

FALCON Faculty/Staff Presentations

Thursday, October 22, 2020

1:30pm – 2:45pm ET

12:30pm – 1:45pm CT

11:30am – 12:45pm MT

10:30am – 11:45am PT

1	Title	Presenters	Institution/Organization
	Building Soil Health Necessary for Increased Food Production - Year 2	Sue Menzel	Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwe College

ABSTRACT

In this presentation, will provide background and updates to the three-year College Farm's research project after two growing seasons, using various soil restorative and maintenance practices. In addition to the methods implemented in 2019, on three acres of farm land (the fourth was eliminated from study, but unofficial cover crop study is ongoing in that parcel), in 2020, three crops were added to selected sections, of which samples will be sent to UW-Madison for macro genomic analysis providing data on current nutritional "infusions" into the crops from the soil. Results from their cultivation will be shared. Will present any changes observed and whether there are definite changes in soil properties that are or are not contributing to restoration of the soil at the farm. Will speak to modifications due to observations and results of soil analyses and/or methods. Three years for such a research project are not enough to restore soil with more than centuries of challenges; however, even in this small amount of time there are patterns emerging which will be recognized and will assist in developing sound strategies, implementing practices and providing guidance for future soil restoration and increasing capacity for growing food for the community.

2	Title	Presenters	Institution/Organization
	Ecological restoration of native plant communities in forests and woodlands on the Navajo Nation	Bryan Neztosie	Dine' College

ABSTRACT

The Diné College Land Grant, in collaboration with Northern Arizona University, have a proposed research project to determine evidence of ecological restoration of native vegetation after implementing ecological restoration thinning prescriptions in dense pinyon, and ponderosa pine forest on the Navajo Nation. To Strengthen collaborations with research institution to improve technical support systems to implement research. As well as, Increase the capacity of staff, faculty and students to participate in applied research. The long-term goal is to determine

evidence of ecological restoration of native vegetation after implementing ecological restoration thinning prescriptions in dense pinyon, juniper, and ponderosa pine forest on the Navajo Nation.

3	Title	Presenters	Institution/Organization
	Land Grant STEAM Equity Project	Filiberto Vecenti	Dine' College

ABSTRACT

The purpose of this Equity Project to develop and create Navajo infused Educational teaching modules: Curricula design and material development; Faculty development and teacher preparation; Student experiential learning; Student recruitment and retention; Instructional delivery systems and strategic partnership. The design of this program is in two-parts; 1) to prepare interdisciplinary science students for entry-level positions in food, agriculture, natural resources and human sciences through a 5-week summer STEM Curriculum development program in collaboration with Center of Dine Teacher Education. 2) Provide continuing educational professional development workshops for Navajo Nation teachers to integrate STEAM into their curriculum/lessons. Increase youth participation in STEAM related activities through Dine College. Findings of recent phases of this Equity project is making an impact on moving forward with improving project management; Keeping STEAM Team on course, defining the project goals and objectives, creating deadline, and working with sufficient team skills. In conclusion, the project will incorporate multiple evaluations to monitor the progress and efficacy of the program. The project will include school outreach activities, advisory meetings, teacher workshops, and k-12 summer student programs.

4	Title	Presenters	Institution/Organization
	Coming Together for Racial Understanding-Oklahoma	Mekko Tyner	College of the Muscogee Nation

ABSTRACT

Coming Together for Racial Understanding (CTRU) is a national effort that began in late 2016, when the Extension Committee on Operations and Policy (ECOP) formed a Rapid Response Team. The team was to examine the capacity of Cooperative Extension Services (CES) ability to respond to the need of civil dialogue on racial understanding and healing. The objectives are to build capacity within the CES system in the home state and facilitate community dialogues within the state. CTRU train-the-trainer workshops have been underway for two years (2018 and 2019) to build capacity. The intensive five-day training was designed to prepare teams of at least three individuals from Land-Grant Universities (1860/1890/1994) to conduct trainings to CES in their home state. The College of the Muscogee Nation (CMN) participated in the 2019 train-the-trainer in Minneapolis, Minnesota along with representatives from Oklahoma State University (1860) and Langston University (1890). CTRU Oklahoma team is one of twenty-six (26) states that have participated in the training. Thirteen (13) states have sent multi-institutional state teams

