

2020 Online WRMC

- A** Adventure Risk Research Symposium
 T Affinity Spaces
 E Emergency Planning & Crisis Response
- F** Field Practices
 G General Session
 L Legal Issues
 M Mental Social & Emotional Health
 N Networking
- P** Pre-Conference Workshop
 R Program Administration
 S Short Talk Series
 D Staff Training & Decision Making

OCTOBER 12 • MONDAY

- 12:30pm – 3:30pm **P PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP: Beyond Self-Care: Designing for Serious Resilience** Zoom Webinar
- Speakers: Lorca Smetana*
- Stress injury and burnout among outdoor professionals testify to a serious gap in our understanding of true resilience—something beyond grit and piecemeal strategy. Grounded in systems thinking, ecological connection, and somatic training, this workshop offers an accessible model for evaluating robustness and fragility and gives hands-on tools to address ongoing stress injury and resist anxiety, depression, and isolation. We will clearly map where we are drained, where we are filled, what the balance is, and how to move out of resilience debt.
- Cost: \$75
- Pre-registration required.** Registered participants will receive an invitation to join the zoom workshop via email. You can register by adding this pre-conference to your WRMC online registration or by contacting WRMC staff to sign up.
- Action Steps:**
1. Evaluate the impacts of leadership resilience on the staff and staff resilience on the leadership team.
 2. Evaluate and bring in improved communication within the organization for how well individual and organizational and mission needs are being addressed and met.
 3. Evaluate your hiring practices for how they assess for and invite resilient candidates.

OCTOBER 13 • TUESDAY

- 9:00am – 12:00pm **P PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP: Behavioral First Responder Certification (DAY 1) (This workshop is full-waitlist only)** Zoom Webinar
- Speakers: Curt Davidson, Becca Wallingford Meier*
- The Behavioral First Responder (BFR) is the first mental and behavioral healthcare certification for the outdoor industry. This training will provide techniques, tools, and resources for individuals working in an outdoor setting. The curriculum, borrowed from social work, and clinical mental health counseling is adapted to the field of Adventure Education, Camp Counseling, Wilderness Therapy, or Adventure Therapy. This course is essential for new and veteran practitioners hoping to serve students in the 21st century.
- This workshop is 3 days: Tuesday–Thursday, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. (Mountain Time) each day.
- Cost: \$255 (limited to 30 participants)
- THIS WORKSHOP IS FULL.** Contact the wrmc@nols.edu to be added to the waitlist.
- Pre-registration required. Registered participants will receive an invitation to join the zoom workshop via email.
- Action Steps:**
1. Develop therapeutic intervention strategies for behavioral and mental health issues in the experiential education context.
 2. Design an emergency response plan for various behavioral emergencies often found in experiential education settings.
 3. Generate curriculum for internal staff training to mitigate and manage behavioral and mental health episodes.

12:30pm – 3:30pm

P **PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP: Exclusive Spaces: Managing Inherent Risks to Traveling as a Visibly Marginalized Group** Zoom Webinar

Speakers: Monique Dailey, Colleen McHugh

Traveling as a visibly marginalized group poses inherent risks to programs and participants. With 20 years of experience traveling in white outdoor spaces as People of Color, City Kids continues to develop a holistic approach to reducing the risk of emotional or physical harm to participants and staff through program design, staff training, incident mitigation and response. This presentation aims to provide a framework and replicable tools for other organizations.

Cost: \$25 (limited to 50 participants)

Pre-registration required. Registered participants will receive an invitation to join the zoom workshop via email. You can register by adding this pre-conference to your WRMC online registration or by contacting WRMC staff to sign up.

Action Steps:

1. Plan a meeting to examine how your organization defines and responds to inclusion incidents.
2. Design a resource/training to strengthen staff ability to respond to micro-aggressions or discriminatory behavior.
3. Create a debrief resource that includes guidance for responding to inclusion incidents.

OCTOBER 14 • WEDNESDAY

9:00am – 12:00pm

P **PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP: Behavioral First Responder Certification (DAY 2) (This workshop is full–waitlist only)** Zoom Webinar

Speakers: Curt Davidson, Becca Wallingford Meier

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This workshop is 3 days: Tuesday–Thursday, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. (Mountain Time) each day.

