

## UKEHI First Meeting (via Zoom)

Time: **Oct 28 at 02:00 PM EST**

- contact [bob.sandmeyer@uky.edu](mailto:bob.sandmeyer@uky.edu)

### Zoom Recording:

<https://uky.zoom.us/rec/share/0MPE6G0vYebDkd-Wp1Mqo3KP9OoLZdgacpYCSxrAefNrZ8c1iZxGob-YmjEpxoqn.gNiM0xD6pS5CrcnJ?startTime=1635443799000>

### Meeting Agenda

(notes at bottom)

#### 1. Welcome to the UK-EHI

- a. What is it? (It is you)
  - i. [Who are we?](#)
    1. 54 faculty & grad students
      - a. 39 faculty
      - b. 12 grad students
    2. 7+ colleges
      - a. no faculty/for College of Fine Arts
    3. an independent entity centered at UK
  - ii. Mission
    1. Research
    2. Teaching/Pedagogy
    3. Extension
      - a. land-grant mission: humanities extension
- b. Why am I doing this?
  - i. Covid and Community

#### 2. Current Website (<https://www.uky.edu/~rsand1/environmentalhumanities/>)

- a. Structure (pages of note)
  - i. Front page
  - ii. Roster - "Faculty" Cluster
    1. given composition, name change needed
  - iii. Meetings & Correspondence
- b. Report on meeting with IT
  - i. Met earlier with Scott Bradely and Nijad Zakharia
    1. Key To Success
      - a. create an independent entity with strong faculty engagement
  - ii. Discussed digital presence/home
    1. Examples
      - a. **Independent**
        - i. <https://onerural.uky.edu/> (Loka Ashwood)

- ii. <https://gate.uky.edu/>
  - b. A&S
    - i. <https://chss.as.uky.edu/>
- 2. Decaying or Failed Efforts
  - a. <https://learningamplified.as.uky.edu/>
    - i. promoted by Dean
    - ii. died due to low faculty engagement
- iii. NEED: idea force for build design for our digital platform / presence
  - 1. what needs to go on site / how should it be structured
    - a. events
    - b. sharing news articles
    - c. home for workshops
    - d. do people submit
  - 2. a collaboration
  - 3. Timeline
    - a. work out design details this academic year
    - b. fully functional site next academic year
      - i. maybe sooner?

### 3. Benchmarks Study

- a. Summary of study (page 8)
- b. Recommendations: short – medium – long term goals

### 4. Funding

- a. Current Efforts (internal funding)
  - i. Secured
    - 1. \$500 Gaines mini-grant
      - a. Funding for undergraduate participation/work
  - ii. In progress
    - 1. CHSS Workshop Series Call for Proposals
      - a. [CHSS Workshop Series Grant](#)
        - i. \$1,500 CHSS Workshop Grant
          - 1. Dedicated to reading, writing, and discussion on a particular theme -
          - 2. include faculty members from at least two departments and be open to all interested graduate students
          - 3. CHSS Mission
      - b. [UK-EHI CHSS Workshop Grant Proposal](#)
        - i. Status Report
          - 1. Incubator Grant
          - 2. Funding for graduate student participation/work

- c. Report on Status
      - i. Deadline: 11/1/21
  - b. Future Efforts (External funding)
    - i. [NEH Humanities Connections](#)
      - 1. [Planning Grant](#)
      - 2. Implementation
    - ii. [Mellon Grants](#)
      - 1. Higher Learning
        - a. [Research Universities and Institutes](#)
        - b. [Sawyer Seminars](#)
        - c. [New Directions Fellowships](#)
      - 2. Humanities in Place

NOTES:

- Transcription Request
  - [Universal Design for Learning](#): aim to build into the Initiative
- "Faculty" Cluster not a good name
  - UK-EHI includes
    - Faculty
    - Graduate Students
    - Staff
    - Non-UK Academics
    - Non-academics
  - Suggestion: UK-EHI Cluster
- UK-EHI linked to landgrant mission at UK
  - Research
  - Teaching
  - Extension, aka Community Engagement
- Discussion of meeting with IT (Scott Bradely and Najid Zakharia)
- Creating an independent unit in UK
  - example: [onerural.uky.edu](#) (Loka Ashwood)
    - Loka detailed her work
  - Doug Slaymaker
    - hard lessons learned from effort to create Independent Asia Center, which didn't survive
      - no one fighting for its existence
      - funding
- Brenna
  - concrete step to create community
    - UCLA we had a hip hop working initiative
    - interdisciplinary writing course
  - Bob: NEH Humanities Connection – Planning Grant
    - need/desire to bring in external faculty (e.g., Shannon Bell)

- timeline
  - dream is that this will go on for years past my (Bob's) time at UK
  - aim to be fully operational by academic 2022-23
    - gives us time to plan and design structure, mission, etc.
  - really important to get graduate student participation
    - and undergraduate
- discussion of the three workshop ideas
  - Daniel Kirchner (Honors College)
    - Proposal:
      - Robin Wall Kimmerer, *Braiding Sweetgrass* reading workshop
  - Emma Kiser (History grad student)
    - part of a working group in history department around different topics, all interested in environmental history (Kathy Newfont advisor)
    - Proposal
      - introduce what people are already working on and share and kind of bring in some other speakers who have established environmental humanities initiatives other places just kind of like an introduction
  - Rhonda Davis (NKU,
    - community engagement workshop
    - Proposal:
      - workshop where people would engage in reading and writing and sharing environmental narratives where they're looking at narratives of self place in nature
- Mission and Scope
  - Cagle
    - Climate Consortium and imperative for clear mission statement
  - Suggestion proposed
    - Grad Student Workshop designed to address this very question