(1862/1890/1994). Oklahoma is the only state with all three types of Land-Grant Universities. CTRU-OK began initial planning the final day of training in Minnesota. Once back in Oklahoma, the team members met via zoom. CTRU-OK presented a workshop at the OSU Extension 2020 Biennial Conference in Stillwater, Oklahoma. The first two-day training is planned for November 2020 (Native American Heritage Month) in Okmulgee, Oklahoma the capital of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. The second two-day training is set for February 2021 (Black History Month) on the Langston campus.

5	Title	Presenters	Institution/Organization
	In Support of 1862 and 1994 Extension Collaborations: Furthering Our Work Together	Katherine Hartmann & Ashley Stokes	Colorado State University

ABSTRACT

In 2016, a group of 1862 and 1994 Land Grant Institutions (LGIs) met to discuss collaborations and mutual goals. That meeting concluded with six action items, including the 5th that read, “Develop more opportunities for 1994s and 1862s to gather, plan, and coordinate. This could take the form of a partnership conference at the multi-state or multi-institutional level.” Then, in April 2019, at the Western Extension Director’s Association Meeting, a Summit entitled Collaborations Across Cultures, was held with 1862 Extension Directors to further discuss how they could better collaborate with 1994 LGIs and Indigenous communities in their states. Furthering this mission, at last year’s FALCON conference, a pre-conference meeting was held entitled, Culturally-Grounded Programming: Sharing and Learning among 1994 and 1862 Land Grant Institutions, that brought together Extension educators from 1862 and 1994 LGIs from around the country to continue the discussion. I compiled the feedback from the participants at the pre-conference meeting last year and found major themes regarding educator’s best practices and the largest barriers that they face. Additionally, and as part of the Collaborations Across Cultures effort, my dissertation research focused on 1862 Extension educators that currently collaborate with Indigenous communities and their lived experiences and recommendations as well. The overlaps between the findings from the last FALCON conference and this research will be discussed. Last, we will offer suggestions for moving forward with this larger mission from all of the participants as we move forward with our shared goals. Katie Hartmann and Dr. Ashley Stokes will be presenting this work together.

6	Title	Presenters	Institution/Organization
	Rangeland Precipitation Monitoring Tools	Helena Deswood	USDA-ARS

ABSTRACT

The mission of the U.S. Department of Agriculture Climate Hubs is to develop and deliver science-based, region-specific information and technologies, with USDA agencies and partners, to agricultural and natural resource managers that enable climate-informed decision-making, and to provide access to assistance to implement those decisions.

Effective rangeland management practices also incorporate precipitation monitoring. The amount of precipitation affects rangeland forage production. Several tools have been developed to help agricultural producers and land managers in their decision making in their rangeland management. Here, are two low-cost measurement tools are available, CoCoRaHS (Community Collaborative Rain, Hail and Snow) Network and myRAINge Log. CoCoRaHS is a community-based network of citizen scientists working together to measure and map rain, hail, and snow. The myRAINge Log was developed for ranchers and land managers to collect, manage, and use precipitation observation to support management decisions.

7	Title	Presenters	Institution/Organization
	Enhancing the quality of sheep wool, meat and livestock meat markets for Navajo producers through applied research	Felix Nez	Diné College

ABSTRACT

Diné College, Land Grant Office focuses on “Enhancing the quality of sheep wool, meat and livestock meat markets for Navajo producers through applied research.” Our purpose is re-interpretation of 3 years, qualitative research method by adapting genetic change in a sheep-breeding project. Diné College extension program please to share framework for 10 Dine sheep producers that analyze the change of sheep wool and meat quality over a three-year period of data. This data examines the South African Meat Merino (SAMM) sheep breed the insights to strategic improvement of wool fibers and carcass quality. Diné College, Land Grant Office discuss how research can potentially connect markets in a cooperative approach for sheep producers by development of quality animals.