

Public Outreach Strategy

- Do you have strategies for presenting to other area schools about your experience? Does your administration support this and do you have a means to handle requests?

My strategy has been to send out the information to teachers that I know and let them tell other teachers. So far I have presented to high schools in New York and Georgia, a college class in Georgia and a 5th grade class at a local elementary school. I have also presented to the 6th graders and 8th graders at my middle school. Once I return, I will be starting grad school in Kalamazoo, Michigan (science education). I do not yet have any networks there, but as I become familiar with the area and especially the local schools and laboratories associated with my program, I hope to approach them with presentations and lessons related to my experience. Dr. Ross Powell and I have talked about doing this together since I will be somewhat close to his university. As a grad student, rather than a full time teacher, I will have more flexibility on weekdays to accommodate requests. Additionally, I will have my own group of undergrad students next fall in a weather/climate course and I hope to infuse the course with lessons from my experience.

- What strategies do you have for sharing your expedition with local media? Does your school or your researcher's institution have a media liaison who can assist you with this job?

I wrote an article about my upcoming expedition that was published in my town's newsletter. I sent media releases to three other newspapers (two small, one big). My school does not have a media liaison. I will ask about my researcher's institutions and also Western Michigan University when I arrive.

- What community groups could you present to? When and where will you present?

I am presenting to the Naval Academy Alumni Association at their monthly luncheon on July 15. I am presenting to the Rotary Club of Mission Valley Sunset at their dinner meeting on July 9. When I get to Kalamazoo, I hope to speak with more clubs of this type or university clubs once I become familiar with them.

- What groups or clubs do you belong to? How could they learn from your PolarTREC experience?

I am doing two programs with the local Girl Scout Council. The first is a three day workshop that will include them convening to participate in my Polar Connect event. The second is a program that is part of a day camp emphasizing environmental awareness. They will learn how our research documents climate change and begin to think about how they can impact the planet in a positive way. I hope to reconnect with the Girl Scout Council when I am back in San Diego during school breaks and perhaps reach out to Girl Scouts in Kalamazoo as well.