



THE EETAP BULLETIN

An update of activities for advancing education
and environmental literacy
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NEW EE AND DIVERSITY INSTALLMENT POSTED

The newest EE and diversity installment has been posted on the NAAEE web site. The installment (Winter 2007) examines how to initiate new relationships. It is divided into six areas including:

- Assessment tool: [Listening Skills](#)
- Relevant articles: [Where to Begin When Working with Diverse Communities](#)
- Vignettes: [Who's Agenda?](#)
- Mini-lesson: [Finding Real Overlaps](#)
- Success stories: Group Dialogue by Judy Sorum Brown (external link: <http://www.nea.gov/resources/Lessons/BR OWN.HTML>)
- A [Glossary on Cultural Diversity](#) and an [annotated bibliography for the Winter 2007 installment of the Cultural Diversity](#) section of the NAAEE website.

To view the information click on the above links. Also available are the Fall and Summer 2006 installments. To view all installments click on the link below:

<http://www.naaee.org/ee-and-cultural-diversity/>

NEW ONLINE COURSE ANNOUNCED

EETAP3, the University of Wisconsin–Stevens Point (UWSP), and Treehaven Environmental Learning Center are offering a new two credit, 9-week online course entitled “Leadership Development in Natural Resources: Strategic Planning and Implementation”.

The course will be offered this fall (September 17 – November 16, 2007) through UWSP. The course is designed to

assist environmental educators and natural resource professionals in learning and applying key elements of successful strategic planning. A variety of strategic planning models will be examined using case studies, simulation, and small group activity. Emphasis will be placed on managing the strategic planning process to build the capacity of organizations to provide effective environmental education programs.

Participants may obtain two graduate credits from UWSP. All participants, regardless of location, are eligible for the in-state tuition rate. The course is also offered as a non-credit workshop for those who are not seeking college credit.

To learn more visit www.eetap.org and click on “Online EE Courses” or contact Rainey Kreis at rkreis@uwsp.edu.

To register for the course please contact Angela Lemar in the UWSP Continuing Education office at (715) 346-3854 (Angela.Lemar@uwsp.edu).

EE ARTICLES AVAILABLE ON EETAP WEB SITE

In 2006 EETAP commissioned a series of articles to highlight key initiatives in environmental education (EE). Innovative work in areas such as the Guidelines for Excellence, certification, and accreditation are described in a popular style. The articles inform EE practitioners and other educators about programs and trends in EE and their significance for the field. EETAP has posted the articles in PDF format on its web site for educators to read and download. The articles available include:



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1. *Setting High Standards: EE Builds a Home in Teacher Education Accreditation*
2. *EE Certification: Making Best Practice Standard Practice*
3. *Distance Education: A User-Friendly Learning Option*
4. *The Roots of Environmental Education: How the Past Supports the Future*
5. *Leading The Way to Environmental Literacy and Quality: National Guidelines In Environmental Education*
6. *Educations and the Environment: Partners for Change*
7. *Leadership Clinics Revolutionize EE Conference Design*
8. EE Program Profiles
 1. *Finding Your Way on the Prairie*
 2. *Natural Ties*
 3. *A Little Salad Dressing Goes a Long Way*
 4. *Wetlands and Wetheads*
 5. *EIC: A Framework for Learning*
 6. *California Dreamin'*
 7. *Wisconsin: A Model of Success*

To read or download the above articles click on the link below:

http://eetap.org/pages/ee_articles.php

EETAP ACTIVITY UPDATES

The Third Environmental Education and Training Partnership¹ (EETAP3) completed its

¹ U.S. EPA's Environmental Education Division (formerly the Office of Environmental Education) established the national educator training program in 1992 as provided for under Section

first year of operation in Fall 2006. The goal of the program is to deliver EE training and long-term support to education professionals across the U.S. To help achieve this goal EETAP3 partners are implementing 12 activities in priority areas such as professional development, advancing quality EE, and reaching diverse audiences. This bulletin features three activities that are focusing on diverse audiences. Updates on the other nine activities were described in previous issues of the EETAP Bulletin.

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point (UWSP) manages EETAP3. Other EETAP3 partners include:

- The North American Association for Environmental Education,
- Project Learning Tree,
- Northern Illinois University,
- The Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development,
- The Council for Environmental Education,
- Project WET,
- National Audubon Society, and
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's National Conservation Training Center.

Activity 10. Delivering Culturally Relevant EE to Diverse Audiences

This activity assists education professionals to make their organizations and programs more inclusive and culturally relevant. The activity offers a six-hour long workshop that explores multicultural issues as they occur in the real world of environmental education. The activity also researches and posts relevant EE and diversity information and resources on the NAAEE web site for education professionals.

⁵ of the National Environmental Education Act of 1990. EETAP3 is the fourth phase of the national training program.