Cost: \$255 (limited to 30 participants)

THIS WORKSHOP IS FULL. Contact the wrmc@nols.edu to be added to the waitlist.

Pre-registration required. Registered participants will receive an invitation to join the zoom workshop via email.

Action Steps:

1. Develop therapeutic intervention strategies for behavioral and mental health issues in the experiential education context.
2. Design an emergency response plan for various behavioral emergencies often found in experiential education settings.
3. Generate curriculum for internal staff training to mitigate and manage behavioral and mental health episodes.

12:30pm – 3:30pm

P PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP: A Day in the Life of International Incident Response*Speakers: Kristen Dowling (she/her), Kirstin French-Kray (she/her)*

Zoom Meeting

Calling all international program operators! This session is specifically designed to dive deep into the intricacies of risk management and mitigation when programming in the international field: across time zones, under international laws and regulations, and in varied languages and cultural contexts. Participants in this workshop will engage in small group international incident response simulations and debriefs. We will analyze decision-making pre-, during, and post-program in order to challenge and strengthen our existing protocols.

Cost: \$50 (limited to 30 participants) **REGISTRATION CLOSED**

Pre-registration required. Registered participants will receive an invitation to join the zoom workshop via email. You can register by adding this pre-conference to your WRMC online registration or by contacting WRMC staff to sign up.

Action Steps:

1. Identify 1 new colleague in your industry who you can use as a resource when making tough risk management and mitigation decisions for your programs.
2. Given your organization's context, identify your biggest area of concern regarding a return to in-person programming during the COVID-19 pandemic – consider ways to address this through your learning during next week's conference sessions.
3. Review/audit your incident reporting and tracking system – is it capturing what you need it to? Are you able to report trends and statistics in a useful way? Do you have frequent frustrations that need to be addressed?

OCTOBER 15 • THURSDAY

9:00am – 12:00pm

P PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP: Behavioral First Responder Certification (DAY 3) (This workshop is full-waitlist only)

Zoom Webinar

Speakers: Curt Davidson, Becca Wallingford Meier

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Cost: \$255 (limited to 30 participants)

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Pre-registration required. Registered participants will receive an invitation to join the zoom workshop via email.

Action Steps:

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12:30pm – 3:30pm

P PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP: Building a Risk Management Information System (RMIS)*Speakers: Rick Curtis*

Zoom Webinar

A Risk Management Information System (RMIS) is more than simply collecting incident reports. The RMIS is a comprehensive approach to risk management that combines structured incident data collection with causal analysis to identify the contributing factors and mitigating factors in the dynamic risk equation. Starting with data collection, you will learn how to utilize database technologies to gather comprehensive and consistent data for later analysis. Using the Risk Assessment & Safety Management framework, participants will learn how to combine the benefits of traditional Safety I methodologies (Avoiding That Things Go Wrong) with the newer Safety II methodologies (Ensuring That Things Go Right). Through case study analyses and hands-on practice with on-line incident data, you will learn how to build graphical accident causation models (Accimaps) and accident prevention models (Preventimaps) and use business analytics tools to present and interact with your incident data.

Cost: \$50 (limited to 20 participants)

THIS WORKSHOP IS FULL. Contact the wrmc@nols.edu to be added to the waitlist.

Registered participants will receive an invitation to join the zoom workshop via email.

Action Steps:

1. Implement the RASM model of Contributing Factor Analysis and Mitigating Factor Analysis to manage risk more effectively.
2. Learn how the Safety I framework and Safety II framework are complementary parts of an overall risk management plan. Determine when factors are 'in scope' allowing actionable steps to be implemented for managing risk or 'out of scope' limiting organizational response.
3. Understand the role that Incident Databases play in the collection and analysis of accident and near miss data through building Accimaps and Preventimaps and utilizing business analytics tools.

OCTOBER 16 • FRIDAY

9:00am – 3:30pm

P PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP: From Chaos to Competency: Standardizing Your Training and Assessment

Zoom Webinar

Speakers: Julia Makowski, Amber Barnett

The interconnection between curriculum and assessment is at the heart of setting staff and participants up for success. This session explores what it means to standardize training systems within a competency-based model and the benefits to staff development and safety practices. Participants will spend time identifying training gaps in their programs, writing competencies and identifying assessment methods. Participants can expect to engage and connect with others to strengthen their training foundations and develop tangible takeaways.

