



March Theme of the Month Webinar Panel

Broadening the Landscape of Citizen Science March 8th at 3:00PM EST



Dr. Heather A. Fischer,
Moderator



Dr. Trena
Ferrell



Dr. Elena
Sparrow



Blake
McGhghy



Dr. Martin Storksdieck,
Respondent

Web Chat and Resources Mentioned During Webinar

Resource from Panelists:

Blake McGhghy: AGU's Thriving Earth Exchange program connects communities with scientists and supports them as they work together to tackle local challenges related to natural hazards, natural resources, and climate change. <https://thrivingearthexchange.org/projects/>

Resources from Participants:

1. Monitor My Watershed® is presented by Stroud Water Research Center, which seeks to advance knowledge and stewardship of fresh water through research, education, and watershed restoration <https://monitormywatershed.org/sites/SHPK5S/>
2. Paper: Inclusion in citizen science: The conundrum of rebranding, by Caren B. Cooper, et al. <https://www.science.org/doi/pdf/10.1126/science.abi6487>
3. Arctic & Earth SIGNs "Meet a NASA Scientist" sessions are designed to provide an opportunity for youth and educators to connect in real time with a NASA scientist and discuss topics of mutual interest. The sessions are delivered through a partnership with the NASA Langley Research Center and are facilitated by Bonnie Murray, NASA Education Specialist. <https://sites.google.com/alaska.edu/arcticandearthsigns/meet-the-scientist>

Web Chat

Nancy H : Nancy Holmes, University of Idaho, Moscow

Michael J : Mike Jabot, Fredonia, NY GLOBE Program

Taran L : Taran Lichtenberger Glencoe IL program leader with Budburst

Missy W : Missy Weiss: Ocean Research & Conservation Association (ORCA), Vero Beach FL

Yasmeen N : We aren't able to unmute ourselves

Tina R : Hi I'm Tina Rogerson and I work with GLOBE Clouds and Cloud GAZE.

Hada H : Hello! My name is Hada Herring and I am currently pursuing a PhD in Science Education at UF. Prior to this shift to academia, I was working as a marine mammal biologist at Clearwater Marine Aquarium and Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

Andrea P : Hello! Andrea Parker in Battle Ground, WA

Rachael M : Rachael Mady, Cornell Lab of Ornithology, I was project leader for Bird Cams Lab, but am now a researcher working with citizen science data. Nice to meet y'all!

Eric B : Eric Byers from Henrico, VA. It has been a while since my last citizen science project but looking forward to incorporate it more into my curriculum

Pammi P : Pammi - my Masters capstone was built around citizen science

Rebecca U : Hi everyone! Rebecca Clark Uchenna, Maine - program coordinator for WeatherBlur

Jody E : Jody Einerson, OSU Extension Benton County. I coordinate Oregon Season Tracker, precipitation and plant phenology citizen science program used by adults and students.

Stacy D : Stacy Dahl - Skagit Land Trust. Manage community Science projects on great blue heron and amphibians on land trust property

Perla M : Good afternoon! I'm Perla Myers--mathematics faculty and director of k-12 community engagement in the College of Arts and Sciences at USD

Michelle H : Teen Science Cafe Network

Michaela L : Howdy, I'm Michaela Lubbers with UGA bugwood. We're working on tracking and mapping invasive species on public lands with Wildspotter!

Perla M : University of San Diego

Missy W : We coordinate 4 citizen science projects around the Indian River Lagoon (One Health Fish Monitoring, Pollution Mapping, Land to Sea, etc.)

Greg K : Greg Knaddison from Morris Animal Foundation's Golden Retriever Lifetime Study where I am the Director of Information Systems (we make the websites for gathering and sharing data).

Matt S : Matt Silbergitt GLOBE partner at WestEd in California

Jody E : Glad to be here!

Todd H : Todd Harwell (he/him), Postdoc at the UC Davis Center for Community and Citizen Science

Sarah K : Sarah Kirn, Gulf of Maine Research Institute, support the NASA Citizen Science program

Yasmeen N : Yasmeen Neal, Fly Minds Youth Development Club (nonprofit) - not familiar with citizen science. Here to listen and learn (Alexandria, VA)

Caren C : Hi all - I'm at NC State University. Among other things, I lead an initiative called Inclusive, Diverse, Equitable, Accessible, Large-scale (IDEAL) Participatory Science.

