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Do you love creating thematic units? Do you believe in developing students who are responsible global citizens? Then this is the session for you! During our time together we will examine the National Geographic Learning Framework, which asks students to think like an explorer, and share our ideas for interdisciplinary units as we complete Phase 1 of National Geographic's Educator Certification program. We will also learn about other resources and opportunities available through National Geographic.

Presenter:
Melissa Tracy
High School Social Studies Teacher, Garden Coordinator, Green Team Leader
Odyssey Charter School
Are you interested in starting a school vegetable garden using a garden-based curriculum that aligns with state content standards? Looking for a great hands-on experiential outdoor learning opportunity that can take place right outside of your classroom each year? Excited about healthy produce for your school cafeteria or a possible classroom cooking demonstration? Then this informational workshop is for you! Come learn how to setup a vegetable garden that will enable students to participate in seed to table growing each spring and fall. In this workshop, we will discuss the academic and health benefits of a school vegetable garden program, our typical program structure and format, as well as the time commitment and resources necessary for the implementation of a successful program. Presentation will also touch upon opportunities for project-based learning and conclude with a delicious stir-fry cooking demo featuring our favorite garden veggies. This presentation is best suited for Kindergarten-8th grade educators.

Presenter:
Lindsay Lancaster
Program Manager
Healthy Foods for Healthy Kids
CONCURRENT SESSION I  
11:00 - 11:45 a.m.  
Rooting a Forest of Environmental Leaders  
Strand: Cultivating Environmental Leaders  

A family tree often gives great insight into cultural heritage, provides information about origins of our ancestors, and provides historical context for family decisions. They are ways of connecting to our past while informing our future. In this session, we will delve into professional lineages and understand the importance of professional relationships as they help define career paths, especially in the field of environmental science and education. You will have the opportunity to explore your own professional lineage, as you seek to pass along your legacy to future generations of environmental leaders.

PRESENTERS:  
Jennifer Holmes  
Natural Areas Program Manager  
DNREC - Delaware State Parks  

Bethany Kline  
High School Student  
Calvary Christian Academy
Outdoor Classroom Restoration at the DuPont Environmental Education Center
Strand: Outdoor Classroom Network

A 2019 DAEE Mini-grant recipient, The DuPont Environmental Education Center (DEEC) of Delaware Nature Society will share their progress on restoring their outdoor classroom. The Outdoor Classroom is some of the only upland instructional space at DEEC and is perched right on the Christina River with lovely views of the water. Many hands have made the Outdoor Classroom what it is, with benches and other structures created by Wilmington youth from Delaware Futures during a week of restoration projects and team building that occurs every summer. The primary purpose of the project was to create an educational habitat garden that provided more native plant habitat than its current surroundings, which are overwhelmed by invasive plants. The garden project not only provided valuable habitat for pollinators at the center but increased the likelihood that students and visitors at the site will have the opportunity to see those pollinators up close. Youth from Delaware Futures re-positioned raised beds and planted perennials and a new tree thanks to the mini-grant. A summer camp, titled “Butterflies in Bloom” watered the new plantings and explored their winged & buzzing visitors.

PRESENTERS:
Willa Rowan      Serah Jo Pesce
Education Coordinator  Teacher Naturalist
DuPont Environmental Education Center Delaware Nature Society
You may think of winter as the worst time to identify trees, however, leaves are just one feature used in their identification. For winter tree identification, it’s all about the three B’s: branching, buds and bark. In this session, you will get up close and personal with several native trees species and their “identifiable characteristics.” Participants will learn how to use a “Tree Key” developed to identify trees in winter and have the chance to test their skills at the Jefferson Learning Campus. This session will also highlight Project Learning Tree’s new, Nature Activities for Families devoted to connecting the children in your life to the outdoors and nature. All participants will receive the hard-backed book, *Delaware Trees*. 

**PRESENTER:**
Ashley Melvin
Education Coordinator
Delaware Forest Service
In this presentation, teachers will explore how citizen science can connect students to their local environment through free mobile apps such as Merlin Bird ID and eBird while developing student science practices and meeting standards. From listening to and confidently identifying birds in the field to submitting citizen-science data on the go, the tools we’ll share allow students to work with one another to discover, name, and document the birds in their neighborhood. We’ll then share how participants can access eBirds extensive database to explore species status and trends and meet science and math standards. These data tools and models provide powerful ways to engage students in graphing, mapping, and analyzing data, making it possible for students to investigate questions related to bird populations in their communities and throughout the world.

