About the Center for Scientific Collaboration and Community Engagement

The Center for Scientific Collaboration and Community Engagement (CSCCE) is a research and training center to support and study the emerging field of scientific community engagement.

Scientific community engagement, also known as community management, refers to the human infrastructure that is necessary to support healthy and productive STEM communities. These roles include a range of job titles – from community manager, program manager, and network engagement manager to assistant director of a research center. In all cases, the purpose of community engagement is to connect and empower members to work together towards a common goal.

The goal and focus areas of the Center ~ The goal of CSCCE is to professionalize and institutionalize the role of the community engagement manager within science. All of our activities are in service of this.

Underpinned by an ethos of collaborative, evidence-based activities and the development of network-centric leaders, CSCCE has three focus areas ...

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Center for Scientific Collaboration and Community Engagement (CSCCE)

Description:

The Center for Scientific Collaboration and Community Engagement (CSCCE) is a research and training center to support and study the emerging field of scientific community engagement.

Stakeholder(s):

Community Engagement Managers

Community Initiatives :
CSCCE is a fiscally sponsored project of Community Initiatives, a registered 501(c)3 non-profit organization based in California, USA.

Alfred P. Sloan Foundation :
In 2017 and 2019, CSCCE received grants from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, which enabled us to establish the Community Engagement Fellows Program (CEFP) and develop our initial curriculum for scientific community managers. This funding also supported us as we developed our consulting and research services.

CSCCE currently has a grant from the Sloan Foundation, which was awarded in 2021 to test a prototype financial sustainability model. While we already bring in significant revenue from consulting (including grant subcontracts) and training courses, this 2.5-year Sloan grant is bridging the gap to sustainability while we launch an institutional membership program, shore up our technical infrastructure, and develop and launch additional training options.

Institutions :
Our goal is to be financially self-sustaining by the end of 2023 / early 2024 through a mixed revenue model consisting of institutional memberships, consultancy and training revenue, and project-specific grants.

CSCCE Funders :
We are currently included in grants from the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative (CZI), the US National Science Foundation (NSF), and the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation.

Chan Zuckerberg Initiative

National Science Foundation

CSCCE Managers :
How CSCCE is managed ~ The Center is directed by Lou Woodley, who has been with CSCCE since its inception. Lou reports to an advisory board that governs CSCCE's overall activities.

CSCCE Team :
We are a team of skilled communicators and facilitators, with extensive experience in academic publishing, international research collaborations, and research centers. We're systems thinkers, passionate about building community, with an emphasis on diversity, equity, and inclusion.

LOU WOODLEY :
Founder and Director ~ Lou bridges people, science, and technology, championing both human and technical infrastructure within science. Prior to her current role at CSCCE, Lou spent more than five years at AAAS, where she launched the Community Engagement Fellows Program and led other community-focused initiatives. Before AAAS, she oversaw Nature Publishing Group's community projects, including Nature Network, the nature.com blogs, and online coverage of the Lindau Nobel Laureate Meetings and Nobel Week Dialogue. Lou has organized community-focused events of various formats and sizes, including conferences, unconferences, monthly discussion series and multiple online events. A molecular biologist by training, Lou brings experience in frontline research to bear on her work building scientific communities.

KATIE PRATT :
Communications Director and Content Archivist ~ Katie is a science communicator and community manager with a background in biological research. She develops and share the CSCCE's products, and supports our community of practice. Previously, she spent seven years as Communications Director for the Deep Carbon Observatory, a decade-long Earth and life sciences program. In that role, she managed a 1200-member international and multi-disciplinary community, and collaborated with the Metcalf Institute for Environmental Reporting, NSF's Center for Dark Energy Biosphere Investigations, the International Continental Drilling Program, and others to help scientists better engage key audiences through a variety of communications media. In 2017, Katie participated in the Community Engagement Fellows Program (CEFP 2017).

CAMILLE SANTISTEVAN :
Director of Learning ~ Camille applies her background in higher education, workforce development, social work, and political science to support and train scientific community managers. Before joining the CSCCE she helped start up The City University of New York's Advanced Science Research Center, where she created community and public engagement programs, organized events and professional development training, and oversaw various communications and marketing projects. Camille has additionally designed, delivered, and evaluated evidence-based career development programs sponsored by the US National Science Foundation and the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. In 2019, she participated in the CSCCE Community Engagement Fellowship Program (CEFP 2019).

ADRIENNE GAUTHIER :
Trainer and Learning Program Manager ~ Adrienne brings a learner-centric philosophy to her work in learning design and technology, program management and evaluation, and STEM teaching and learning. Prior to joining CSCCE, she was a learning designer at Dartmouth College, supporting teaching and educational technology needs through consultations, thought-partnership, collaboration, and faculty development

workshops. She also brings a background in astronomy education and outreach through past projects at the University of Arizona, including the design, development, and management of the International Year of Astronomy 2009 Second Life presence. At CSCCE, she is working with the rest of the training team to build out a comprehensive training program for community managers in STEM.

