2009 Summer WAS*IS Workshop Agenda
August 6-14, 2009
Boulder, Colorado

Thursday, August 6, 2009  Center Green, Bldg 1, Upstairs Cafe

5:40 p.m.  Leave Golden Buff for NCAR
6:00 p.m.  Light reception with sandwiches, salad, and dessert
6:20 p.m.  Welcome to the WAS*IS Family  ...Eve Gruntfest, Julie Demuth, Jeff Lazo, Emily Laidlaw
6:30 p.m.  Participants’ 1-minute introductions
7:15 p.m.  Why WAS*IS now?  ...Eve, Julie, Jeff, Emily
8:30 p.m.  Adjourn

Friday, August 7, 2009  Mesa Lab, Damon Room

Daily Theme: Laying the Foundation for WAS*IS Success

8:15 a.m.  Arrive, get settled
8:30 a.m.  Welcome, overview of the week, and discuss logistics
8:45 a.m.  Getting to know your fellow WAS*ISers: 5-minute intros to say (a) what you do, and
(b) what you want from WAS*IS
Moderator: Kevin Barjenbruch
- Ray Tanabe
- Heidi Recksiek
- Kerry Jones
- Rachel Butterworth
- Jennifer Sprague
- Greg Dobson
- Carrie Furman
9:30 a.m.  Speaking the same language  ...Daniel Nietfeld, Nate Johnson, Melissa Tuttle Carr, Kevin Barjenbruch, Emily Laidlaw
10:30 a.m.  Break
11:00 a.m.  Report back and discuss speaking the same language
11:30 a.m.  An intro to communication  ...Gina Eosco
Moderator: Julie Demuth
Noon  Lunch at NCAR cafeteria and walk outside to enjoy the NCAR Mesa Lab
1:30 p.m.  Getting to know your fellow WAS*ISers
Moderator: Melissa Tuttle Carr
- Angelyn Kolodziej
- Mark Widner
- Kenny Blumenfeld
- Sudha Arlikatti
- Darone Jones
- Bernie Meier
- Scott Blair

2:15 p.m.  Break

2:45 p.m.  WAS*IS WILLBE ... Bill Hooke
Moderator: Eve Gruntfest

3:45 p.m.  Question and discussion with Bill Hooke
Moderator: Eve Gruntfest

4:15 p.m.  Culture change underway: A panel of WAS*IS veterans ... Tanja Fransen, Sheldon Drobot, Melissa Tuttle Carr, Daniel Nietfeld, Gina Eosco, Tom Behler, Rebecca Morss, Kevin Barjenbruch, Monica Zappa, Nate Johnson
Moderator: Julie Demuth

5:30 p.m.  Friends of WAS*IS reception ... Outer Damon Room

Saturday, August 8, 2009  Foothills Lab, COMET Classroom

Daily Theme: Breaking Ground on Integrating Meteorology and Social Sciences

8:15 a.m.  Arrive, get settled

8:30 a.m.  Getting to know your fellow WAS*ISers
Moderator: Nate Johnson
- Jennifer Spinney
- Mike Moritz
- Mariana Felix
- Allan Curtis
- Toni Rosati
- Harrison Hove
- Andy Foster
- Justin Nobel

9:15 a.m.  Social science and societal impacts ... Julie Demuth, Gina Eosco (with input from Heather Lazrus)

9:45 a.m.  Break

10:15 a.m.  Partnerships and policy changes for better serving users
Moderator: Julie Demuth
- Public-private partnership (30 min) ... Kevin Barjenbruch, Melissa Tuttle Carr
- Lessons from the Little Sioux Scout Camp (30 min) ... Daniel Nietfeld
11:15 a.m. Getting to know your fellow WAS*ISers
Moderator: Tom Behler
- Beth Lunde
- Krissy Scotten
- Cory Wolff
- David Letson
- Cedar League
- Zack Byko

11:45 a.m. Lunch (ordered in from Deli Zone)

12:45 p.m. Getting settled and checking in

1:00 p.m. How do social sciences fit in?
Moderator: Kevin Barjenbruch
- Perspectives from NWS Weather Forecast Offices (30 min) ...Mike Moritz, Kerry Jones (with input from Scott Blair, Andy Foster, Beth Lunde, Bernie Meier, Krissy Scotten, and Ray Tanabe)
- Perspectives from NWS Headquarters (30 min) ...Jennifer Sprague

2:00 p.m. How do social sciences fit in?
Moderator: Daniel Nietfeld
- Perspectives from NWS Regional Headquarters (30 min) ...Darone Jones
- Perspectives from the National Ocean Service (30 min) ...Heidi Recksiek

3:00 p.m. Break

3:30 p.m. How do social sciences fit in?
Moderator: Melissa Tuttle Carr
- Perspectives from emergency management (30 min) ...Mark Widner
- Perspectives from the media (30 min) ...Harrison Hove, Justin Nobel
- Perspectives from the private sector (30 min) ...Zack Byko

5:00 p.m. Brainstorming assignment (on your own or in teams) ...Julie, Emily, and Eve

5:15 p.m. Adjourn

7:30 p.m. Group dinner at The Med ...1002 Walnut St.