PRESENTER:
Kelly Schaeffer
Outreach Coordinator
Cornell Lab of Ornithology, K-12 Education
Cultivating Connections with Experiential Nature Based Activities
Strand: Cultivating Environmental Leaders

Engage youth to adults by facilitating experiential nature activities which cultivate a sense of belonging, pride and stewardship. Explore active, open-ended questions that ignite ownership. Outdoor activity followed by group discussion.

PRESENTER:
Alice Mohrman
Education Coordinator/CWH Outreach
Delaware Nature Society at Abbott’s Mill Nature Center
If we want children to become stewards of our earth we need to ignite their passion for outdoor exploration and learning. We started an after school nature club for Kindergarten students. Join us to find out how you can easily start an after school club or how you can make the club experiences become part of your normal day exploring nature with your students!

PRESENTERS:
Susan Jester
Kindergarten Teacher
Newark Charter School

Lori Davis
Kindergarten Teacher
Newark Charter School
Concurrent Session III

Promoting tidal and marine invasive species awareness among Delaware stakeholders
Strand: Connecting People with Nature

Delaware Sea Grant is engaging in a new initiative to educate Delaware citizens about tidal and marine invasive species. In this session, participants will receive background information on the invasive species targeted by this project and their impact on the native environment. Participants will also learn how Delaware Sea Grant is developing messaging and strategies to raise awareness of this issue with various groups in Delaware including recreational anglers, future environmental stewards, and the general public. The session will conclude with a real world, data-based activity that educators can use in the classroom. This activity is based on data from University of Delaware researchers and demonstrates how invasive and native species populations change over time.

Presenter:
David M Christopher
Marine Education Specialist
Delaware Sea Grant / Univ. of Delaware
Discover innovative ways to teach middle school students about human-environmental interactions, while also building STEM skills through problem solving, mathematical modeling, interactive technology and more. Interdisciplinary topics include human population growth, land and ocean use, climate change and biodiversity. Receive electronic lesson plans for use in classrooms and nature centers.

PRESENTER:
Kathy Doyle
Teacher Educator
Population Connection
The Youth Advocacy Training program, developed by the Maryland/D.C. chapter of TNC, guides youths through a series of exercises and activities designed to train them to become advocates for environmental issues. TNC aims to help Wilmington youths become ambassadors for change in their communities and advocates for utilizing nature-based solutions to address problems by making their voices heard in the fight for climate, environmental, and social justice. Through the Youth Advocacy Training program, TNC wants to engage those historically marginalized by the environmental movement and show teens that youth voices can have a major impact on the path to justice.

In this session, participants will learn about the framework of the Youth Advocacy Training as well as the process of partnering and co-creating a program that is designed both for and by youth, meaning that the teens involved are treated as true partners in the collaborative process in order to help them develop their leadership potential. This model poses both challenges and benefits, and in this session, participants will learn some common examples of both. They will also gain more insight into keeping teens engaged during the process and connecting (social) issues important to teens to nature-based solutions and environmental concerns. Participants will be guided through some activities that can be used to help teens think more globally about issues and recognize connections between nature-based solutions and justice issues. Given this generation’s passion for civic engagement and social and environmental/climate justice, it is critical for them to find the most effective and productive method of using their voices to fight for the issues they’re most passionate about so they can create as much positive lasting change as possible.

PRESENTERS:
Rachel Minkovitz, Public Allies AmeriCorps Apprentice
Clean Water Youth Program Coordinator
The Nature Conservancy

Kim Hachadoorian
Stream Stewards Project Manager
The Nature Conservancy
In an attempt to create a more natural campus and increase outdoor education opportunities for Preschool to Eighth grade, St. Anne’s Episcopal School has completed several phases of a multi-phase campus restoration. A team at St. Anne’s has developed a multi-phase plan to increase pollinator and migratory songbird habitat, increase reforestation, and decrease non-point source pollution while creating different habitat spaces for exploratory learning experiences including 8 forest classrooms. The restoration was done in conjunction with the education curriculum to increase access to these areas for students, to share with Urban Promise students when they visit our campus, and our greater community through service projects and outreach. Success of this project is the result of many partnerships. St. Anne’s is currently working to increase the outdoor education program through the creation of outdoor education curricula to include diversity initiatives on campus, creation of a school garden with service to the greater community, increased opportunities for student research and continued reforestation of open areas with rarer native and fruit trees to further support the curriculum of the school. Session will include: examples of innovative curriculum, discussion of campus planning decision making, challenges, and lessons learned.

