

ANNOUNCEMENT AND CALL FOR CAMPUS TEAM APPLICATIONS

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON TACOMA & THE CURRICULUM FOR THE BIOREGION INITIATIVE

PUGET SOUND SUMMER FIELD COURSE TACOMA - AUGUST 17-20, 2009 (MONDAY-THURSDAY)



The *Instructor*
Seattle Maritime Academy

The University of Washington Tacoma and the Washington Center's Curriculum for the Bioregion Initiative announce a four-day field course for college teachers in August 2009. This interdisciplinary course will offer a stimulating immersion in place-based learning about environmental and human health in South Puget Sound and the Puyallup River Watershed. This course aims to inspire and prepare participants from all disciplines (e.g. history, science, health, sociology, urban studies, writing, and more) to integrate the Puget Sound story into a variety of undergraduate classes, especially introductory courses or courses offered for general education credit.

This course represents the third Summer Faculty Institute sponsored by the University of Washington Tacoma. This Institute aims to connect faculty and students from higher education institutions throughout the South Sound to build and strengthen curricular collaborations across campuses and to improve communications between campuses to support transfer students in pursuing a four-year degree.

The course will bring together about 30 faculty members from different disciplinary backgrounds to learn with and from invited experts, tribal leaders, and key citizen organizations involved in the scientific, economic and social dimensions of Puget Sound restoration, especially in and around Commencement Bay.

The course will run for four full days (8:30 a.m. to about 4:30 pm) Monday-Thursday, August 17-20. It will begin with a day on Commencement Bay and Puget Sound organized in conjunction with the Ocean Inquiry Project and taught aboard the *T/V Maritime Instructor*, one of the Seattle Maritime Academy's teaching vessels. On-board experts will orient the participants to the Sound's geomorphology, geography, human history, and ecosystem dynamics. The subsequent two days will also occur in the field, with exploration of shoreline management issues, storm water run-off and urban land use, and of the tributary streams and rivers and land use that both influence and are influenced by the Sound. We will also interact with agency personnel, elected officials, and citizen leaders to discuss Puget Sound-related policy and the Puget Sound Partnership's plan—both its opportunities and the challenges. The field course faculty will include Jim Gawel (UW Tacoma faculty in environmental science), Ann Butler (Education Director, People for Puget Sound), Jean MacGregor (Curriculum for the Bioregion Initiative), and Cynthia Updegrave (adjunct faculty in the UW Seattle's Community and Environmental Planning Program).

The course is supported by generous grants from the Norcliffe Foundation and the Greater Tacoma Community Foundation, with additional support from the University of Washington Tacoma. From the invited campuses in Pierce and Kitsap Counties, we invite a team of three faculty members (from different disciplines) to attend. Participants will need to provide their transportation daily to agreed-upon meeting points in Tacoma and will be asked to make a commitment to attend the entire four-day course. For further information contact Jim Gawel at jimgawel@u.washington.edu or (253) 692-5815, or Jean MacGregor at macgjean@evergreen.edu or (360) 867-6608.

Deadline for team applications is April 24, 2009. It would be a good idea to identify an additional alternate member for your campus team, to be "on deck" to attend the course if one of your team members has to drop out at the last moment. We will be in touch in spring and early summer with details about the institute and with some advance reading.