



## Call for Interested Participants

### River Summer 2010 PLEASE JOIN US!



#### NAVIGATING SUSTAINABILITY: THE HUDSON & BEYOND

##### River Summer 2010

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to teach and learn on the Hudson River? Now is your chance! We are currently seeking participants as faculty and participants in RS 2010. Join us for this collaborative interdisciplinary chance to try new ideas, share insights, and re-energize your teaching!

##### Program for 2010 - Navigating Sustainability: The Hudson & Beyond

The focus on sustainability, green thinking and smart planning has become a driving energy at a local, regional and even a national level, however change can be slow to realize in a complex system with parallel, intersecting and often competing principles. Our values and decisions are framed by philosophies and teachings that are deep-rooted and often not visible or consciously subscribed to. Politics, Economics, Ethics, Social Structure & Processes, the Natural World and Technology all compete for prominence in our future. These macro-perspectives play out at a national, state and local level driving decisions and behaviors.

- How will these various beliefs play out in the Hudson Valley?
- Is it possible to attain increased sustainability without a major paradigm shift?

River Summer will tackle these 'big concepts' and how they play out in our local communities. The program focuses on field based learning and active participation by the members. Educators take turns being students and teachers, learning and exploring new disciplines.

##### Program Goals:

- River Summer's goals are to increase connections among faculty at different institutions and from different disciplines, and facilitate the development of curriculum and activities by faculty and teachers at their home institutions and schools based on River Summer's field & place based activities.

##### 2010 Format & Dates:

Our goal is to offer three boat based modules and one field based module in the Adirondacks. On the river we will be operating from Stony Brook's 80' research vessel, and in the Adirondacks we will set up base at the AEC in Newcomb. Our dates at this time are **still tentative** and will be solidified based on response from faculty.

**Module 1:** July 8-12 - New York City & Its Waterways

**Module 2:** July 13-17 - Mid Hudson Region

**Module 3:** July 19-23 - Kingston and the Catskills

**Module 4:** Adirondacks - July 25-31 -A focus on the headwaters region of the Hudson

**For river modules** participants will join the ship at 10AM the first day and stay through 3PM on the 5<sup>th</sup> day. Each days will consist of programs taught by the faculty during the mornings and afternoons, evenings will be focused on group discussions, and developing an online group journal and data analysis and interpretation. The final day will consist of a review and discussion of the activities covered during the module, evaluations, and assessment.

**For the ADK** participants will meet at the Troy Dam at 10AM on the first day and then we will head up into the ADK with stops and talks along the way. We will be spending 2 days of the trip camping, and the rest of the time spent in lodging at the Arbutus Lake area. A list of supplies will be provided for the camping trip, and packs and some items may be borrowed.

### **Who can apply?**

Open to Higher education faculty/Environmental Consortium member faculty ([www.environmentalconsortium.org](http://www.environmentalconsortium.org)). Past participants are welcome (but we encourage you to try a new role, if you have been a teacher only in the past, come as a student!) You are our best advertisers, so please invite a colleague to consider participating. If you are not currently affiliated with the Environmental Consortium, encourage your home institution to join or join as an individual. If you know of Middle or High School teachers who might be interested in participating, please pass this along to them – if there is space available we would like to accommodate as many as possible.

Tim Kenna, Project Director and Margie Turrin, Project Coordinator will be present throughout the entire program.

### **How can I participate?**

There are several participation options: teacher/student, student only, teacher only. Content will be based on submitted proposals with the goal of creating an interdisciplinary curriculum and on a balance of boat based and shore programs. Note: Space restrictions may not allow everyone who submits a participation request to be selected.

**Teacher/Student** - Individuals acting in the capacity of ‘Teacher/Student’ will commit to being present for one leg, housed on the R/V Seawolf; they will lead/teach a ½ day (3-4 hrs.) or 1-day (6-8 hrs.) programs to the group or lead a discussion. They will then act as a student for the remainder of the module.

**Student only**- Individuals acting in the capacity of ‘Student only’ will commit to being present for one module.

**Teacher only**- Individuals acting in the capacity of ‘Teacher only’ will commit to teaching a ca. ½ to 1-day program to the group; they will join the group the day of their program and depart in the evening or at the end of their session. This option allows us to involve more local participation and people who cannot commit to a full module.

### **Sign Up**

We ask that potential participants indicate the dates that they are available, and in what capacity, on the form supplied. If you wish to be considered as ‘teacher/student’ or ‘teacher only’, please

indicate on the form conceptual ideas for your proposed program (see “Program Information” document, also attached to this email, for curriculum suggestions). Please note that proposed program summaries are all that is required at this stage. We are especially interested in curricular components that allow us to focus on many layers of time and content at one location. We are always interested in connecting topics from one or more of our overarching themes and including one or more target skills, and taking advantage of Seawolf as a platform for activities. Inter-institutional teams are also strongly encouraged.

If you have any questions about the program or the form below, please feel free to contact either Margie or Tim. We ask that you fill out the following page and email it back to Margie at [mkt@ldeo.columbia.edu](mailto:mkt@ldeo.columbia.edu) on or before **4/22/10**.

### **Next Steps**

Based on your responses, the Task Force will begin assembling a curriculum at their next meeting. If selected to participate, we will contact you so that you can plan your curricular activities and make your plans for the summer. We will schedule an orientation session for mid-June.

*The River Summer program is offered through the generous support of The Andrew F. Mellon Foundation.*

## River Summer 2010 Participation



Email to [mkt@ideo.columbia.edu](mailto:mkt@ideo.columbia.edu) by 4/22/10

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Institution: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Summer if different: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check your availability:

Module	Teacher/ Student	Student	Teacher only
Module 1: July 8-12 - New York City & Its Waterways			
Module 2: July 13-17 - Mid Hudson Region			
Module 3: July 19-23 - Kingston and the Catskills			
Module 4: 7/25-7/31 - Adirondacks -			

**For those proposing to teach:**

Title of curriculum:

Brief description of content & proposed area of the river:

Brief description of logistics needs, contributions, assistance (i.e. lab, equipment, lecture requirements? shipboard program? on shore requirements, e.g. specific access point, van, etc?):

**For those proposing to attend as students or Day Trippers:**

How do you envision participation in River Summer impacting your teaching in the next academic year?