PRESENTERS:
Kerry Wilson
STEM teacher/Director of Outdoor Education
St. Anne’s Episcopal School

Bart Wilson
Project Manager
USFWS
What do citizen science, inquiry projects, and birds have in common? They are powerful ingredients for creating an authentic interest in science and the natural world. Learn how teachers across the country are using citizen science to inspire schoolyard inquiry projects that actively engage students in a deeper understanding of science and build connections to their local environment.

Participating in citizen science provides a unique and accessible way to facilitate student science investigations and STEM learning while building connections to local habitats. Students making citizen-science observations often ask questions. The materials I’ll share will help teachers scaffold original experiments and observational studies. Questions might range from “how do the kinds of birds we see change during the year?” to “why aren’t we seeing more butterflies at our school and what can we do to get more to visit?”

By engaging in citizen science and investigations, students become scientists and meet NGSS Standards, especially related to science practices, all while spending time outdoors learning to make close observations and embracing their curiosity. During this workshop, I’ll describe free resources that scaffold student investigations and participation in citizen science. We'll discuss the challenges related to authentic scientific inquiry, share stories of successful teachers, and discover how citizen science and inquiry can shape future leaders! Participants will take home a window bird feeder to kickstart their bird observations.

PRESENTER:
Kelly Schaeffer
Outreach Coordinator
Cornell Lab of Ornithology, K-12 Education
CONCURRENT SESSION IV
Murals as Models: Integrating art into climate education while supporting three-dimensional learning
Strand: EE and Formal Education

Do you want to integrate more art into your curricula/program, or align to Next Generation Science Standards? Murals are an engaging addition to any science unit. Developing models in small groups, students practice 21st century skills (the 4 Cs): critical thinking, collaboration, communication, and creativity. This session will explore Earth’s climate system, how it is changing, impacts and solutions. CAUTION: Creative juices may flow.

PRESENTER:
Christopher Petrone
Marine Advisory Service Director
Delaware Sea Grant / Univ. of Delaware
Would you like to empower your students to solve real-world issues while enhancing their learning through student-centered inquiry? Would you like a framework to guide you step-by-step through this process? Come learn how National Geographic’s Geo-Inquiry process can further students’ understanding of the world and empower them to make a difference. The Geo-Inquiry Process is an integrated, five-phase, project-based learning process that connects real-world challenges to the classroom and is applicable for both formal and nonformal educators across disciplines and grade levels. In this interactive session, educators will learn strategies to help students develop the critical thinking skills to ask geographic questions, collect information, visualize data, create compelling stories, and, ultimately, become advocates for change in their own communities. The process is designed to inspire educators to teach students about the world in innovative, experiential, and authentic ways. This session will introduce the Geo-Inquiry Process to educators, highlighting practical applications and examples from a collaborative project between a formal and nonformal educator.

PRESENTERS:

Melissa Tracy
High School Social Studies Teacher, Garden Coordinator, Green Team Leader
Odyssey Charter School

Lindsay Lancaster
Program Manager
Healthy Foods for Healthy Kids
Located at the edge of the Redden State Forest, The Jefferson School campus is an ecological treasure, with forests, fields, two ponds, trails with five family fitness stations, a garden, a greenhouse, a four-member goat tribe, ten chickens, an indoor bee observation hive, and three outside beehives. Our goal is to create a nature-centered, hands-on educational facility that we use daily with our students and can also be shared with others in the community. Join us on a tour of our campus and learn how we use our outdoor environment with our students throughout the year.