Cost: \$50 (limited to 20 participants)

Pre-registration required. Registered participants will receive an invitation to join the zoom workshop via email.

THIS WORKSHOP IS FULL. Contact the wrmc@nols.edu to be added to the waitlist.

Action Steps:

1. Identify 3-5 training gaps in their organization that may pose a risk to staff or students.
2. Clarify the skills, knowledge, or ability required for staff to run safe programming.
3. Plan assessments for staff competencies.

OCTOBER 19 • MONDAY

8:00am – 9:30am

- S Short Talk Series: ON DEMAND (available here throughout the conference)** On Demand
Speakers: Rory Gawler, Emery Rheam, Leonardo Rivas Domínguez, Sarah Crockett, Jd Storn, Nick Daniel
Short Talk Series: ON DEMAND (available here throughout the conference)

College Outing Club 101

Presented by Rory Gawler and Emery Rheam

The Dartmouth Outing Club (DOC) is the oldest and largest collegiate outing club in the country. The DOC's staff and student leadership will provide information on how to set-up all the institutions and processes you need to get your own college outing club started, thriving, and out the door. You'll leave with specific steps to take to get started—helpful documents and example trainings/policies—and everything you need to get your institution on board.

Gear (PPE) Inspection is Everyone's Job

Presented by Leonardo Rivas Domínguez

Gear is key for outdoor activities and impacts our comfort, performance, and safety. We are responsible for keeping our gear in good condition and retiring it when necessary. This short talk delivers information and tips on how to perform gear (Personal Protective Equipment or PPE) inspections, starting a PPE management system, and how we as users are part of the system.

- PPE Management Systems works well at the office, but how should we approach the topic in the field.
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- Where can I find a validated source of technical info?
- Building a Risk Management Culture is endless work with many approaches crossing areas and topics.

Should I Stay or Should I Go? A Case-Based Review of Evacuation Guidelines for Wilderness Medical Emergencies

Presented by Sara Crockett, Jd Storn, and Nick Daniel

To evacuate or not—that is often the question to be answered when a medical incident occurs in the wilderness. Reviewing key wilderness medicine concepts to weigh the risk and benefits of evacuating a patient can help programs create up to date evacuation protocols and to ensure best practices for safety.

9:30am – 9:35am

- G Welcome to the 2020 WRMC!** Zoom Webinar
Speakers: Mike Pigg

9:30am – 10:30am

- G KEYNOTE: Holding Space for Equitable Sociocultural Risk Management** Zoom Webinar
Speakers: José González

For clear reasons, we have invested in the development of systematic approaches to risk management in outdoor programming. The physical wellbeing of participants, along with the recognition of inherent risks and hazards of the outdoors, is important—it goes along with the touted benefits of transformative outdoor experiences. We want participants to connect with the awe of nature, the development of leadership skills, and a myriad of other opportunities that come with guided, facilitated, and structured outdoor programming. It is imperative, for individual and institution success, that we continue to do better, to strive for, and maintain and reach aspirational goals in this area.

Along with this is the recognition of accepting a charge and responsibility to continue to ensure that these experiences are equitably accessible to an ever-changing demographic. Our work should not be for a diminishing few based on historical and institutional exclusion, dependent on what zip code you're born in, or other markers of generational, institutional, and racial privilege. To make this happen, we also must account for risk management not just between the individual and the physical environment, but also the social and cultural environment and the socio-emotional wellness of participants who come to these spaces with different lived experiences, expectations, and value-add to what we offer. This is the opportunity before us, and one I believe we are well-poised to succeed in.

11:00am – 12:00pm

T Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) Affinity Space*Moderators: Daisy Purdy*

The WRMC is excited to offer time and virtual space at this year's conference for attendees to gather, connect, and further build community early in the conference, with specific focus on identity.

This affinity space is designed for individuals who identify as members of the BIPOC community. This space is not intended for allies of this community. If you have questions, please email Steering Committee member Elyse Rylander at elyse.rylander@camberoutdoors.org.

Please register your interest in joining this affinity space [here](#).