Caren C : Thanks

Kim Descoteaux : Welcome to this webinar hosted by the STEM for All Video Showcase (<https://stemforall2022.videohall.com/>) and the STEM for All Multiplex (<https://multiplex.videohall.com/>) Funded by NSF #1922641 Opinions expressed on this site are those of the contributors and not necessarily those of the National Science Foundation.

Vonceil A : Hi, I am Vonceil Anderson - A teacher in Baltimore City.

Graise J : Graise Lee Jenni. Working to bring equity to citizen science data ownership through blockchain technology. On Manahoac lands/NOVA. Partner at Resolve Conservation

Heather S : Heather Stewart, postdoc at the University of the Virgin Islands, mangrove restoration and conservation citizen science program

Laura C : Laura Conner, Research Associate Professor at University of Alaska Fairbanks

Rebecca S : Rebecca Shoer - working on the Stone Living Lab in Boston. We just wrapped a citsci beach profiling project, and are about to launch citsci intertidal monitoring!

Christi W : Christi Whitworth - former admin of a citizen science project; graduate student at Texas Tech University

Betsy C : Hello all. I've been involved with Cit Sci for a long time - since the days of Al Gore and helping to get GLOBE into Madagascar. Today I coordinate Cit Sci at the Port Townsend Marine Science Center in WA.

Bradley A : I'm a PhD candidate at North Carolina State University studying citizen science. One of my main goals is to understand how volunteer groups (schools, churches, corporations) that do citizen science on SciStarter.org may be reaching new audiences.

Zoubeida D : I teach a course for preservice middle school science teachers that is specifically focused on engaging them with citizen science projects and preparing them to use it with their future students. I am very interested in integrateing citizen science into the school science experience.

David K : I was a classroom educator that worked with a local citizen science research program to install a real-time stream sensor in the creek that flows through the property. You can see the data in real-time on a web portal - <https://monitormywatershed.org/sites/SHPK5S/>

Tina P : Tina Phillips, Senior Extension Associate Cornell Lab of Ornithology

Jassy D : I work for Royal Horticultural Society as a plant pathologist and am involved in running a UK citizen science project Check a Sweet Chestnut to map sweet chestnut trees and monitor their health www.rhs.org.uk/check-a-sweet-chestnut

Martin Storksdieck : What an amazing group of people are taking part here: very impressive - thank you all for being here. Feel free to share ideas and resources in the chat.

Renata B : I work at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History and am working on my PhD in Urban Education - my research involves under-resourced groups visiting museums and what they take away from their visits. Martin, I've read a lot of your papers!

Lynn D : Great to meet you, Renata! You are doing very important work. Thanks!

Bonnie M : There needs to be benefit to the community itself.

Yasmeen N : We are a youth development non-profit in Northern Virginia. As we find projects it would be helpful to have science teachers or professionals support our efforts. At least initially. Is the panel or anyone on the zoom call aware of how we can partner with professionals to help with citizen science projects

Christi W : FabFems.org may have experts representative people for the work embodied in a particular project.

Caren C : I often hear the question that Heather asked, like 'how do I get people who don't know about or have interest to engage in my project?' which is *the wrong question* to ask ourselves. Instead ask, 'how do I figure out what to do as a project given what people do know about and are interested in.' Instead of expecting people to change and fit a project, change the project to fit people

Martin Storksdieck : That reframing is indeed important, good point, Caren; what is your experience with projects where there are conflicting signals on what the project would best be about?

Elena Sparrow : 1 Caren

Sarah K : Caren, great point. And I wonder if there is room or need for both. In other words, are some people motivated to contribute to science who might be drawn to a project conceived of by a scientist as a place to start? I would love to see more community-driven projects! And I think the broad citizen science universe is diminished if we lose the scientist-driven ones altogether.

Joni Falk : Do "bottom up" projects have the potential to be more authentic to community needs?

