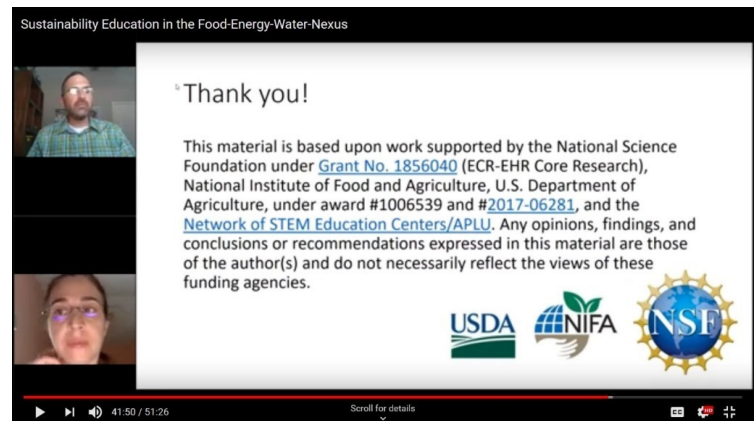


Fall, 2020

# National Collaborative for Research on Food, Energy, & Water Education (NC-FEW)

## RECENT NC-FEW PRESENTATIONS

This fall, NC-FEW community members have been engaging with a number of professional communities through virtual presentations. In August, Director Cory Forbes gave an invited webinar as part of [The Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education](#) (AASHE)'s [webinar series](#), entitled Sustainability Education in the Food-Energy-Water-Nexus. The webinar provided an opportunity for participants to identify and explore the needs and priorities of the AASHE community in respect to NC-FEW's broader mission and goals. As part of the [North American Association for Environmental Education's](#) (NAAEE) [Research Symposium](#), in October, Dr. Forbes moderated a panel session involving NC-FEW Affiliates Sarah Haines, Towson University, Christine Li, University of Missouri, Erin McCool, Riverbend Environmental Education Center, and KC Busch, NC State University. Both sessions highlighted NC-FEW's role as a new transdisciplinary community of educators and education researchers engaged in FEW-Nexus-focused educational programming and research/evaluation and are part of ongoing efforts to build bridges with established professional communities sharing NC-FEW's focus and priorities. Do you have an idea for an NC-FEW-focused presentation or session? If so, please reach out to the NC-FEW Leadership team at [admin@ncfew.org](mailto:admin@ncfew.org).



## WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

Have a new grant or publication? An exciting new course, curriculum, or educational program? Perhaps you have been featured in the media recently for your professional work? If so, please let us know about your successes. Please submit your news through [the NC-FEW website](#).

# NC-FEW LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

We are deeply committed to increasing opportunities for NC-FEW community members to contribute directly to community activities. Toward that end, we will be forming a number of committees, each of which will provide leadership and help direct and coordinate NC-FEW activities focused on specific community outcomes and products. These include best practices in FEW-focused education, best practices in FEW-focused education research, grant proposal development, and other critical community components. Each committee is expected to

**"THE COMMITTEES WILL BE AN IMPORTANT ELEMENT OF NC-FEW'S ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS WILL PROVIDE CRITICAL LEADERSHIP TO THE COMMUNITY"**

be comprised of 3-5 individuals representing the educational contexts reflected in the working groups (K-12, informal/nonformal, postsecondary), with individual committee members serving as liaisons to the working groups. Our goal is for the working groups and committees to work synergistically toward [NC-FEW goals](#) to 1) synthesize current

education research on educational programming grounded in the FEW-Nexus; 2) identify and promote best practices in education research on educational programming grounded in the FEW-Nexus; 3) foster collaboration among community members representing diverse disciplines, fields, expertise, and institutions; 4) enhance capacity for extramural funding in support of education research on educational programming grounded in the FEW-Nexus; and 5) cultivate a community identity among NC-FEW participants. The committees will be an important element of NC-FEW's organizational structure and committee members will provide critical leadership to the community. If you are interested in serving on a NC-FEW committee, please complete a brief [online interest form](#). We will be actively working to form these committees in the upcoming months and hope that many of you will choose to provide leadership to the NC-FEW community in this way.

# NC-FEW RESEARCH SYNTHESIS

One of NC-FEW's stated goals is to "synthesize current education research on educational programming grounded in the FEW-Nexus", an endeavor that will help set the stage for many of the NC-FEW community's planned activities in the upcoming years. We are currently working to move this effort forward. The insights gained from this work will build capacity within the NC-FEW community for enhancing FEW-Nexus-focused educational programming and education research, as well as proposal development efforts originating from within NC-FEW. To aid in this effort, we are asking for your input on empirical research focused on food, energy, and/or water education. Please share references for published research articles that you have found particularly helpful to your work and that others may find equally valuable. This information can be submitted easily through [the NC-FEW website](#). Furthermore, if you have an interest in providing leadership for and helping coordinate this effort, consider serving on an NC-FEW committee by filling out a brief [online interest form](#).

## NC-FEW ON TWITTER

NC-FEW has an official Twitter handle [@nc\\_few](#). If you are a Twitter user, please consider following [@nc\\_few](#) as another way to stay engaged with the community, receive important updates, and connect with your fellow community members!



# NC-FEW VIRTUAL SHOWCASE

We encourage you to submit your work to be included in the NC-FEW Virtual Showcase. You may be wondering, what is a virtual showcase? In lieu of engaging face-to-face under current circumstances, the virtual showcase will provide a platform for both contributing to and learning about the FEW-Nexus-focused educational programs and research findings from work of fellow NC-FEW participants. Consistent with NC-FEW's overarching focus, work submitted to this event should illustrate some aspect(s) of educational programming in K-12, postsecondary, or informal/nonformal settings, as well as findings from education research, even if preliminary, in the context of your program. To contribute to the 2020 Virtual Showcase, we ask that you [complete an online submission form](#) to share

a) a brief abstract and b) a PDF file of your poster/infographic that provides an overview of the work you are sharing using this online form. This information will be made publicly-available as part of the [2020 Virtual Showcase on the NC-FEW website](#). We anticipate hosting the Virtual Showcase annually as part of a broader set of NC-FEW community events and hope this will provide a valued forum for disseminating your work, particularly with so many conferences and in-person events canceled.

## SPECIAL ISSUE "WATER LITERACY AND EDUCATION"

The invitation for contributions to a Special Issue of the journal *Water* focused on water education efforts to foster water literacy are ongoing. This growing collection of empirical research articles foregrounds the design, implementation, and impact of innovative water education programs that support learners to develop understanding of core hydrological concepts and relationships between water and human activities. Please be sure to check out two contributions from NC-FEW community members:

Medrano, J., Jaffe, J., Lombardi, D., Holzer, M.A., & Roemmele, C. (2020). Students' scientific evaluations of water resources. *Water*, 12, 2048.

Lally, D. & Forbes, C.T. (2020). Sociohydrologic systems thinking: An analysis of undergraduate students' operationalization and modeling of coupled human-water systems. *Water*, 12, 1040.

Please see the journal website for more information and note the extended submission deadline of November 30, 2020. Consider joining your fellow NC-FEW community members in showcasing your empirically based water education programs, strategies, and approaches.



## GET INVOLVED!

Do you study or evaluate FEW-Nexus-focused educational programs in K-12, postsecondary, and/or informal/nonformal settings? If so, consider [joining us!](#)

There is no cost to you and NC-FEW participation affords you access to community activities, including travel support to invited meetings, webinars and NC-FEW communications, and designation as an NC-FEW Affiliate.

<http://ncfew.org/get-involved/>