Terri Gladus
Environmental Science Coordinator
The Jefferson School
Melissa Tracy
High School Social Studies Teacher, Garden Coordinator, Green Team Leader
Odyssey Charter School

Melissa Tracy is a National Board Certified social studies teacher in Wilmington, Delaware at Odyssey Charter School. Melissa previously taught 6th-12th grade social studies at Conrad Schools of Science for a decade. Melissa currently teaches Food Studies, AP Human Geography, African-American History and Culture, and U.S. History at Odyssey and serves as the high school social studies department chair. Melissa is also a teacher adviser for Model UN, Youth in Government, and the Rho Kappa National Honors Society. Melissa is the KN-12th grade garden coordinator and co-leader of the OCS Green Team. Prior to teaching in Delaware, Melissa taught in India, Poland, and Thailand. Melissa earned a B.A. in history from Tulane University, a M.Ed. in curriculum and instruction (social studies) from the University of Delaware, and a M.A. in U.S. history at Villanova University as a James Madison Memorial Foundation fellow. Additionally, Melissa is a 2020 NEA Global Learning Fellow, a 2014 National Hope Street Group Teacher Fellow, a National America Achieves Fellow, a National Geographic Certified Teacher, and an American Geographical Society Teacher Fellow. Melissa was a Red Clay School District finalist for teacher of the year in 2014 and was nationally recognized for excellence in geography teaching by the National Council for Geographic Education. Melissa is the 2019 Gilder-Lehrman History Teacher of the Year (2019). This past September, Melissa participated in an expedition to the Galapagos as a 2019 National Geographic Grosvenor Teacher Fellow with Lindblad Expeditions. Melissa is proud to be a Delaware educator, and she's highly passionate about food justice, global studies, and ensuring that all students receive a high quality education.

Concurrent Session I: 11:00-11:45am
National Geographic Educator Certification

Concurrent Session IV: 2:45-3:30pm
National Geographic Geo-Inquiry
Lindsay Lancaster
Program Manager
Healthy Foods for Healthy Kids

Lindsay Lancaster is passionate about connecting students with plants, nature, and healthy food. Since 2012, she has been working with Healthy Foods for Healthy Kids (HFHK) where she models garden lessons, trains teachers in garden-based curriculum, coordinates the volunteer program, and assists with PR, fundraising, and strategic planning initiatives. Prior to her position at HFHK, Lindsay was a third grade teacher for three years at Green Woods Charter School, a school with an environmentally integrated curriculum. In 2018, she was selected as one of National Geographic’s Grosvenor Teacher Fellows and embarked on an epic expedition to the Arctic with Lindblad Expeditions.

Concurrent Session I: 11:00 – 11:45am
Starting a School Vegetable Garden

Concurrent Session IV: 2:45-3:30pm
National Geographic Geo-Inquiry
Jennifer Holmes  
**Natural Areas Program Manager**  
**DNREC - Delaware State Parks**

Jennifer Holmes is the Natural Areas Program Manager for the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC), Division of Parks and Recreation. Prior to her current position, Jennifer was the Federal Consistency Coordinator for the State of Delaware. From 2014-2018 she taught middle school, high school, and college level classes for Calvary Christian Academy in Dover, Delaware as a science and mathematics instructor. From 2008 – 2014, Ms. Holmes served as the Education Coordinator for the Delaware National Estuarine Research Reserve. Her Delaware journey, however, began in 2002 as a regulator with the DNREC, Wetlands and Subaqueous Lands Section and continued as a program manager in the DNREC, Drainage Program. In both of these roles, Jennifer realized the importance of educating constituents on the values of Delaware’s natural resources and the means by which they are protected. Ms. Holmes has a Master’s of Science degree in Natural Resources Management with a specialization in Wetland Ecology from the Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio and a Bachelor’s of Science degree in Environmental Science from Salem-Teikyo University (now Salem University) in Salem, West Virginia.

Bethany Kline  
**High school student**  
**Calvary Christian Academy**

Bethany Kline is a senior high school student at Calvary Christian Academy (CCA). She is interested in pursuing a career in environmental chemistry and sustainability. Ms. Kline is a member of CCA’s Envirothon team and is conducting research on micro-plastics under the advisement of Dr. Kari St. Laurent at the Delaware National Estuarine Research Reserve.