Lin C : 1 Sarah

Martin Storksdieck : I think that is the idea, Joni.

Tina P : Also to Caren's question, how closely aligned do you think the community goals should be to the institutional goals? Where is the sweet spot? My Internet is very unstable so apologies if this has been addressed, I am catching about 10-Jan of the conversation. :-(

Bonnie M : Involving the community also brings benefit to the scientist, who is able to learn what is happening on the ground from the community. But the project must be reciprocal, with benefit to both.

Joni Falk : But then again all communities hate misquitos and love birds 😊 So also getting them aware of great projects is also great!

Caren C : @Sarah - yes, and I don't think of it as either/or both. Who sets science agendas? who benefits from science agendas? There are people historically and currently excluded from the benefits of mainstream science agendas -- my point was to include those overlooked research agendas, not just one community at a time.

Caren C : I agree Bonnie - about reciprocity

Lynn D : Joni, I agree with Martin but would take it a bit further. Heather got at it; how can citizen science be less top down, coming from and meeting the needs of communities themselves. Not just school students too but reaching youth in out of school (and those not in school at all), families and other adult community members.

Natasha C : Natasha Cooke-Nieves- Professor, American Museum of Natural History- Master of Arts in Teaching Program in Earth Science. In our of my courses we incorporate GLOBE certification so our preservice teachers are certified upon entry to the classroom in the fall. Also, an assignment has them write up a “fake grant” to support a citizen science project at a school.

Martin Storksdieck : 1 Caren: there is a huge range and in the overall portfolio of scientific research done and citizen science projects available, the question is: is there enough room to have lots of different button-up projects into the mix...

Natasha C : Question.... Is citizen science now called community science?

Joni Falk : Agree Lynn!

Sarah K : Thanks, Caren. Certainly there is a lot more to be done to create equity and justice in and around science, and a collaborative, co-created approach to making new citizen science/ community science projects is essential.

Martin Storksdieck : Terminology: there are many different terms now, but I think community science and citizen science are somewhat different.

Sarah K : @Natasha - no, it's not quite so simple... “community science” is a thing unto itself, related to what most refer to as “citizen science” but different in important ways. Watch for more on this

Natasha C : Thanks Martin! I was told by a GLOBE director that he was scolded at a conference for saying citizen science. @Sarah and @Martin #NAME? for clearing that up. I will research!

Caren C : I think the discussion shows that community science (bottom-up) is different from citizen science (top-down) --- at least in current uses

Martin Storksdieck : @Natasha Cooke-Nieves: what a cool way to bring in preservice teachers into the wide world of citizen science.

Lincoln L : Yes... for more on this terminology discussion, see a recent paper that Caren led: <https://www.science.org/doi/pdf/10.1126/science.abi6487>

Vonceil A : I apologize, but I have to leave, I have an emergency I have to take care of.

Lynn D : I was just on a NRC committee. We said the term citizen science SHOULD be changed to Community Science. Personally, I think it's the term that we are talking about here, being grounded in the community.

Nancy H : Citizen can seem exclusive.

Heather Fischer : Community science is an existing area of work that should not be co-opted.

Martin Storksdieck : As a foreigner in the US, I understand the term citizen as "community member empowered to contribute and be actively involved in public good and community work" - as a citizen of the world.

Bonnie M : <https://sites.google.com/alaska.edu/arcticandearthsigs/meet-the-scientist>

Lynn D : Indeed!!! A major reason our committee, the Biological Collections committee, all biological scientists (I was the only outlier as a social scientist) recommended this.

Tina P : Hmm...my understanding is that citizen science is a large umbrella term for all variations of people engaging with scientific research; community science is specific to science engagement that is driven by and for communities. Not all citizen science projects can or should call themselves community science.

Caren C : It is important to change the term citizen science, but that doesn't mean the best option is co-opt the term community science

Todd H : 1 @Heather and @Caren

Lynn D : Martin, great to say, but naïve, not only herein the US but in the rest of the world as well. Thinking about dear friends and colleagues in Ukraine for example.

