



Environmental Grantmakers Association

2009 Fall Retreat Learning Institutes

9:00 AM – 10:30 AM

1. Climate 101: Making the Linkages

With Climate and Energy Funders

Join your funding colleagues as we explore and tackle grantmaking opportunities around the issue of climate change. This intensive pre-conference learning institute will present an overview and update of recent climate science and provide a forum for brainstorming and group discussion about your specific funding goals. Participants will leave with a greater understanding of the ways in which climate change may affect your grantmaking; and creative ideas about how you can easily synergize your existing funding strategies with climate change.

Facilitator: Paige Brown - Climate and Energy Funders

Speakers:

Heidi Binko, Rockefeller Family Fund

Emily Van Dunk, Argosy Foundation

2. The Field of Environmental Education: Current Funding Trends

With EGA Environmental Education Committee

This learning institute will showcase results of a recent study of trends in support of environmental education (EE), considering foundation, government, and corporate sources. Centered on the new EGA briefing paper on EE, the themes for discussion will include traditional and more progressive definitions of EE; effective ways to engage people in environmental issues and stewardship behaviors; and compelling examples of EE initiatives that provide hands-on learning for people of all ages in a range of formal and informal settings. The session will conclude with a large-group discussion of opportunities for furthering the conversation around EE as a strategy that works in concert with policy and science to achieve on-the-ground conservation results.

Facilitator: Zenobia Barlow - Center for Ecoliteracy

Speakers:

Nicole Ardoin, PhD - EGA Switzer Fellow and Assistant Professor, Stanford University

9:00 AM – 11:00 AM

3. Inclusive Practices

With EGA Inclusive Practices Committee

This learning institute will showcase best practices on how to operationalize inclusive practices at foundations. It will touch strategies that have worked and those that have been deemed failures, and ways to implement practical solutions.

Facilitator: Kalpana Krishnamurthy - Western States Center

Speakers:

Scot Spencer – Annie E. Casey Foundation

John Flicker – National Audubon Society

11:00 AM – 12:30 PM

4. Green Beyond Grants: Cutting Travel

With EGA Green Practices Project

This learning institute will build from the latest version of the Green Beyond Grants series, providing specific steps and resources to help foundations reduce their travel related carbon emissions. You will have the opportunity to learn about technological solutions such as videoconferencing, webinars and podcasts as possible alternatives to travel.

Facilitator: Luis Davila – Environmental Grantmakers Association

5. Climate Change implications to Global Peace and Security

With Peace and Security Funders

President Barack Obama recently made climate change a national security issue, which turned this dramatic challenge from a strictly environmental concern. According to the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) “climate change will draw ever-deeper lines of division and conflict in international relations, triggering numerous conflicts between and within countries over the distribution of resources, especially water and land, over the management of migration, or over compensation payments between the countries mainly responsible for climate change and those countries most affected by its destructive effects.” As negotiations leading to the COP-15 meeting in Copenhagen take place, this learning institute will provide information on the linkages between climate change and peace and security issues.

Facilitator: Edith Eddy – Compton Foundation

Speakers:

Michael Renner, Worldwatch Institute

Sharon Burke, Center for a New American Security

12:30 PM – 1:30 PM: Lunch

1:45 PM – 3:15 PM

Special Session - Tracking the Field

This special session will showcase the latest version of EGA’s Tracking the Field report, a research-based initiative that monitors trends in environmental philanthropy and that analyzes these for distribution and consumption amongst our members. The report serves as a launching pad for discussion on the overall allocations of grant dollars across the field of environmental funding; proving a sharper focus on areas that may need more attention or deeper analysis.

Facilitator: Jon Cracknell, JMG Foundation