dan - Macalester College, MN
- Johnson, David - Ohio Wesleyan Univ., OH
- Lindquist, Erin - Meredith College, NC*
- Machado, Jose-Luis - Swarthmore College, PA*
- O'Reilly, Catherine - Bard College, NY
- Pohlad, Bob - Ferrum College, VA*
- Simmons, Jeffrey - Mount St. Mary's Univ., MD*
- LoGiudice, Kathleen - Union College, NY
- Shea, Kathy - St. Olaf College, MN
- Thomas, Carolyn - Ferrum College, VA*
- Woods, Kerry - Bennington College, VT

The EREN Founders are
18 scientist-educators from
14 PUI institutions.

* = Grant Co-PI



Some of EREN's Founders meeting at Ohio Wesleyan University, March 2009



EREN now includes 53 institutions across the USA and Canada!

Specific Goals of EREN

- Develop collaborative research projects among PUIs that work for scientists with significant teaching responsibilities
- Enhance the roles of PUI scientists and their students in existing and emerging ecological research networks
- Maximize student engagement in authentic science while generating publication quality data
- Develop team-taught, continental ecology course modules using the data from the PUI network
- Create an online database for the PUI network

What will EREN provide?

- Models for collaborative ecological projects at PUIs
- Opportunities to participate in and develop publishable collaborative projects using the EREN model
- Opportunities to meet and network about collaborative research with other PUI faculty (travel funds provided)
- Professional development opportunities to learn new research techniques
- Protocols for integrating EREN projects into teaching
- Website for PUI datasets and protocols
- Note: EREN has funds only for Founder pilot projects

CHIEF Acronym for EREN Research

CHIEF projects are:

- Collaborative
- High Impact science and education
- Ecological or environmental research
- Feasible for all kinds of institutions

What is EREN doing now?

- Developing pilot collaborative projects to see what works for PUI faculty and students.
- Testing a data sharing and authorship policy model for collaborative projects.
- Inviting EREN members to use our network to find collaborators and develop collaborative grant proposals.
- Today's workshop will introduce three pilot projects for EREN members to join, and invite participants to start developing ideas for their own projects.

Example: EREN Pilot Project Underway

Effects of riparian vegetation on stream temperature

Lead Scientist: Dr. Jeff Simmons, Mount St. Mary's Univ.

- 12 participating institutions, in a North-South gradient from PA to NC and East-West out to British Columbia
- Objective: To quantify the extent and nature of change in stream temperature regime caused by vegetated riparian zones over a wide geographic range.
- Data collection began June 1, 2011 with data-loggers installed in vegetated and unvegetated stream reaches at each site.

EREN Pilot Projects Launching Today

- Turtle Mark and Recapture Study (TurtlePop)
- Permanent Forest Plots Project
- Decomposition of invasive and native plants in terrestrial and aquatic habitats.

- The PLAN: Listen to the project descriptions, choose one project session to attend before lunch, choose a second session after lunch.

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