Sarah K : Thanks for this panel and focus of the month of March! I've got to leave. Glad to have heard what I have.

Lynn D : Caren, I'm intrigued with what you are saying about co-opting community science. Not sure I understand...would love to talk further. Lynn.Dierking@freechoicelearning.org.

Lynn D : Why are we calling community-based organizations intermediaries? Aren't schools also? And thanks for the mention of adults!

Haley S : That was my video :D And I'm looking more into the role of various intermediaries for my dissertation. Hope to have more to share in the not-too-distant future.

Lynn D : Or a group of youth and adults. I still do not care for the term. Aren't they partners?

Martin Storksdieck : @Lynn: I think terms can be rethought and rebranded. I distinguish between "citizen" and "US citizen", just as in German we distinguish between Buerger and

Bundesbuerger... But I know that this is controversial. Alas, I like us all to rethink what belonging means and how we can own terms in new ways that might be seen now as exclusionary. Overall, I fully know that “citizen” is now a tough term for many...

Haley S : The terminology comes from Brudney & Meijs volunteer typology

Joni Falk : This group has lots of passion! Hope you all stay for the breakouts!!!!

Haley S : We have also used the term facilitator organization somewhat interchangeably :)

Lynn D : Haley, that's better...

Martin Storksdieck : And bring the passion to the conversation on the website after the webinar today. Lots of opportunity to continue the conversation.

Bonnie M : Redistribution of the knowledge to the community is important also, along with how that is done. Great conversations here.

Joni Falk : “What is the so what about the science” So important for authenticity!

Natasha C : I sparked a fire 🔥 I love this discussion!!!! Can't wait for the breakouts!

Heather Fischer : My two cents on community science, not every “citizen” science project needs to be (or wants) to be community science. I'm all for rethinking the term citizen but we cant call it all community science

Joni Falk : And do some citizen science influence what is happening in schools?

Caren C : I think that there are well understood practices that make bottom-up, local projects inclusive and diverse (where people build relationships locally, etc). I think the lack of diversity is with top-down projects (and changing the name won't be enough to fix that problem) that are large-scale and we don't know the best practices....YET.

Heather Fischer : Yes Caren, we hope this discussion is a small step in that direction

Zoubeida D : Totally agree with Caren's point.

Joni Falk : Caren agree that changing the name does not change practices and appreciate that we are still exploring what best practices are.

Lynn D : I am sorry I cannot stay for the break-outs, but I want to acknowledge that I'm quite a bit on the radical side of things. I'm looking forward to the paper about co-opting, I believe from Lincoln, and maybe talking further Heather (I'm still in Corvallis:!) and Caryn. Thanks so much all! I'll be leaving as the groups form. And Blake, thanks so much for mentioning humility AND empathy, likely what really is what I'm saying..

Nancy H : Thank you for this session! Hate to leave but have another meeting to attend.

Tina P : 1 Heather

Kim Descoteaux : As we move to breakout rooms, please put on your video camera and unmute yourselves.

Martin Storksdieck : great chat discussion!!!!

Caren C : I emailed you @Lynn

David K : Sorry I have another meeting 8-(

Pammi P : sorry I have to sign off for another meeting, great discussion!

Tina P : I'm sorry my Internet is not working for me to join breakout groups

Jassy D : thanks for those insights that was really refreshing and interesting

Martin Storksdieck : I see a lot of overlap between the work we are talking about here and the concept of civic engagement more broadly, which has a lot of roots in democracy movements...

Blake McGhghy : <https://thrivingearthexchange.org/projects/>

Blake McGhghy : Thriving Earth is recruiting Community Science Fellows (project managers) for the July 2022 cohort. Please share the opportunity:

<https://thrivingearthexchange.org/community-science-fellows/july-2022-community-science-fellowship-cohort/>

Kim Descoteaux : This webinar is being recorded and will be available tomorrow at https://multiplex.videohall.com/month_themes/18 .

Kim Descoteaux : Please participate in the online discussion at: https://multiplex.videohall.com/month_themes/18

Hada H : Thank you all!

Caren C : Thanks all!

Kim Descoteaux : <https://stemforall2022.videohall.com/>