

Education and Community Outreach Committee
November 27, 2023 – 3:00 pm Central Time via Zoom
<https://utsa.zoom.us/j/9013659006>

Attendance- Pedro Lomonaco (*Oregon State University—HWRL*), Matt Schoettler (*University of California, Berkeley—SimCenter*), Candace Evans (*University of Colorado, Boulder—CONVEREGE*), Karissa Alarcon (*University of California, Davis, CGM*), Stephanie Paal (*Texas A&M University—User Forum*), Kurt Gurley (*University of Florida, BLWT*), Eric Salna (*Florida International University—Wall of Wind*), Joe Saunders (*Lehigh University—RTMD*), Karina Vielma (*University of Texas at San Antonio—NCO*), Robin Nelson (*University of Texas at San Antonio—NCO*)

ECO Updates

- October Meeting Minutes approved.
- **ACTION ITEM:** Hedda Prochaska is happy to help your site revamp their NHERI DesignSafe website. FIU has been working with her bi-weekly over the last semester to fully redesign their website. [Check out their new look](#). She is happy to help with small scale editions or changes as well as taking on a full redesign over the course of a semester or more. **Please contact her via Slack or email for more information or to schedule a session (hedda@tacc.utexas.edu).**

NHERI REU Summer Program

Important 2024 NHERI REU Summer Program Dates

- ***NHERI REU Information Session Dates:***
 - *December 12, 5:00 pm CST*
 - *January 23, 5:00 pm CST*
- ***April 23, NHERI REU ECO Meet & Greet***
- ***May 31, NHERI REU Mentor Training***
- ***June 3 - August 9 — Block 1***
- ***June 17 – August 23 —Block 2***
- ***August 5 – REU Research Symposium Virtual Practice 8:00 am - 6:00 pm CST.***
- ***August 7 & 10 REU Travel Days***
- ***August 8 - 9 — NHERI REU Research Symposium hosted by UCSD LHPOST***

Report—

- NHERI DesignSafe— 6 complete; 40 recorded; 79 in progress
- NSF ETAP— 1 complete
- **November 24 Info Session:** 8 attendees, 11 sign-ups, 21 views
- 2023 NHERI REU Summer Program: Student Projects published, but several projects are still incomplete. Your help would be greatly appreciated (UF, OSU, UCSD, UW).
- **December 12 Info Session:** 9 registered so far.
- Continuing to email MSI contacts and others about REU application.

Next Steps—

- Create an REU program video. Your ideas and suggestion are highly encouraged. If you have any photos or video clips you would like to share, we may be able to use them.

NHERI Summer Institute

Important 2024 NHERI Summer Institute Dates

- ***NHERI Summer Institute Information Sessions:***
 - *December 5, 4:00 pm CST*
 - *January 9, 5:00 pm CST*
 - *February 13, 5:00 pm CST*
- ***TBD, NHERI Summer Institute Preparation Date***
- ***Wednesday- Friday, June 12-14, 2023***

Report—

- 4 completed applications, 13 in progress

- **November 7 Info Session:** 6 attendees, 6 sign-ups, 15 views
- Emailed half of NHERI network and MSIs

Next Steps—

- Share letter via NHERI Communication announcement.
- Continue to work with K-12 teachers from 2023 Summer Institute to implement lesson plans.
- Finalize Summer Institute itinerary with ECO Committee

NHERI Graduate Student Council

Important Dates

- **October 27- NHERI GSC DEI Culture Competency Workshop @ 11:00 am- 1:00 pm CST**
- **October 27-29, NHERI GSC Election (Chairs and Vice Chairs of Standing Committees)**
- **November 3- NHERI GSC Executive Committee Meeting @ 11:00 am – 12:00 pm CST**
- **October 17- NHERI GSC General Meeting @ 11:00 am- 12:00 pm CST with Tim Cockerill**

Report—

- NHERI GSC is actively recruiting new members for fall 2024. Please share this information with your graduate students: https://bit.ly/NHERI_GSCouncil.
- **Executive Committee Meeting:** December 1, 2023
- **Holiday Social:** December 17, 2023
- Committee sent proposal over the break to Lori Peek to support NHERI GSC attendance at 2024 Natural Hazards Workshop
- Writing an IRB on cultural competence research for DEI Standing Committee with Karina

Next Steps—

- Vote on User Forum rep. term length 12/3 Executive Committee and 12/15 General Members
- Ian is set to present the third edition of the NHERI Science Plan, January 19, 2024

CIMER Communication Training

- From October- recall making expectations clear (first meeting)
 - Align expectations with mentee (first meeting worksheet)
 - Develop milestones for expectations (check in often)
 - Clarify how students can communicate with you throughout the mentoring relationship (When? How? For what?)
- **Question- What is your biggest mentoring challenge?** The text below are the responses we received in chat:
 - Having students be fully engaged in virtual meetings.
 - Disparities between students' background/interest
 - Lack of continuity of skills/background among the 3 REUs makes giving them group assignments challenging.
 - The student did not communicate challenges or progress well, and I misunderstood this for an all-is-well sign, when in fact they were had not progressed or understood what was needed.
 - No, NHERI REU student experience for me, but in general, just insufficient ability to communicate in a research-based environment.
 - Students have multiple mentors, me, another UW faculty or staff mentor and a non-UW project specific mentor. It is always a challenge to make sure that they are getting timely support from one or more of these individual.
 - Their ability to cope with stress and demanding environment while still have to attend virtual REU meetings.
- **Question- How do you know if there is a problem with your mentee and how did you discover it?** Members shared the following responses aloud:
 - Broke down crying – emotion expressions.
 - Consistently late to meetings/missing meetings
 - Other mentors contacted – communication between mentors.
 - Stopped attending without communicating (avoidance)
 - Students are not present in office/lab.
 - Certain behaviors

- **Statements to Consider- Just because a mentee does not complain, it does not mean he/she/they is/are not struggling.**
 - How do you know if something is wrong?
 - How often should you check in on your mentoring relationship?
 - Can a mentee, over whom you have power, be truly honest with you about problems he/she/they is/are having in the mentoring relationship?
- **ACTION ITEM: Question- How will you create effective communication with your mentees?**
 - Please reflect on this final question before the next meeting.
 - You may also consider how to craft a more intentional and positive statement by working through the attached, "Communication Worksheet."

New Business

- Any new business?
- **ACTION ITEM:** Please complete the When2Meet poll to decide when our December NHERI ECO Committee meeting will take place: <https://www.when2meet.com/?22564056-x8VI4>.

Adjourn

Communication Worksheet

In pairs, discuss the following questions as they relate to 2 of the statements below:

- What was the likely intent of this statement or question?
- How might the statement or question be heard?
- How else could you say these questions or statements?

Statement or Questions	What was the intent?	How might it be heard?	How else could you say it?
"Be on time to our group meetings from now on"			
"How much longer do you think it will take you to finish that project?"			
"You will never get anywhere in this field if you don't dig in and stick with problems until you solve them."			
"I am not sure the work you are doing in that area is really valuable."			
"Clean up your work area"			
"I haven't seen you around the building much. Are you taking time off?"			
"I am not sure you have your priorities in order."			
"What's it like to be a minority student in this program, anyway?"			
"It seems you might be better suited for an 'alternative' career"			