

Workshop to Define Student Collaborative Climate Research

The **goal** of the Workshop to Define Collaborative Student Climate Research is to produce specific guidance for engaging students, teachers, and scientists in collaborative research about Earth's changing climate, one of the major science topics for the 21st century. Workshop **objectives** include:

1. Define what it means for students, educators, and scientists to conduct collaborative climate science research and examine the role of student climate-related research in high-quality science education.
2. Define climate-related research areas that are of interest to the climate science community and that can be conducted by students and their teachers, in collaboration with scientists.
3. Within promising research areas, define *specific* collaborative research projects in sufficient detail to guide development of implementation plans for data collection, reporting, analysis, and dissemination.

This two-and-one-half-day Workshop will be held **November 17-19, 2010**, at National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration facilities in Silver Spring Maryland. The Organizing Committee will invite 20-25 participants. All participants are expected to be active contributors. Preference will be given to scientists and educators who have demonstrated their ability to work successfully on collaborative science projects.

The expected outputs from the Workshop include a realistic and practical definition of "collaborative student climate research." Within a range of topics of interest to climate scientists, the Workshop will categorize areas of inquiry as suitable or (equally important) not suitable for collaborative research involving students, teachers, and scientists. Specific research proposals will be evaluated during the Workshop for their scientific and educational value, and this process will provide a replicable framework for guiding further development and implementation of student climate research projects. A project description template has been developed to facilitate these discussions and we ask all participants to plan their presentations within the framework of this template. (See the Workshop website link below.)

Through the process of defining specific projects for collaborative research, the Workshop will provide a mechanism for engaging students (and other "citizen scientists") in the essential debate about the future of our planet. The Workshop will also help to clarify, in general, what it means for students to do "research," a term that currently is carelessly defined and loosely used to describe a wide range of student activities, from other kinds of learning and "learning about" activities that also play important roles in high-quality science education.

The Workshop website is here:

http://www.pages.drexel.edu/~brooksdr/DRB_web_page/NSFWorkshop/

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