RSENR Strategic Planning Workshop
February 27 – 28, 2020

Strategic Agenda:
Radically catalyzing just, equitable, and ecological human-environment systems

Change the narrative to be increasingly biocentric, just and equitable (knowledge)
  • Repurposing tech advances for ecological sustainability issues
  • Impacts what you research and content for learning
  • Ecosystem reality: emphasize healthy ecosystems, nature and biodiversity are essential for future of humanity – medicine, food, water, fiber, fuel

Focus research on human-environment health and balance: sustainable, collaborative, solution-oriented
  • Focus on applied, collaborative, sustainable research to support human and environmental health
  • Reciprocal research

Create an expanding, inclusive, life-long impactful learning experience and community
  • Define what a just, equitable learning experience is
  • Diversity, inclusion and equity -> multiple point of views -> intentional and critical design of programs
  • Access/affordability for learners of all walks of life
  • Strive to improve accessibility to knowledge, resources to make learning more equitable and just

Redesign the learning experience (online, place-based, service, hands-on)
  • Well designed and developed programs to use tech to facilitate effective hybrid (in person intensive online learning, peer to peer included e.g. MLS)
  • Reframing student/learner roles and relationships -> peer to peer learning, teachers learn from students if indirectly “learning ecosystem”
  • Support further development of online and service-learning hybrid classes/learning opportunities
  • Distance service learning is available from domestic/local scales to international networks
  • Maintaining and strengthening place-based education globally. “place-based but not necessarily based in THIS place (Burlington, VT)”
  • Reciprocal learning experience

Shift to learning portfolio/micro credentials to support life-long learning
  • Creating spaces and support for life-long learning
  • Continued access of education and learning opportunities throughout one’s life
  • Re/accessing university for life-long learning e.g.: CiDECi in Chiapas. Younger and older learners
  • Advance nondegree online learning and micro credentials while leveraging and building on current strengths in experiential and place-based learning
  • Not being degrees – serving the nondegree population
  • Competency-based learning – credit for knowledge you already have

Radically nontraditional recruitment by expanding what we value in learners
  • Radically nontraditional recruitment by expanding what we value in the recruitment process
  • What do we value as a community (beyond SAT skills)?

Reframe and harness technology to radically empower and overcome barriers to change
  • Tech tools to encourage interaction across space and time. Tech skills to make sure tech is used well
• Contribute to and utilize open technology, AI and data
• Technology to enhance the support to provide faculty, staff, and students for necessary skills
• Harnessing technology

Collaborate to leverage networks, expand and redefine expertise and reach globally.
• Forming partnerships and collaborations to enhance the learner experience through the collective wisdom
• Increase capacity in RSENR for collaboration and leverage it as needed; by capacity: individual and collective psychological skills and resilience
  > sharing power
  > team building
  > communication
  > intercultural competence
  > facilitation
• Collaboration that leverages networks, redefines expertise, reaches globally
• Having a global presence to assist with networking, research, and recruitment
• Expand and deepen collaboration and relationship building to further excellence and innovation in research and education

Interdisciplinary… building adaptability, multiple ways of knowing, unleashing empathy
• Bring interdisciplinary approach to everything
• Optimize adaptability, especially with technical expertise, and other emerging or undervalued sets of knowledge.
• Incorporating multiple ways of knowing through a diverse curriculum
• Arts and humanities and creativity, expression as pathway for wellbeing and unleashing empathy etc.

Community outreach
• Community-based directives to counterbalance autocratic tendencies (community not necessarily in the same location)

Prepare RSENR to embrace and create needed change – Change by design
• Change management is a critical need for RSENR community to move forward
• Breaking down barriers/ redefining its expertise
• Revolutionizing that “stuff”
• Change management – approaches to allow people to be adaptive and open to change
• Breaking down barriers to collaboration to resource sharing, open data and open science
• Change by design

Create time spaciousness – GAME CHANGING
• Nontraditional timelines for students
• For individual and what about for the collective? (guest lecturers)
• Leveraging technology to create on-demand fluid timing
• Serious equity issues need to be addressed: Scarcity-related: By Americans (Western) created/quantified the ways we have set up how we work and how time is constructed
• “Stomach knows no holiday” - there will always be needs
• Legal implications