Community & Natural Resources Institute
Spring 2023 Newsletter
Happy Summer!

It is hard to believe this academic year is over! It has been so nice to welcome new colleagues and students to USU and CANRI, hold many engaging social and academic events, and continue to expand what we do. Courtney, Betsy, and I will be working over the summer to plan events for next year around the theme of environmental and climate justice, so please don’t hesitate to reach out if you have any ideas or want to be more involved in CANRI. I hope everyone gets some time to recharge this summer – I know I am looking forward to spending time away from my computer exploring our beautiful area and doing some community field work.

Jessica Ulrich-Schad
CANRI Director

The Community and Natural Resources Institute (CANRI) at Utah State University serves as a 'gathering place' for faculty and students committed to interdisciplinary research and engagement related to human and community dimensions of natural resource issues and environmental problems.

CANRI is made up of faculty, students, and staff from multiple departments across USU and is housed in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences.
Dr. Betsy Brunner is a Visiting Assistant Professor in the department of Communication Studies and Philosophy at USU. She spent close to a decade researching the use of social media in environmental activism in China using qualitative and ethnographic research methods. Her current research focuses on the impacts of tourism on rural communities in the U.S. She is excited to work with CANRI to help bring together scholars from across disciplines to address environmental issues and share findings with local communities.

Dr. Betsy Brunner
CANRI Fellow 2023-2024
2022-2023 Speakers

CANRI sponsored fantastic speakers, events and "Lunch & Learns"!

- **Film Showing & Darren Parry, Shoshone Tirbal Leader and USU Faculty Member**
- **Dr. Matt Carroll, Professor Emeritus, Washington State University**
- **Dr. Lawrence Hamilton, University of New Hampshire**
- **Dr. Lori Hunter, University of Colorado at Boulder**
- **Dr. Stacia Ryder, USU Sociology**
- **Dr. Kirsten Vinyeta, USU Sociology**
- **Luke Rogers, US Census Bureau (co-sponsored with Yun Kim Pop Lab)**
- **Dr. Lawrence Hamilton, University of New Hampshire**

**How to Write Research Briefs**

Dr. Lawrence Hamilton
Professor of Sociology & Senior Fellow at the Carey School of Public Policy
University of New Hampshire

THURSDAY, March 30th, 1:00-2:00
CRASS Dine's Conference Room
Old Main 333
or Zoom (bit.ly/craassthursday)

(under consideration for next year)
We like to get together to get to know each other! From the fall social at the Stokes Nature Center to happy hours, CANRI promotes fun!
2023-2024 Grad Classes

And....
CMST 6999 Science Communication (Brunner M 4:30-7)
ENVS 6130 Recreation Policy and planning (Wheeler W 5:15-7:45)
ENVS 6310 Intro to Environmental Laws/Policy (Welsh Online)
ENVS 6600 Natural Resources Interpretation (Monz TR 1:30-2:20 & T 2:30-5:20)
ENVS 6841/7841 The Socio-Environmental Research Process (Brunson MW 11:30-12:45, 1 credit)
ENVS 6842/7842 Methodology for Socio-Environmental Research (Crabtree MW 11:30-12:45, 1 credit)
HIST 6460 Seminar in Environmental History (Conte T 4:30-7)
Dr. Jennifer Givens and Dr. Kirsten Vinyeta received a Utah Agricultural Experiment Station seed grant: Great Salt Lake Desiccation and Perceptions of Vulnerability across Social Difference: A Mixed Methods Study

UPEP Survey - In spring of 2023, a group of CANRI faculty and students started the Utah People and Environment Poll, or UPEP, to track Utahns' perceptions on environmental issues of importance to the state. This is the start of an effort to create a mechanism for gathering timely, relevant, and longitudinal data on issues at the intersection of people and the environment in Utah to help inform policy to address environmental issues. Thirteen faculty across six programs and five graduate students in the SOC 7100 (Survey Methods) class included questions related to their research interests on the survey. 3,750 residents from across the state were randomly selected to participate in the mail and online survey and we contacted the Utahns who were selected to participate up to four times. We are in the process of cleaning the data and adding weights and will be publishing a series of research briefs on the CANRI website over the summer. Some of the findings from the UPEP will also be featured in the next Institute for Land, Water, and Air Report to the Governor. Be on the lookout for these results and get in touch with Dr. Jessica Schad or Dr. Jennifer Givens if you have an interest in being involved in the future.
Sarah Wilson successfully defended her thesis on the influence of growth on community connectedness and connection with nature of residents in Utah cities.

Dr. Roslynn McCann and Dr. Edwin Stafford received the USU Office of Research and the Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost Community Engaged Faculty Award and the Intermountain Sustainability Summit Statewide Sustainability Collaboration Award, Weber State University see spotlight on Ros by WRDC here!

Dr. Claudia Radel received the Diversity and Inclusion Award from the USU Quinney College of Natural Resources

Dr. Courtney Flint received the Undergraduate Research Mentor of the Year from the USU Quinney College of Natural Resources

Matt Barnett successfully defended his dissertation in December 2022 on uranium issues in the 4 Corners Region, earned the Grad Student Researcher of the Year award in Sociology, and is now a postdoc at the Univ. of Michigan!
Building on our current momentum, we hope to provide continued opportunities to gather together and support CANRI-related activities!

**Social Events**
- Fall Social at Stokes Nature Center
- Happy Hours
- Hikes, Snowshoes, & Outdoor Fun

**Guest Speakers & Lunch-n-Learns**
- Opportunities to learn from each other and from visitors

**Interdisciplinary Event**
- Showcase faculty & student work and draw community and non-profit leaders

**New Advisory Group**
- Establish a cross-campus group to advise CANRI on events and future directions with faculty and graduate student representation
A Few Recent Publications from CANRI

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles


CANRI Goals for 2023-2024

Building on our current momentum, we hope to provide continued opportunities to gather together and support CANRI-related activities!

UPEP Survey Findings
- Present UPEP Survey findings to the public via written communications campaign and public event and seek grant or government funding for continuation of effort

Website Updates
- CANRI faculty and research expertise
- Environmentally-focused courses
- Community collaboration

Student Interaction
- Support student interaction and leadership on campus through CANRI

CANRI in CHaSS
- Expand collaborations within CHaSS while maintaining and building cross-campus connections
We thank everyone for continued involvement and support of CANRI efforts!

Upcoming CANRI Events

SAVE THE DATE
FALL SOCIAL
Thursday, August 31st
5:50-7:30, Stokes Nature Center
Family invited
Dinner and drinks provided

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