11:00am – 12:00pm

T Queer/Trans Affinity Space*Moderators: Katie Nelson, Red Malleck*

The WRMC is excited to offer time and virtual space at this year's conference for attendees to gather, connect, and further build community early in the conference, with specific focus on identity.

This affinity space is designed for individuals who identify as members of the Queer/Trans community. This space is not intended for allies of this community. If you have questions, please email Steering Committee member Elyse Rylander at elyse.rylander@camberoutdoors.org.

Please register your interest in joining this affinity space [here](#).

11:00am – 12:00pm

T White Caucus on Unpacking Racism and Privilege*Moderators: Alisha Bator, Chris Hagen, Emily Ledingham*

White caucus on unpacking power and privilege dynamics in service of unlearning and relearning the role white folks play in dismantling systemic inequity in our conference, our organizations, and our industry.

Please register your interest in joining this caucus [here](#).

12:30pm – 3:00pm

A Adventure Risk Research Symposium*Speakers: Dr. Clare Dallat, Dr. Jeff Jackson*

The second Adventure Risk Research Symposium, moderated by Jeff Jackson and Clare Dallat, connects researchers and shares findings from those working on wilderness and adventure risk/safety research. The focus is on empiricism as a means of improving understanding of practice for adventure risk management and safety. Presenters submitted their peer-reviewed research papers earlier in the year and will present their research during this workshop. Both presenters and non-presenters are invited to join us and contribute to the discussion.

OCTOBER 20 • TUESDAY

8:00am – 9:30am

S Short Talk Series: ON DEMAND (available here throughout the conference)

On Demand

Speakers: Rory Gawler, Emery Rheam, Leonardo Rivas Domínguez, Sarah Crockett, Jd Storn, Nick Daniel

Short Talk Series: ON DEMAND (available here throughout the conference)**College Outing Club 101****Presented by Rory Gawler and Emery Rheam**

The Dartmouth Outing Club (DOC) is the oldest and largest collegiate outing club in the country. The DOC's staff and student leadership will provide information on how to set-up all the institutions and processes you need to get your own college outing club started, thriving, and out the door. You'll leave with specific steps to take to get started—helpful documents and example trainings/policies—and everything you need to get your institution on board.

Gear (PPE) Inspection is Everyone's Job**Presented by Leonardo Rivas Domínguez**

Gear is key for outdoor activities and impacts our comfort, performance, and safety. We are responsible for keeping our gear in good condition and retiring it when necessary. This short talk delivers information and tips on how to perform gear (Personal Protective Equipment or PPE) inspections, starting a PPE management system, and how we as users are part of the system.

- PPE Management Systems works well at the office, but how should we approach the topic in the field.
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Should I Stay or Should I Go? A Case-Based Review of Evacuation Guidelines for Wilderness Medical Emergencies**Presented by Sara Crockett, Jd Storn, and Nick Daniel**

To evacuate or not—that is often the question to be answered when a medical incident occurs in the wilderness. Reviewing key wilderness medicine concepts to weigh the risk and benefits of evacuating a patient can help programs create up to date evacuation protocols and to ensure best practices for safety.

9:30am – 10:30am

E Crisis Management: A Preplan in Action (CORE)

Zoom Webinar

Speakers: Drew Leemon, Katie Baum Mettenbrink

Responding to a crisis, such as a participant fatality, presents a complex situation that demands a thoughtful and reasoned response. This workshop will provide attendees with an overview of the five elements of successful crisis management, begin to delve into the complexities of responding to crisis situations through the presenter's personal and professional experience while providing a forum for exchanging ideas and sharing experiences of the audience. Additionally, this workshop will provide a starting point for creating a crisis management plan.

Action Steps:

1. Build or utilize a simple template to develop a crisis management plan.
2. Identify key players in your organization who will be involved with crisis management and assign roles and responsibilities.
3. Run a crisis drill to determine current areas of strength and areas that need improvement in your organization's existing crisis response capabilities.

