

WACTE Climate Teacher Ed Discussion

1) What is your program currently doing around climate & environmental justice issues?

- Fred Hamel, University of Puget Sound – not doing enough...! I've initiated some conversations with faculty in our Environmental Policy & Decision Making program - to see if we could collaborate in creating a course for our Education Studies Minor - something like "Teaching about Climate Change to Children and Youth"... etc.
- Vicki Butler (CityU): we haven't done much around this particular topic. We have STEM methodology - and I'd be interested in exploring more. We have an science track that would be a potential pathway - it is in need of revision so might be exciting
- Megan Kelley-Petersen (UW Seattle): In the pathway I direct (U-ACT) in our Teacher Education Program, our Science Methods courses are doing *some* work on this as they work directly with teachers who are teaching as middle/high school teachers and/or as elementary teachers. The Instructors care deeply about this topic, but I know we could do more, especially in thinking about it at a cross-disciplinary level and/or in our other Foundations courses focused on issues of social justice.
- Tara Haskins (EWU)- we know that candidates have to be prepared to teach the environmental ed standards - although not required (yet) in teacher prep - we have been in conversation around this and have some offerings - we have a point system - ish in a portfolio course where candidates can count experiences in environmental ed and climate to complete the requirements. These are aligned with the environmental ed specialty endorsement - that is the action part - we also have methods, etc. around environmental ed

2) What would be helpful to your program in preparing pre-service teachers to engage students in climate learning and action?

- Understanding the competencies this curriculum would meet so that we could add it to courses. Also, how could we use this course cross-departmentally.
- Fred Hamel, University of Puget Sound – seeing the modules you've developed on Climate Change & Emotion, and Teaching about Climate Change to Children - would be helpful.. ... Early information about educator webinars – so that these could be scheduled into our program calendar for candidates and mentor teachers... from the start of the year, or start of semester.... Thanks for these resources.
- We have a school counseling, marriage and family therapy program, and a social emotional learning program. I would love to see classes on climate anxiety, or sections of some of these courses dedicated to climate anxiety, so that we continue to build engagement across educators and stakeholders. (Whitworth)
- Megan Kelley-Petersen (UW Seattle): I think that taking the course myself would be SO helpful!!! And the open-resources are SO appreciated and helpful!!! (Agree!)

3) What role might WACTE programs undertake **collectively** to prepare new teachers to understand and respond to student concerns about climate change?

Please share your thoughts, ideas, and comments here:

- Include admin preparation programs so that the support for climate change instruction and action is school-wide.
- Get WCEAP involved
- Could we also get ESDs involved.

Follow up contacts:

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