



REACCH: Useful, collaborative research for the Pacific Northwest

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As deans for the three land-grant universities in the Pacific Northwest (PNW), we are very supportive of the U.S. Department of Agriculture funded project Regional Approaches to Climate Change in Pacific Northwest Agriculture (REACCH

– PNA) and the continuation of research, education, and outreach in the focus area of the project.

In anticipation of the termination of National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) funding for this project in 2016, we reconfirm our commitment to the research objectives of this important project

IMPACT

The REACCH project is part of a broader regional collaborative effort that includes our three land-grant universities. A message from the deans of the agricultural colleges in these universities emphasizes the commitment to current and future benefits of the REACCH project for the wheat producers of our region.

—“ensuring that agriculture and grain production will endure future climate change.” This project has been a great example of the collaborative relationship that our universities and our respective colleges of agriculture (variously named) have in all three areas of our mission: research, teaching, and extension. Over 100 scientists and students from our institutions are participating in this important project. Here we outline how the REACCH mission aligns with the mission of our respective institutions, and how we will ensure continuity into the future.

University of Idaho
A LEGACY OF LEADING



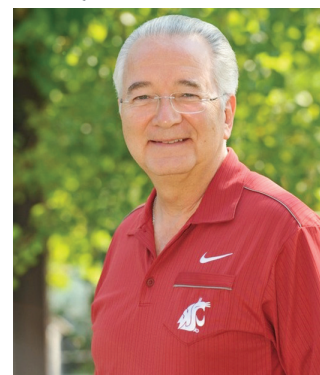
John Foltz, Dean, College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, UI.

change will challenge existing cereal end-use quality, yield, pest management, and agronomic practices. Additionally, the REACCH project was instrumental in the creation of a second POD—Human, Natural, and Managed Ecosystems. This POD

focuses primarily on ecosystems under stress, ecosystem services, and watershed management. Continuation of the REACCH project goals is key to many of the priorities of the college to help prepare agriculture for continued climate change.

Similarly, at Washington State University, the College of Agricultural, Human, and Natural Resource Sciences (CAHNRS) has identified two new Pinnacles of Excellence that will guide future research emphases and investments over the next decade. One of these is Water Resource Management and Climate Change. Numerous faculty within CAHNRS are actively pursuing research at the intersection of water, climate, agriculture, and urban living throughout the state, the PNW, and the world. CAHNRS also has field-based extension faculty and staff that are actively addressing issues at the intersection of water and climate, including marine water-quality issues in support of shellfish production and Puget Sound ecosystem recovery efforts; freshwater water-quality issues, including stormwater runoff, septs, and livestock effects on water quality; water-quality and water-quantity issues through the Master Gardener program; and many other related programs. CAHNRS faculty are essential to integrated interdisciplinary research efforts being pursued related to water and climate issues through the Center for Environmental Research, Education, and Outreach (CEREO); the State of Washington Water Research Center (SWWRC); the Washington Stormwater Center (WSC); and the Center for Sustaining Agriculture and Natural Resources (CSANR), which provide a nexus for interdisciplinary research and outreach for the full scope of water- and climate-related issues. Continuation of the REACCH project goals is central to many of CAHNRS' priorities for preparing agriculture, as well as society more generally, for continued climate change.

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY



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Oregon State University (OSU) and its College of Agricultural Sciences (CAS) are engaged in research and education on agricultural and managed ecosystems and understanding the human



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interactions, the biological and agronomic drivers, and the connections to healthy and sustainable outcomes. OSU's strategic plan centers on three "healthies"—healthy planet, healthy people, and healthy economics—in its commitment to student success for undergraduates, graduate students, and lifelong learners. The REACCH project and the CAS goals for addressing a changing climate and the continued sustainability of our food systems are in sync with OSU's objectives. College faculty are exploring the opportunities and challenges of

a changing climate, new technologies, and data-driven policies for the agricultural and food sectors and are finding better ways to communicate this information to students and stakeholders. Through enhanced partnerships with decision makers (growers, food system suppliers, and policy makers), OSU and CAS are addressing both adaptation and mitigation pathways, and through innovation in educational and outreach efforts, they are ensuring a workforce capacity to meet increasing needs to provide for a stable and sustainable food supply. Development of online web-based decision tools for agricultural producers, supported by the REACCH project and by targeted investments made by OSU and CAS, is an example of translating often technical climate research into readily understandable information for assessing adaptation alternatives and farm-scale investments.



Lauren Young, WSU MS cropping systems student, analyzes soil samples for nitrogen in order to make nitrogen fertilizer recommendations to producers. Photo by Stephen Cole.



REACCH graduate students, colleagues and interns taught and helped at our Teacher Workshop in Pendleton, Oregon. Students Nicole Tautges (center) taught weed identification and Allison Buiser (right) was an intern on precision agriculture technologies—both themes of the teacher workshop. Photo by Leigh Bernacchi.