Concurrent Session I: Rooting a Forest of Environmental Leaders

Concurrent Session I: 11:00-11:45am  
**Rooting a Forest of Environmental Leaders**

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Return to Agenda
Willa Rowan  
Education Coordinator  
DuPont Environmental Education Center  
Delaware Nature Society

Willa Rowan is the Education Coordinator at DuPont Environmental Education Center (DEEC) of Delaware Nature Society. In previous roles she was a 5th grade teacher at the environmentally-themed Wissahickon Charter School and led high schoolers in boat-building and river ecology afterschool programming in Northeast Philadelphia. She loves having a freshwater tidal marsh as her office at DEEC and sharing in the delights of every seasonal change with the children and families who visit for programs. She is a proud resident of West Philadelphia.

Serah Jo Pesce  
Teacher Naturalist  
Delaware Nature Society

Serah Pesce is first and foremost the mother of three nature-loving children. She and her family live in New Castle on a fifth of an acre of DNS and NWF certified backyard habitat. She has been an involved parent at Las Americas ASPIRA Academy since 2013 and serves on the Board of Directors. In 2017, Ms. Pesce won the Delaware Charter School Network Cornerstone Award for her involvement in the creation and installation of the ASPIRA Outdoor Learning Environment. Ms. Pesce volunteers with the Delaware Nature Society as a Habitat Steward sharing her expertise with several Delaware schools to assist them in their own schoolyard habitat projects. She has been a member of the Delaware Association for Environmental Education since 2017. She is a Teacher Naturalist for the Delaware Nature Society and seasonal horticulturist at Mt. Cuba Center, the botanical garden in Hockessin, DE. Ms. Pesce received a Bachelor of Science degree from Pennsylvania State University in Landscape Contracting.

Concurrent Session I: 11:00-11:45am  
Outdoor Classroom Restoration at the DuPont Environmental Education Center
Ashley Melvin
Education Coordinator
Delaware Forest Service

Ashley Melvin joined the Delaware Forest Service as a casual seasonal in 2001 after receiving her bachelor’s degree in Plant Science from Delaware State University. She worked as the botanist for the Forest Inventory Analysis (FIA) Program for three years before moving into the education position in 2004. A native Delaworean, Ashley developed a deep connection with nature at a young age and understands the importance of fostering that connection in today’s youth. Currently she serves as Delaware’s Project Learning Tree (PLT) Coordinator and manages two education centers at Blackbird and Redden State Forests. A founding member of the Delaware Association for Environmental Education (DAEE) and current Treasurer, Ashley helps increase the quality and opportunity for outdoor learning on a state, regional and national level. She continues to participate as the botanist in all Delaware Forest Service field studies and is the outgoing chair of the Delaware Invasive Species Council (DISC). Ashley enjoys sharing her love of nature and the outdoors with her 1.5 year old son, Marcus. Ashley attributes a great deal of her success to the skills she learned through her involvement with the National FFA Organization. She served as Vice President and Chapter President while at Caesar Rodney High School (1994-1998) and as Chapter President for the DSU collegiate chapter (1998-2002). Ashley has the pleasure to coordinate the Forestry CDE annually in Delaware and just recently joined the National FFA Forestry CDE Committee.

Concurrent Session II: 12:30-1:15pm
Leap Into Nature with Project Learning Tree’s “Bursting Buds”
Kelly Schaeffer
Outreach Coordinator
Cornell Lab of Ornithology, K-12 Education

Kelly Schaeffer graduated from the University of Delaware with degrees in Wildlife Conservation and Entomology. As an undergraduate, Kelly fell in love with the world of avian research and spent the next few years traveling and working as a field research technician, where she became inspired to pursue a career in environmental education. After internships with the Delaware Nature Society and International Crane Foundation, Kelly was officially hooked on environmental education. She obtained her MS from the University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point in Environmental Education and Interpretation while teaching at an environmentally focused boarding high school in northern Wisconsin. In 2015, Kelly began work with the Cornell Lab of Ornithology's K-12 Education team, where she writes curriculum, and leads educator professional development workshops with a focus on supporting educators as they connect to their students to birds and nature through scientific exploration.
Alice Mohrman
Education Coordinator/CWH Outreach
Delaware Nature Society at Abbott's Mill Nature Center

An Environmental Educator since 1986, I have had the opportunity to explore the flora and fauna of coastal communities from Massachusetts to Georgia. I earned a MEd, with a focus on Constructivist Education, from UMass in 2000. I am currently the Education Coordinator and Certified Wildlife Outreach agent for the Delaware Nature Society at Abbott's Mill Nature Center.
Susan Jester  
Kindergarten Teacher  
Newark Charter School

