

NR 205 - ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT

DEVELOPING AN ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT CONVENTION FOR THE LAKE VICTORIA BASIN

Groupwork and Convention Guidelines

Focus Groups (FG): The class will be divided into twelve focus groups (6 students per group). Each focus group will look in depth at an issue in the Lake Victoria Basin like fisheries, forest conservation or social equity. Each FG must submit a mission statement (part of Homework #2) by November 9th. This mission statement should outline the FG's position, chief concerns and recommendations for the future of the Lake Victoria Basin.

Working Groups (WG): The Working Groups are an assembly of focus groups collaborating on a common theme. For example, the Tourism, Economy and Social Equity FGs may form a Human Well-Being WG. The WGs will be assigned after mission statements are submitted. Bill, Catherine, and Jackie will serve as chairs of each working group during the Pre-Convention meetings.

Pre-Convention Prep: Before convening for the convention, the WGs will meet in class. The members of the WG are expected to read each other's mission statements beforehand and give an informal presentation to the other FGs during the preparation. Each WG will craft declarations to present to the Convention. These declarations may address any/all of the five steps outlined in the IUN document. In order to build consensus and make the WG environment a pleasant one, Working Group Chairs will facilitate the Nominal Group Process (check out <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/communities/tools/decisions/nominal.html> for more information). The WGs are responsible to nominating group members to present at the Convention.

Lake Victoria Basin Convention: On December 2nd and 7th we will assemble in class for the Lake Victoria Basin Convention. Each WG will give a ten to fifteen minute presentation on their issues, proposals and declarations. The class will vote on these platforms, ratify winning declarations, and produce an interdisciplinary, ecosystem management plan for the LVB.

Timeline —

Tuesday 10/5:

- Students submit group preferences
- Homework # 1 (individual assignment) distributed in class

Thursday 10/7:

- Group assignments are announced

Tuesday 10/19:

- Homework #1 due
- Homework #2 (group assignment) distributed in class

Tuesday 11/9:

- Homework #2 due
- Homework #3 (group assignment) distributed in class

Tuesday 11/16:

- Group work time in class (30 minutes)

Thursday 11/18:

- Group work time in class (30 minutes)

Tuesday 11/30:

- Pre-Convention Prep: Working Groups Meet, utilize “Nominal Group Process” census building method

Thursday 12/2:

- Homework #3 due
- Day One of the Lake Victoria Basin Convention

Tuesday 12/7

- Day Two of the Lake Victoria Basin Convention
- Course wrap up