

COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLORADO INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC POLICY

LYN KATHLENE, DIRECTOR

Colorado Institute of Public Policy (CIPP) brings together basic and applied research to encourage effective public problem solving about the connections among environment, agriculture, and people. With respect to the Climate Change Center, the CIPP will provide outreach to regional policymakers and to the public to increase the level of climate science literacy and enhance communication among climate scientists, policymakers, and stakeholders.

Planned activities include:

1. **Convene working groups** of scientists, policy specialists, stakeholders, and regional policymakers to consider climate science implications for regional water resources, energy production and consumption, and other relevant issues. These working groups will produce comprehensive policy white papers directed toward decision-makers at regional and national levels.
2. **Host "hands-on" workshops** for private stakeholders and state and local government officials to learn about climate science and climate modeling from CMMAP staff.
3. **Develop and implement a two-week summer course** on the public policy process for CMMAP graduate students and scientists.
4. **Create presentations and distance-learning materials** for distributions through UCAR's Windows to the Universe site (<http://www.windows.ucar.edu/>).

Description of Activities

We have formed a partnership with the Colorado Institute for Public Policy (Dr. Lyn Kathlene, Director) to conduct a strong program of outreach to the public in general and to regional policymakers in particular. The goals of these activities are to increase climate science literacy among the public and policymakers, and to enhance communication among climate scientists, stakeholders, and policymakers. Planned activities include development and dissemination of content for the public, solicitation of questions about climate science from policymakers and stakeholders, and education about the policy process for CMMAP graduate students and scientists. Specific initiatives we will conduct include:

- Convening working groups of scientists, policy specialists, stakeholders and regional policymakers to consider climate science impacts on water resources in the western U.S., energy production and consumption, and other relevant issues. These working groups will meet frequently during a six-month period, and produce comprehensive white papers discussing relevant science and its implications for particular problems of regional interest. The intended audience of these reports will be state and local legislative staff, water and land managers, farmers, ranchers, county commissioners, and other stakeholders who need straightforward information about climate change to make informed decisions. Stakeholders will be directly involved with choosing the content of the reports. CIPP has recently conducted a similar process regarding the commercial use of genetically modified crops to produce pharmaceutical chemicals, and has experience in appropriate and effective communication of politically sensitive scientific information.
- Hosting week-long summer workshops for private stakeholders and state and local government officials to learn about climate science and climate modeling. The material will assume a basic high-school level) knowledge of science and will cover fundamentals of the climate system. We will then introduce participants to climate modeling, including the use of hands-on demonstrations developed in collaboration with our partners at LSOP and UCAR. Finally, we will summarize recent projections of future climate change and associated uncertainties, and discuss possible impacts on water resources, land management, agriculture, and other regional resources.
- Developing and implementing a two-week summer course on the policy process for MMAP graduate students and scientists, culminating with visits to state legislative offices and state and federal environmental and resource management agencies in Denver. This course will be offered as part of the CMMAP Summer Graduate Institute during the latter part of the initial 5 years, and is intended to enhance the ability of future leaders in climate science to communicate with the policy process and understand the needs of policy makers.
- Working with our partners at the UCAR Division of Education and Outreach, we will develop presentations and distance-learning materials from the output of the Working Groups and the summer workshops. These will be available through the Windows to the Universe website, which is currently viewed by over 600,000 people per month (20% in Spanish).

Proposed CIPP Activities

Activity	Year 1 2007	Year 2 2008	Year 3 2009	Year 4 2010	Year 5 2011
	<i>Planning year: Integrate CIPP activities and MMAP activities</i>	--	--	--	--
<i>White Papers</i>	--	--	--	Begin 1 st white paper.	Complete and distribute/present 2 nd white paper.
<i>Workshops</i>	--	Fall 2007 – Spring 2008: Develop content for week-long summer workshop. Identify policymakers and private stakeholders.	Hold one summer week-long workshop.	--	Hold one summer week-long workshop.
<i>Short Course (two weeks in summer)</i>	--	Spring 2008: Begin content development of short course to be offered in summer 2009. Work with CWRI.	Continue development of two week short course. Includes identifying on-site visits to federal and state agencies, marketing course to graduate students and faculty.	Offer two-week short course.	--
<i>On-line resources</i>	--	--	Begin developing on-line resources.	Continue development of on-line resources.	Continue development of on-line resources.