Lori Davis  
Kindergarten Teacher  
Newark Charter School

Susan and Lori are Kindergarten teachers at Newark Charter School. They both have over 30 years teaching experience and started a Nature Club at NCS last year. Susan and Lori are passionate about getting kids off devices and exploring outdoors! More green time!
David M Christopher  
Marine Education Specialist  
Delaware Sea Grant / Univ. of Delaware

David Christopher is the Marine Education Specialist at Delaware Sea Grant. David has over 20 years of experience in the marine and informal education field. David has a Bachelor of Arts in Biology from St. Mary’s College of Maryland and a Master’s of Education form Goucher.
Kathy Doyle, now retired, taught for over 25 years as a middle and high school teacher, as both a social studies and special education teacher. Since 2012, she has also provided professional development workshops for formal and nonformal educators as part of Population Connection’s volunteer educators’ network. Most recently she presented sessions for DAEE and MAEOE. Kathy received her M.A. in Teaching Secondary Social Studies from Brown University and B.A. in Social Thought and Political Economy from University of Massachusetts, Amherst.
Rachel Minkovitz
Public Allies AmeriCorps Apprentice; Clean Water Youth Program Coordinator
The Nature Conservancy

Rachel Minkovitz is a Public Allies AmeriCorps Apprentice positioned as the Clean Water Youth Program Coordinator at the Delaware field office of The Nature Conservancy. She graduated from Bates College with Bachelor’s degrees in psychology and French and Francophone Studies. Rachel aims to help provide people with the tools they need to advocate for social, environmental, and climate justice, particularly for those populations that have been historically marginalized.

Kim Hachadoorian
Stream Stewards Project Manager
The Nature Conservancy

Kim Hachadoorian works for The Nature Conservancy in Delaware managing Stream Stewards, a Citizen Science water quality monitoring program, in partnership with First State National Historical Park. She has a Master’s Degree in Environmental and Forest Biology and over 20 years of experience in environmental research, education and outreach. Kim is passionate about engaging people of all ages and backgrounds in the process of science-based conservation projects that help to create a world where people and nature thrive.
Kerry Wilson
STEM teacher/Director of Outdoor Education
St. Anne's Episcopal School

Kerry Wilson is the Director of Outdoor Education at Saint Anne's Episcopal School in Middletown Delaware. She has been developing the campus and the school’s outdoor education programs for the last five years. Kerry teaches STEM, which includes the sciences and computer science for preschool age children through 4th grade. Kerry has also taught Chemistry and Biology at the high school level. She has a bachelors degree in environmental science and masters in marine biology/biochemistry. Kerry has worked as a field biologist studying sea turtles and worked as an oceanographer. Kerry is most passionate about developing cross-curricular inclusive learning opportunities in nature. She has developed literature-based programming as well as integrated historical and culturally significant aspects into programs to increase diversity and inclusion among families at the school. Most recently she became a certified naturalist with Delaware Nature Society. In her free time she enjoys travel, camping, and gardening.

Bart Wilson
Project Manager
USFWS

Bart is a geologist who serves as the Project Manager for the Coastal Delaware Refuge Complex. He oversees habitat management and restoration at the refuges, which includes such things as: the use of prescribed fire, control of invasive species, vegetation management, and converting former fallow fields into pollinator and bird habitat. He enjoys camping, hiking, going to see live music with Kerry (his wife) and daughters, Shay and Sadie.

CONCURRENT SESSION III 1:30 – 2:15 p.m.
Naturally Inspired Restoration, Education, and Research at St. Anne's Episcopal School
Kelly Schaeffer
Outreach Coordinator
Cornell Lab of Ornithology, K-12 Education

Kelly Schaeffer graduated from the University of Delaware with degrees in Wildlife Conservation and Entomology. As an undergraduate, Kelly fell in love with the world of avian research and spent the next few years traveling and working as a field research technician, where she became inspired to pursue a career in environmental education. After internships with the Delaware Nature Society and International Crane Foundation, Kelly was officially hooked on environmental education. She obtained her MS from the University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point in Environmental Education and Interpretation while teaching at an environmentally focused boarding high school in northern Wisconsin. In 2015, Kelly began work with the Cornell Lab of Ornithology's K-12 Education team, where she writes curriculum, and leads educator professional development workshops with a focus on supporting educators as they connect to their students to birds and nature through scientific exploration.
Christopher Petrone
Marine Advisory Service Director
Delaware Sea Grant / Univ. of Delaware

