

The Climate of Environmental Journalism: A Regional Summit

March 5, 2019; Drake Library Community Room; Grinnell, IA

8:45-9:00 Check-in

9 - 9:45 Welcome and Activity: Telling Our Environmental Story

Facilitated by Jackie Curnick and Dr. Brandi Janssen

9:45- 10:45 Science and Media Panel

Journalists and Scientists discuss the complexities of reporting on the environment and science to the general public. Moderator: Dr. Kylah Hedding Panelists: Amy Mayer, Dr. Craig Just, Lyle Muller, Daniel Lathrop

10:50- 11:30 Hot Topics and Research in Environmental Health Issues

Researchers present on the current climate of scientific influence on some important health research at the University of Iowa. "The De-Sciencing of a Scientific Agency" by Dr. Peter Thorne; "Effects of Air Pollution on Tuberculosis" by Dr. Robert Blount; "Neonicotinoid Insecticides and Human Exposure" by Darrin Thompson

11:30- 12:10 Lunch

12:10- 12:50 Literature Discussion

The group will talk through the three articles from the reading packet. Guiding questions listed at the beginning of the packet. Facilitated by Dr. Brandi Janssen

12:50 - 1:30 Acquiring and Analyzing Environmental Data to Tell Stories

This workshop will show practical ways to access information that can be used in your environmental reporting. Presented by Daniel Lathrop

1:35- 2:25 Environmental Issue Panel: Nitrates

One of the biggest environmental issues in our state is the impact of nitrates on our health and the ecosystem. Many are looking to understand the issue and convey information to decision makers and the public.

Moderator: Dr. Brandi Janssen Panelists: Dr. Kajsa Dalrymple, Dr. Chris Jones, Dr. David Cwiertny

2:30- 3:10 Systems Thinking and Story Generation Activity

Systems thinking is a way to understand complex problems and the context of a single event. Participants will learn about systems thinking and then use this knowledge to brainstorm story ideas. Facilitated by Jackie Curnick and Lyle Muller

3:10- 3:40 Environmental Communication Project Highlight

Presentation by student from Cedar Falls High School and UNI professor about science-based journalism projects that have led to multiple published stories and a public service award. Presentation by Dr. Chris Martin and Sabine Martin

3:40- 4:00 Wrap-up

