**Building Societal Relevance into your Course or Program**

Building courses and programs around societal issues equips students to face earth resource challenges into the future. Linkages around societal issues can unify departments, stakeholders, and institutions, and support a shared vision and growth. Participants will identify and share ways to link courses and programs around societal issues and high impact curriculum (e.g. InTeGrate Modules and Courses) to support deep learning and growth through the creation of stakeholder opportunities, program development).

**Goals:**

* Identify locally-relevant societal issues aligned with grand challenges (e.g. those embedded in InTeGrate modules and courses) in your community
* Reflect on opportunities and resources to leverage that will expand the societal relevance of your course
* Craft an action plan to expand the societal relevance and impact of your course or program using the InTeGrate Rubric as a starting place

**Identify Locally-Relevant Societal Issues**

1. Which earth grand challenges (e.g. see topics embedded in [InTeGrate modules](http://serc.carleton.edu/integrate/teaching_materials/modules_courses.html) for example) are important to your community?

Fracking

Pipeline/Energy

Toxics

Water (Dam Failure)

Water (availability/quality)

Gas

Drought

Hurricanes

Earthquakes/Hazards

Invasive Species

Regulations

Lake Effect Snow

Climate Change (pine beetles, drought, snow change, heat balance)

1. What disciplinary perspectives are needed to address these issues & how do they relate to your course or potential program?

economists

sociologists

engineers

political science

historians

artists

community developers

environmental science/sustainability/ environmental studies

industry fracking

educators

1. What local data or resources are available to understand this challenge? (try to identify data & resources from the perspectives you have identified)

military monitoring

EPA/USGS/NOAA other gov’t

Citizens Science Groups

Municipal Interest Groups

Researchers (relevant projects) (Internal/External)

Census data

Interviews/Surveys (training)

Energy companies

Encyclopedia of the Earth (research resources);

Environmental Center/Partnerships

National/State/Local Parks