Christopher Petrone is the Director of the Delaware Sea Grant Marine Advisory Service (MAS), which is housed within the University of Delaware’s College of Earth, Ocean, and Environment. Based at the UD Hugh R. Sharp Campus in Lewes, Chris oversees eight extension and education specialists who work with stakeholders and partners to solve community issues using the best available science. Prior to his current position, Chris was the Marine Education Specialist with Delaware Sea Grant, conducting professional development opportunities for classroom teachers and informal educators in ocean and climate science and wind energy. Chris has a B.S. in Biology from Washington College (Maryland) and an M.S. in Marine Biosciences from the University of Delaware. Prior to working with Delaware Sea Grant, he has been a classroom teacher, commercial oyster farmer, and a Marine Education Specialist with Virginia Sea Grant and the Virginia Institute of Marine Science.
Melissa Tracy  
**High School Social Studies Teacher, Garden Coordinator, Green Team Leader**  
**Odyssey Charter School**

Melissa Tracy is a National Board Certified social studies teacher in Wilmington, Delaware at Odyssey Charter School. Melissa previously taught 6th-12th grade social studies at Conrad Schools of Science for a decade. Melissa currently teaches Food Studies, AP Human Geography, African-American History and Culture, and U.S. History at Odyssey and serves as the high school social studies department chair. Melissa is also a teacher adviser for Model UN, Youth in Government, and the Rho Kappa National Honors Society. Melissa is the KN-12th grade garden coordinator and co-leader of the OCS Green Team. Prior to teaching in Delaware, Melissa taught in India, Poland, and Thailand. Melissa earned a B.A. in history from Tulane University, a M.Ed. in curriculum and instruction (social studies) from the University of Delaware, and a M.A. in U.S. history at Villanova University as a James Madison Memorial Foundation fellow. Additionally, Melissa is a 2020 NEA Global Learning Fellow, a 2014 National Hope Street Group Teacher Fellow, a National America Achieves Fellow, a National Geographic Certified Teacher, and an American Geographical Society Teacher Fellow. Melissa was a Red Clay School District finalist for teacher of the year in 2014 and was nationally recognized for excellence in geography teaching by the National Council for Geographic Education. Melissa is the 2019 Gilder-Lehrman History Teacher of the Year (2019). This past September, Melissa participated in an expedition to the Galapagos as a 2019 National Geographic Grosvenor Teacher Fellow with Lindblad Expeditions. Melissa is proud to be a Delaware educator, and she's highly passionate about food justice, global studies, and ensuring that all students receive a high quality education.

Lindsay Lancaster  
**Program Manager**  
**Healthy Foods for Healthy Kids**

Lindsay Lancaster is passionate about connecting students with plants, nature, and healthy food. Since 2012, she has been working with Healthy Foods for Healthy Kids (HFHK) where she models garden lessons, trains teachers in garden-based curriculum, coordinates the volunteer program, and assists with PR, fundraising, and strategic planning initiatives. Prior to her position at HFHK, Lindsay was a third grade teacher for three years at Green Woods Charter School, a school with an environmentally integrated curriculum. In 2018, she was selected as one of National Geographic’s Grosvenor Teacher Fellows and embarked on an epic expedition to the Arctic with Lindblad Expeditions.

CONCURRENT SESSION IV: 2:45 – 3:30 p.m.  
**National Geographic Geo-Inquiry Workshop**
Terri Gladus  
Environmental Science Coordinator  
The Jefferson School

Terri has been working at The Jefferson School from January 2019 through the present. Not only is she the Environmental Science Coordinator, but also the summer camp director! Before joining The Jefferson School, Terri was the Camp Director and Interpretive Park Ranger for Wicomico County Parks and Recreation in Salisbury, MD. Terri studied abroad in Mumbai, India in 2018 where she conducted interviews and produced a research project on the waste systems of Mumbai. She is the Chair of City of Salisbury’s Sustainability Advisory Committee, a member of City of Salisbury Folk Festival Green Committee, and involved with the National Council of the Traditional Arts and City of Salisbury to strive towards Zero Waste. Terri holds a Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Studies from Salisbury University.