11:00am – 12:00pm

R Safety Differently! A Research-Based "New View of Risk Management" (CORE)

Zoom Webinar

Speakers: Steve Smith

Traditional views of safety are deeply ingrained in how we talk about, measure, and attempt to manage risk in the outdoor/experiential education industry. Experts and researchers from sectors such as manufacturing, aeronautical, health care, occupational health and safety, etc. have evolved and are making great strides in what is known as Safety Differently—a progressive new way of thinking about safety. We have much to learn from the high-level research and thinking associated with Safety Differently. We will use videos, discussion groups, and interactive elements. Participants will come away with a one-page handout showing a compare and contrast and outline of key action steps to apply a Safety Differently lens to their own program.

Action Steps:

1. Identify 5 ways to share Safety Differently resources (articles, books, podcasts, etc) with your leadership team.
2. Identify 5 ways to apply the concepts of Safety Differently to your own program's policies, procedures, and training curriculum.
3. Identify 5 ways to apply Safety Differently to your organization's risk management tracking/metrics and incident reporting methodology.

12:30pm – 1:30pm

R Creating and Maintaining a Just Culture in Your Organization

Zoom Webinar

Speakers: Dave Yacubian

This workshop will dive into the necessary components of developing a Just Culture within an organization. Focusing on systems and management, we will discuss how to capture information from participants and staff, what to do with the information, and ways to improve internal systems to move towards a Just culture. This workshop will consist of lecture, small group exercises, and discussion. The goal will be to leave with concrete tools that can be implemented within your organization.

Action Steps:

1. Set up an anonymous survey with your staff to determine whether your organizational culture is closer to "Just" or one of "Blame".
2. Create a short scenario for your staff training that illustrates Just culture.
3. Brainstorm 3 areas that you can improve information exchange with staff/participants.

2:00pm – 3:00pm

N Networking with Peer Programs

Zoom Meeting

Click on the networking group you'd like to join:

- College Based Programs
- Incidents and Accidents
- Insurance and Legal
- International Programs
- Staff Training
- Therapeutic Programs
- Equitable Risk Management

OCTOBER 21 • WEDNESDAY

8:00am – 9:30am

S Short Talk Series: ON DEMAND (available here throughout the conference)

On Demand

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9:30am – 10:30am

F COVID Field Practices Panel Discussion

Zoom Webinar

Moderators: Monique Dailey

Speakers: Jen Sall, Valeria Casas, Moleek Busby, Tim Hare

Moderated by Monique Dailey.

Panelists: Moleek Busby, Valeria Casas, Tim Hare, Jen Sall

11:00am – 12:00pm

L The Long View: What Happens When You Actually Have to Try a Case to Defend Your Program*Speakers: Tracey Knutson*

Zoom Webinar

This past year found me largely in the courtroom defending recreation-oriented claims. It came home to me (yet again) how vital it is to have the long view of our risk management practices so that we can assess the viability of trying a case and so we can (if we choose trial) get in the evidence that we want, find ourselves on the right side of standards (in the industry), so that we have good solid partners in our insurers and in our Boards and staff, and so that we get good juries and detailed jury instructions, etc. In past years at the WRMC, we have focused on general concepts, conducted mock juries, and talked about particular issues that produce claims. In this session, we are going to take the long view and dig into what the most comprehensive type of defense (trial) really looks like and when you (and your entity and your insurer) should engage the courts. This is the end game of risk management and is intended to engage everything you have learned up to this point at WRMC.

Action Steps:

1. A participant should walk out knowing, based on some evidence and case structure knowledge, what they would need to collect and assess and who they would need to contact in the aftermath of a critical incident so that they can defend themselves in the event of a critical incident.
2. Entities will have a heightened awareness of what the latest litigation traps are and how to avoid those traps through proactive understanding of the full defense process.
3. Entities will be able to take these issues back and examine their existing policies and procedures and practices as well as insurance coverages for areas that can and should be updated or revisited.

12:30pm – 1:30pm

D Do You Know What You Don't Know: How Microaggressions and Bias Impact Programmatic Risk Management

Zoom Webinar

Speakers: Robin Chiles, Michael Davis, Chris Hagen

As outdoor educators, we are required to execute on a daily basis using good judgment and decision-making skills in stressful situations. This includes both physical and socio-emotional risk management. During this presentation, we will explore how our own personal biases as supervisors and educators can create blind spots in our programmatic risk management. Once we begin to self-assess and audit our programs with an understanding of this knowledge, we can then start to mitigate programmatic risk through a cultural humility lens.