Sunday, August 9, 2009

Day off! Everything today is optional!
Sleep in, go on a local hike, shop, relax ... do whatever!

8:00 a.m. Leave Golden Buff for a lovely Boulder hike followed by lunch at Southern Sun (the best microbrewery in Boulder!)

2:00 p.m. Fieldtrip to savor 2 of Boulder’s finest second-hand stores with Eve (the thriftstore expert)

3:15 p.m. Leave Golden Buff for 4:00 p.m. NWS tour

NO mandatory group dinner ... but an optional group dinner!
Monday, August 10, 2009  

**Foothills Lab, COMET Classroom**

Morning theme: The Howtos and Wherefores of Social Science Research

8:15 a.m.  
Arrive, get settled

8:30 a.m.  
The importance of problem definition  
*Rebecca Morss, NCAR*  
Moderator: Julie Demuth

9:30 a.m.  
The “Wonderful” World of Institutional Review Boards  
*Jeff Lazo*  
Moderator: Tom Behler

10:00 a.m.  
Break

10:30 a.m.  
Intros to research methods  
Moderator: Emily Laidlaw  
- The joy of quantitative and qualitative research (15 min) and an intro to interviews (45 min)  
*Gina Eosco*  
- An intro to surveys (45 min)  
*Jeff Lazo*

12:15 p.m.  
Lunch at NCAR cafeteria

Afternoon theme: Thinking Outside Our Worlds

1:15 p.m.  
Intro to the social sciences  
Moderator: Melissa Tuttle Carr  
- Sociology (30 min)  
*Tom Behler*  
- Anthropology (30 min)  
*Carrie Furman, Jennifer Spinney*

2:15 p.m.  
Roles of culture in people's access, interpretation, and use of weather  
Moderator: Daniel Nietfeld  
- *Ray Tanabe* (20 min)  
- *Justin Nobel* (20 min)  
- *Mariana Felix* (20 min)

3:15 p.m.  
Break

3:45 p.m.  
Vulnerability and resilience to weather and climate impacts  
Moderator: Nate Johnson  
- Post Katrina and post-Rita community recovery (20 min)  
*Heidi Recksiek*  
- Native populations in Canada (20 min)  
*Jennifer Spinney*  
- Interstate crossing tornadoes (20 min)  
*Scott Blair, Beth Lunde*

4:45 p.m.  
Group brainstorming session  
*Julie, Emily, Eve*

5:30 p.m.  
Adjourn

7:30 p.m.  
Group dinner at Dushanbe Teahouse  
*1770 13th Street*
Field Trip to Fort Collins and RMNP

Daily theme: Real-Life Examples of the Intersection of Weather and Society

7:00 a.m.  Leave from Golden Buff for Fort Collins (everyone to ride on bus)

7:30 a.m.  Description about the events of the Fort Collins Flood of July 28, 1997  ...Matt Kelsch, Cooperative Program for Operational Meteorology, Education, and Training (COMET)

8:00 a.m.  Arrive at site of Fort Collins flood
   - Discuss what happened before, during, and after the flood, including meteorology, hydrology, land use regulations, and emergency response  ...Matt Kelsch

9:30 a.m.  Arrive at Fort Collins Storm Water Utility  ...700 Wood St.
   - The 1997 Fort Collins Flood: Putting the Stormwater System to the Test  ...Marsha Hilmes-Robinson, Fort Collins Storm Water Utility
   - City of Fort Collins: Regulatory changes after a natural disaster  ...Susan Hayes, Fort Collins Storm Water Utility

10:45 a.m. Bathroom breaks

11:00 a.m. Leave for site of Big Thompson flood of July 31, 1976

11:30 a.m. Lunch at Viestenz-Smith park just above the narrows in the canyon

12:30 p.m. Reminders of the past and the current state  ...Matt Kelsch
   - Look at tree scars from the flood and observe engineering of the river
   - Take self-guided tour around the ruins of the power plant that was destroyed by the Big Thompson flood

1:15 p.m.  Continue up the canyon  ...Matt Kelsch
   - Point out evidence of the flood
   - Talk about Olympus dam upon arriving in Estes Park

2:00 p.m.  Arrive at Rocky Mountain National Park
   - Look at the topographic replica of the park at the visitor’s center and Matt will explain where Lawn Lake is  ...Matt Kelsch

2:30 p.m.  Arrive at the Lawn Lake Alluvial Fan
   - Explain the timeline of the 1982 flood  ...Matt Kelsch
   - Explore the rocks and waterfalls  ... take photos!