ALICE MARTINIC :
Trainer and Curriculum Assistant ~ Alice is a teaching and learning scholar with a disciplinary background in nutritional biochemistry. Prior to joining CSCCE, Alice was the Associate Director of the Teaching Academy at New Mexico State University, where she directed university-wide professional development programs with an emphasis on STEM and inclusive teaching. While in graduate school at the University of California, Davis, she was the Program Administration Lead for the Teaching Assistant Consultant Program where she designed workshops on a wide variety of teaching topics. At CSCCE, Alice works with the Director of Learning to collaboratively design curriculum for trainings, deliver these trainings in the virtual classroom, and build community within cohorts of learners.

SAIMA SIDIK :
Communications Assistant ~ Saima is a science journalist with a background in microbiology. Before joining CSCCE, she worked as a research associate at the Whitehead Institute, where she studied the cell biology of the pathogenic human parasite Toxoplasma. Her transition from research to writing involved blogging about microbiology, medical research, and natural history, and in 2021 she graduated from MIT's Graduate Program in Science Writing. At CSCCE, Saima works with our communications director to manage the CSCCE community of practice; assists with internal communications and infrastructure; and co-creates content and resources for our website, blog, and regular newsletters.

CSCCE Advisory Board :
Our advisory board is composed of three core members who bring a range of perspectives to CSCCE – including academic research, social sciences theory, technical infrastructure implementation, facilitation, academic publishing, and business management. Thanks to their deep expertise, they span organizational contexts from academia to non-profits, business to startups. They have each been involved with scientific community-building for several years – managing, supporting and/or studying communities.

In the coming months we plan to create additional leadership roles in the CSCCE community to further represent the diverse range of members that CSCCE serves. More details will be forthcoming.

Amber Budden :
Amber is an inaugural fellow of the AAAS Community Engagement Fellowship Program (CEFP) and a current CEFP mentor.

Amber Budden is an open science facilitator, community manager and data literacy trainer based at the National Center for Ecological Analysis and Synthesis. Co-lead of DataONE and the Arctic Data Center, her focus is on data science infrastructure and in supporting community development and adoption of open science learning and best practices.

Amber's previous research activity includes bibliometrics, publication practices and behavioral ecology. She served as a member of the Board of Directors for the National Postdoctoral Association during its inception, chairing the strategic planning and publications committees.

She has a PhD in behavioral ecology from the University of Wales, a joint BSc in Psychology and Zoology from the University of Bristol and is qualified as a youth and community worker. Her postdoctoral research was conducted through the University of California, Berkeley and the University of California, Santa Barbara.

Josh Freeman :
Josh has been involved with CSCCE since its inception – including participating in strategic planning meetings and attending the CEFP2017 fellowship trainings.

Josh Freeman was the Founding General Manager of Trellis, the online collaboration platform for the scientific community built and operated by AAAS, and also was the co-Principal Investigator on the initial grants from the Sloan Foundation that created and funded CSCCE. In addition, Josh has been Chief Digital Media Officer for Science, led several start-ups, and served in a variety of roles at the Discovery Networks, AOL, and Bain & Co.

Cameron Neylon :
Cameron served as a CEFP curriculum advisory committee member and CEFP2017 mentor.

Cameron Neylon is Professor of Research Communication at the Centre for Culture and Technology at Curtin University, Director of KU Research, and an advocate of open research practice who has worked in research and support areas including chemistry, advocacy, policy, technology, publishing, political economy and cultural studies.

He was a contributor to the Panton Principles for Open Data, the Principles for Open Scholarly Infrastructure, the altmetrics manifesto, a founding board member of FORCE11 and served on the boards and advisory boards of organisations including Impact Story, Crossref, altmetric.com, the LSE Impact Blog and various editorial boards. His previous positions include Advocacy Director at PLOS, Senior Scientist (Biological Sciences) at the STFC and tenured faculty at the University of Southampton.

Along with his earlier work in structural biology and biophysics his research and writing focuses on the culture of researchers, the political economy of research institutions and how these interact, and collide with, the changing technology environment.

Vision

Healthy and productive STEM communities

Mission

To professionalize and institutionalize the role of the community engagement manager within science

Values

Science

Community

Engagement

Collaboration

Evidence

Networking

1. Learning

Support scientific community professionals

COHORT-BASED LEARNING ~ Multi-format training options and a community of practice to support scientific community professionals through the creation of shared language and mental models, group reflection, and peer support.

1.1. Language & Models

Create a shared language and mental models

1.2. Reflection

Facilitate group reflection

1.3. Support

Provide peer support

2. Consultation & Resources

Stakeholder(s)

Scientific Networks   **Scientific Communities**

CONSULTANCY AND RESOURCES ~ The development of trusted resources for individuals and organizations working to build or fund scientific networks and communities, and the provision of responsive, contextualized consultancy.

2.1. Consultation

Provide consultancy services

2.2. Resources

Develop resources

3. Research

Conduct research to support scientific community engagement managers

Stakeholder(s)
Scientific Community Engagement Managers

RESEARCH ~ Research to better characterize and support the emerging role of the scientific community engagement manager – including through collaborations with others.

3.1. Role

Characterize the emerging role of the scientific community engagement manager

3.2. Collaboration

Collaborate with others