MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN MINNESOTA: ENVIRONMENT + FOOD & AGRICULTURE + COMMUNITIES + FAMILIES + YOUTH

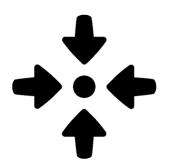
# Planning for a Center for Citizen Science

ROB BLAIR & LUCY FORTSON UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA



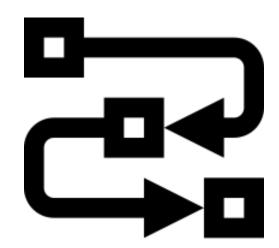
"We propose to create a Center for Citizen Science at the University of Minnesota that will serve as a nexus of information on and practice of the field of citizen science in Minnesota, the nation, and the world."

-- Towards a Center for Citizen Science at the University of Minnesota



### THE PROCESS

- Serendipity Colloquium and Grant
- Strategic Plan Working Group
- Focus Group Needs Assessment
- SWOT Analysis
- Resource Assessment



### WHO?

#### **Abigail Anderson**

Graduate Student Conservation Sciences University of Minnesota

#### **Anna Brailovsky**

Research Development Coordinator for Social Science Institute for Global Studies University of Minnesota

#### **Laurie Fink**

Vice President of Science Science Museum of Minnesota

#### **Philip Herold**

Associate Librarian Libraries Research + Learning University of Minnesota

#### **Janine Kohn**

Division of Ecological and Water Resources Nongame Wildlife Program Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

#### **Nita Krevans**

Associate Professor Classical and Near Eastern Studies University of Minnesota

#### Krista Larson

Nongame Research Biologist
Division of Ecological and Water Resources
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

#### Joshua Leonard

Education Director
Belwin Outdoor Science
Saint Paul Public Schools

#### **Claudia Neuhauser**

Associate Vice President Office of Infomatics Institute University of Minnesota

#### **Craig Packer**

Professor Ecology, Evolution and Behavior University of Minnesota

#### **Evan Roberts**

Research Assistant Professor Sociology University of Minnesota

#### **Lawrence Rudnick**

Professor Astronomy University of Minnesota

#### **Andrea Lorek Strauss**

Extension Professor Minnesota Extension University of Minnesota

#### **Loren Terveen**

Professor Computer Science and Eng University of Minnesota

#### **George Weiblen**

Professor Plant Biology University of Minnesota



### **DEFINITION OF CITIZEN SCIENCE**

Citizen science is the research work undertaken by members of the general public, often in a volunteer capacity, in collaboration with or under the direction of professional researchers and research institutions, that may include:

- integration of explicit and tested protocols for collecting, processing or analyzing data,
  - vetting of data by professional scientists,
  - inclusion of specific and measurable goals for public education,
  - · community building and engagement efforts, and
  - dissemination to appropriate audiences.



### **MISSION**

The Center for Citizen Science is dedicated to advancing the field of citizen science for researchers, educators, citizen scientists, and the public.



### **VISION**

Our vision is to realize the full potential of citizen science – to have it used routinely to derive new knowledge, solve problems, and build community.



### **VALUES**

To follow our mission and achieve our vision, we believe in

**Science:** Scientific processes lead to knowledge about our world.

**Service:** Research is of value to our audiences (researchers, educators, citizen scientists, & the public).

**Diversity:** Different perspectives are valuable in creating new knowledge.

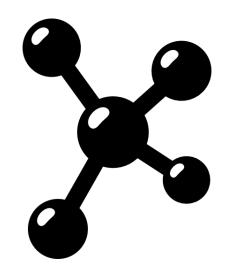
**Community:** Science is open to everyone and of value to all.



1) Pursue development of a Center.



2) Serve and connect multiple audiences including researchers, project coordinators, educators, and citizen scientists.



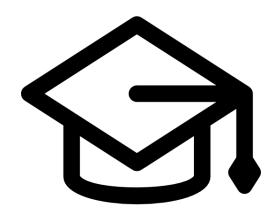
3) Assist researchers with project development and execution.



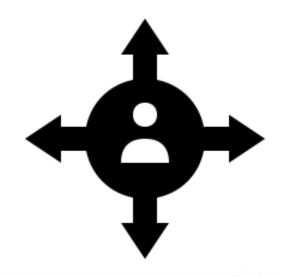
4) Assist coordinators with recruiting, training, & retaining volunteers.



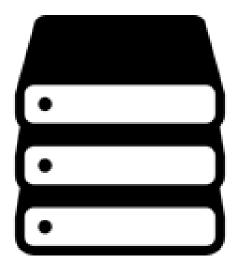
5) Integrate citizen science into science education.



6) Establish a clearinghouse of opportunities for citizen science practitioners.



7) Create a technical center for managing data and data quality.



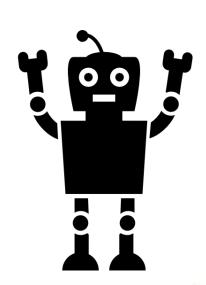
8) Support research on the field of citizen science.



9) Address diversity and inclusion in all facets.



## **WHAT'S NEXT?**



# Thank you.



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