4:00 p.m.  Depart for Boulder

5:00 p.m.  Return to Boulder

NO organized group dinner!
Daily theme: How Weather Information is Used – and Misused

8:15 a.m. Arrive, get settled

8:30 a.m. Impacts of technology on moving from WAS to IS
Moderator: Julie Demuth
- Social media (30 min) ...Nate Johnson, Melissa Tuttle Carr
- Using YouTube to assess drivers’ behavior (30 min) ...Cedar League
- Spotter networks (30 min) ...Scott Blair

10:00 a.m. Break

10:30 a.m. Geographic Information Systems (GIS) as decision support and threat assessment tools
Moderator: Emily Laidlaw
- To communicate with local and regional decision-makers (30 min) ...Greg Dobson
- In the NWS (30 min) ...Andy Foster

11:30 a.m. Lunch at NCAR cafeteria

12:30 p.m. Assessing people’s access, interpretation, understanding, and use of weather and climate information
Moderator: Daniel Nietfeld
- Members of the public in Hurricane Ike (30 min) ...Rebecca Morss
- Myths about flash flood warnings and false alarms (30 min) ...Eve Gruntfest
- Under-represented organic and minority farmers (30 min) ...Carrie Furman
- 300 billion served! (30 min) ...Julie Demuth

2:30 p.m. Break

3:00 p.m. Integrating social science into NWS Post-event Assessments and Service Assessments
Moderator: Melissa Tuttle Carr
- 2009 Mt. Redoubt Eruption (20 min) ...Kerry Jones
- 2008 Midwest Floods (20 min) ...Sheldon Drobot
- 2008 Super Tuesday Tornado Outbreak from the perspective of the WFO and the Assessment Team Members (20 min) ...Krissy Scotten, Julie Demuth, Daniel Nietfeld

4:00 p.m. Discussions about high-impact weather
Moderator: Nate Johnson
- Perspectives on warning lead time (30 min) ...Julie Demuth, Daniel Nietfeld
- Probabilistic hazards (30 min) ...Angelyn Kolodziej, Daniel Nietfeld
- Watches, warnings, and advisories (30 min): To stay or not to stay; that is the question! ...Jen Sprague

5:30 p.m. Adjourn

NO organized group dinner!
Thursday, August 13, 2009  Foothills Lab, COMET Classroom

Morning theme: The Wider World of Social Sciences

8:15 a.m.  Arrive, get settled
8:30 a.m.  Intros to social sciences
Moderator: Nate Johnson
• Geography (30 min) ...Cedar League, Kenny Blumenfeld
• Environmental hazards management (30 min) ...Sudha Arlikatti

9:30 a.m.  Intros to social sciences
Moderator: Melissa Tuttle Carr
• The role of economics in science policy (30 min) ...Dave Letson
• The value of weather information and weather forecasts as public goods (30 min)
  ...Jeff Lazo

10:30 a.m.  Break
11:00 a.m.  Characterizing weather impacts: A look at StormData ...Emily Laidlaw
Moderator: Tom Behler
11:30 a.m.  A further look at users’ needs for and understanding of weather information
Moderator: Daniel Nietfeld
• Aviation users (20 min) ...Cory Wolff
• Wal-Mart (20 min) ...Beth Lunde
• Radar information (20 min) ...Rachel Butterworth

12:30 p.m.  Lunch at NCAR cafeteria

Afternoon theme: Moving from WAS to IS in our own ways

1:30 p.m.  Group brainstorming and group work all afternoon
5:30 p.m.  Adjourn
7:30 p.m.  Final group celebratory dinner at Carelli’s ...645 30th Street
Morning theme: Building a Sustainable Future for WAS*IS and You

8:15 a.m. Arrive, get settled

8:30 a.m. Report in and discuss brainstorming sessions

9:15 a.m. Upcoming WAS*IS ventures
- Omaha Integrated Warning Team (IWT) Workshop (15 min) ...Daniel Nietfeld
- A new WAS*IS Visiting Scientist (15 min) ...Tom Behler

9:45 a.m. Break

10:15 a.m. Reflecting on the week and moving forward ...Julie Demuth, Eve Gruntfest
- How we as WAS*ISers are changing the culture
- Building a stronger community
- Strengthening and developing WAS*IS resources to serve YOU

11:15 a.m. After the WAS*IS ecstasy, the laundry ...Julie Demuth, Sheldon Drobot

11:45 a.m. Ciao ciao and images of WAS*IS 2009! ...Eve Gruntfest, Julie Demuth, Jeff Lazo, Sheldon Drobot

Noon Adjourn WAS*IS

Lunch at the NCAR cafeteria for those who want to stay
Below we suggest some specific readings that are of interest and highly relevant to the workshop discussion. We also generally recommend you check out the articles via the following links (and bookmark them for future reference!).

WAS*IS resources webpage – [http://www.sip.ucar.edu/wasis/background.jsp](http://www.sip.ucar.edu/wasis/background.jsp)
SIP’s publications page – [http://www.sip.ucar.edu/publications.jsp](http://www.sip.ucar.edu/publications.jsp)
Eve Gruntfest’s publications page – [http://www.evegruntfest.com/ECGpubs.htm](http://www.evegruntfest.com/ECGpubs.htm)


Lazo, J.K., 2009: Jeff’s WSW article from upcoming July 2009?