Action Steps:

1. Self assessment of bias/ Audit of program staff training through a cultural humility lens.
2. An organizational assessment on how microaggression and bias impact programmatic risk management.
3. Integrate techniques into training for interrupting bias among staff and students.

2:00pm – 3:00pm

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Zoom Meeting

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OCTOBER 22 • THURSDAY

8:00am – 9:30am

S Short Talk Series: ON DEMAND (available here throughout the conference)

On Demand

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9:30am – 10:30am

G Inequity in the Outdoors - Panel Discussion

Zoom Webinar

Moderators: Robin Chiles

Speakers: Courtney Aber (she/her/hers), Misha Charles, Reginald Miller, Josh Brankman

Moderated by Robin Chiles.

Panelists: Courtney Aber, Misha Charles, Reginald Miller, Josh Brankman

11:00am – 12:00pm

R Evolving Hazards in a Different Landscape: Innovative Strategies for Developing and Running Programs Abroad

Zoom Webinar

Speakers: Bill Frederick, Catherine Hansen-Stamp

Some familiar hazards have recently evolved into threats of much greater magnitude, requiring innovative ways of operating from a practical, legal, and risk management perspective. We will survey the recent evolution in the hazard landscape and, using case studies and scenarios, ask participants to share the innovations emerging from their organizations and to suggest new ones. We will identify new approaches and tools and explore the reality of—and the necessity for—garnering cooperation and allocating risk across and among clients, vendors, and insurers.

Action Steps:

1. Create or re-think—and implement—a more comprehensive information acquisition strategy to identify critical factors and make better decisions in the evolving hazard landscape.
2. Foster communication and collaboration with vendors/partners, and structure agreements to fairly allocate risks, responsibilities, and liability.
3. Develop communication strategies/agreements with participants (and parents) to relay the uncertain and fluid reality of international travel, and their commitment to collaborate, cooperate, and accept changes on short notice—at any point.

12:30pm – 1:30pm

M Supporting Near Miss and Expedition Trauma: The How of It (CORE)

Zoom Webinar

Speakers: Brendan Madden, Laura McGladrey

There is growing recognition and support for traumatic exposure that does not result in physical injuries but may result in ongoing or career-altering stress responses. This workshop will present a tool-based approach to raising program awareness of near miss trauma, and identify and support stress injuries that may occur in the course of program events.

Action Steps:

1. Implement the Operational Stress Continuum to improve your organization's awareness of stress injuries.
2. Identify cultural changes that could be made at your organization to improve identification and treatment of stress injuries
3. Create plan for support tools such as Employee Assistance Plans or stressful incident support plans at your organization

2:00pm – 3:00pm

L Americans with Disabilities Act: Protecting Your Program and Increasing Inclusivity with Essential Eligibility Criteria

Zoom Webinar

Speakers: Ben Tettlebaum

This interactive session will help you understand how crafting “essential eligibility criteria” (EEC) under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) can decrease a program’s risk exposure while increasing a program’s inclusivity. We will break down the relevant parts of Title III of the ADA into practical terms. Then, you will receive hands-on practice in developing EEC. By the end, you should have a better grasp of how the ADA applies to your programs, along with clear actionable steps to assist with compliance.

Action Steps:

1. Begin drafting or reviewing EEC for your program(s).
2. Review your public-facing presence (website, marketing materials, etc.) to ensure that what you are putting out to prospective participants includes and/or aligns with your EEC and conveys that you do not discriminate based on disabilities.
3. Design and integrate into your staff training how to communicate appropriately with prospective participants regarding disability accommodation requests.

OCTOBER 23 • FRIDAY

8:00am – 9:30am

S Short Talk Series: ON DEMAND (available here throughout the conference)

On Demand

Speakers: Rory Gawler, Emery Rheam, Leonardo Rivas Domínguez, Sarah Crockett, Jd Storn, Nick Daniel

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College Outing Club 101

Presented by Rory Gawler and Emery Rheam

The Dartmouth Outing Club (DOC) is the oldest and largest collegiate outing club in the country. The DOC's staff and student leadership will provide information on how to set-up all the institutions and processes you need to get your own college outing club started, thriving, and out the door. You'll leave with specific steps to take to get started—helpful documents and example trainings/policies—and everything you need to get your institution on board.