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The EE and Diversity training workshops have been popular with environmental educators and others working in related fields. Since the inception of the training, workshops have been delivered in every region of the country. During the first year of EETAP3 workshops were conducted in Washington, DC and Pittsburgh, PA.

During the same period the third EE and Diversity Facilitator Workshop was conducted in Austin, TX at the Asian American Cultural Center. The workshop introduced participants to the methods and strategies needed to facilitate diversity workshops for environmental educators working in formal and nonformal settings. The training focused on how to lead a case discussion, use open-ended questions, and develop inclusive practices that users can apply in professional and volunteer settings.

In Year 1 the EE and Diversity web pages were launched on the NAAEE web site and the first installment was posted. Each installment focuses on a specific topic such as cultural competency in your organization, programs, membership, partnerships, and plans. For each topic an assessment tool, relevant articles, vignettes, mini-lesson, success stories, glossary, and annotated bibliography is included. The most recent installment is announced at the start of this issue. To view previous installments click on the link below:

<http://www.naaee.org/ee-and-cultural-diversity/>

Activity 11. Reaching Tribal Communities with EE Training

The purpose of this activity is to provide environmental education training and long-term support to education professionals working in culturally diverse tribal communities across the U.S. The activity consists of three

parts. *Part one* is building on the successes of Project WET's Native Waters program in forging relationships among tribal community educators and Project WET state coordinators and facilitators. In *Part two*, state coordinators or facilitators from the EETAP training partners will conduct EE workshops for tribal educators in local communities across the country. In *Part three* tribal educators and/or EETAP training partners who have worked with tribal communities will attend conferences (tribal education conferences, state education conferences, partner coordinator conferences, and/or the NAAEE conference) to report on progress in adapting their EE programs and/or materials to better reach tribal communities with EE training.

During the first year 31 Tribal community educators attended environmental education training as a result of this activity. Of those 31 (77%) agreed that as a result of the training received they could effectively teach about selected environmental issues, specifically water issues.

Four Tribal educators attended a Project WET Coordinators Conference and demonstrated their intention to increase their EE skills and connections with the EE community. To date, two of these educators have maintained connections with their state Project WET Coordinators.

Activity 12. Building Capacity for Education with Conservation Practitioners

This activity will build the capacity of conservation practitioners who are working on the ground in North America to integrate high-quality education activities into conservation programs. The participants in this activity are conservation practitioners and non-formal



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educators working directly on conservation projects (with local, state, and federal resource agencies and conservation NGOs). Most of the targeted participants are field-based and partner with a number of community-based organizations to achieve direct conservation targets.

As part of this initiative, the National Audubon Society and its partners are developing a Conservation Education Toolkit to provide the resources, training tools, and research to help conservation practitioners better understand the value of education as a conservation tool. The Toolkit will also provide insights for conservation practitioners about how to most strategically use education in their programming to accomplish their goals.

During Year 1 the development team defined and completed surveys and interviews, created the beginnings of a draft toolkit outline, conducted a literature search, researched case studies, and held discussion groups. The research completed is informing the development of the Conservation Education Toolkit. Initial analyses of the results of discussion groups suggest that participants felt the draft toolkit contained useful and necessary components. Case studies that support the hypothesis that education and other social strategies contribute to conservation gains have been identified. A plan has also been developed for creating a "community of practice" that will review and provide feedback on toolkit components and training. Sites to take part in training and use the toolkit in Year 2 were also identified.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

NAAEE 2007 CONFERENCE

November 14-17, 2007 ~ Virginia Beach, Virginia
"Explore New Horizons for Environmental Education"

Research Symposium - November 13-14, 2007
"Celebrating the Diversity of our Research Methodologies: Finding Common Ground"

TO LEARN MORE VISIT

<http://www.naaee.org/conference/2007-call-for-presentations>



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NSTA Regional and National Conferences

Have a good idea? Submit an online proposal for an NSTA conference and share your teaching experience! Visit <http://www.nsta.org/conferences> to submit your proposal for the 2007–2008 conferences. In 2007–2008, NSTA will hold conferences in:

2007 Area Conferences on Science Education

Detroit, Michigan: October 18–20, 2007

Denver, Colorado: November 8–10, 2007

Birmingham, Alabama: December 6–8, 2007

2008 National Conference on Science Education

Boston, Massachusetts: March 27–30, 2008

NCSS ANNUAL CONFERENCE November 30 - December 2, 2007

San Diego

The National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS) Annual Conference is the major forum for social studies colleagues to share, interact, learn, and develop ideas, skills, and programs that increase their own successes and those of their students. The NCSS Conference in San Diego will provide multiple opportunities for crossing cultural and geographic borders while building new bridges of knowledge and understanding. For more information visit: <http://www.ncss.org/conference/>