Gear (PPE) Inspection is Everyone's Job

Presented by Leonardo Rivas Domínguez

Gear is key for outdoor activities and impacts our comfort, performance, and safety. We are responsible for keeping our gear in good condition and retiring it when necessary. This short talk delivers information and tips on how to perform gear (Personal Protective Equipment or PPE) inspections, starting a PPE management system, and how we as users are part of the system.

- PPE Management Systems works well at the office, but how should we approach the topic in the field.
- How students/users influence the system. How can users do their bit to keep safety level?
- How responsibility distributes into different agents (school, staff, students).
- How can I maximize my gear lifetime by keeping safety first?
- Where can I find a validated source of technical info?
- Building a Risk Management Culture is endless work with many approaches crossing areas and topics.

Should I Stay or Should I Go? A Case-Based Review of Evacuation Guidelines for Wilderness Medical Emergencies

Presented by Sara Crockett, Jd Storn, and Nick Daniel

To evacuate or not—that is often the question to be answered when a medical incident occurs in the wilderness. Reviewing key wilderness medicine concepts to weigh the risk and benefits of evacuating a patient can help programs create up to date evacuation protocols and to ensure best practices for safety.

9:30am – 10:30am

L COVID-19 Unwrapped: Legal and Insurance Issues Panel

Zoom Webinar

Moderators: Reb Gregg

Speakers: Frances Mock, Catherine Hansen-Stamp, Steve Neal

A discussion of legal and insurance issues related to COVID-19 and other contagious diseases, and the challenges they pose to a program's practices, policies, and mission. Moderated by Reb Gregg, panel members will provide perspective and advice for programs as they strive to manage the risks of the pandemic and face the future.

11:00am – 12:00pm

F 2020 Wilderness Medicine Update

Zoom Webinar

Speakers: Dr. Seth Hawkins

Wilderness medicine is a rapidly evolving field. This session updates attendees on the latest changes in wilderness medicine, with a focus on industry best practices, evidence-based medicine, and recently updated Wilderness Medical Society clinical practice guidelines.

Action Steps:

1. Review all medical protocols matched against the Wilderness Medical Society best practices guidelines to determine and reconcile deviations.
2. Meet with local rescue and EMS partners to discuss current standing on spinal cord protection practices.
3. Review medical kits to determine if contents match current best practices protocols.

12:30pm – 1:30pm

D Building and Evaluating Decision-Making Skills

Zoom Webinar

Speakers: Sarah Carpenter

Across the board, field-based programs rely on effective decision making from field staff. Students look to these same field staff to develop their own decision-making skills. This session will explore techniques for training and developing staff decision making. We will discuss how to build decision-making coaching into staff training, as well as how to build it into a program. We will also explore how to evaluate decisions, rather than outcomes, after the fact. This is an important distinction that can shift how and what people take from debriefs and after-action reviews.

Action Steps:

1. Identify common decisions that are made in your program that can be simplified or systematized, i.e. assessing winter conditions in order to decide whether to travel on a slope or not.
2. Build a crisis response exercise to integrate into staff training.
3. Employ 1 new technique for evaluating decisions instead of outcomes at staff training and with students.

2:00pm – 3:00pm

E Supporting Family and Staff During Critical Incidents

Zoom Webinar

Speakers: Suellen Sack

Reflecting your organization's value and concern during a crisis and in the aftermath is a key to serving affected participants, staff, and their families, who are struggling to cope. Learn how to create a response that will directly aid affected staff and participants in and out of the field and work with families as they cope with uncertainty. This workshop will provide attendees with practical experience and guidelines to support staff in the field, train family liaisons, and how to define organizational norms that will support participants, staff, and families during and after an incident.

Action Steps:

1. Assess your organization's principles and norms. Do they mirror your values?
2. Build a pool of potential family liaisons. Train and assess.
3. Re-evaluate your Emergency Response Plan to maximize support for family and staff: Examine your field-based response practices; Identify and connect with resources to assist with facilitating traumatic aftermath; Practice a significant incident fatality scenario with stakeholders. How might your ERP change when it is one of your own?