



Ashley Conroy
Las Vegas: 702.862.5411
FAX: 702.862.5496
Cell: 702.374.8287
E-Mail:
ashley.conroy@dri.edu
755 East Flamingo Road
Las Vegas, NV 89119
<http://www.dri.edu>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

DRI Researchers to present at EPSCoR Western Tri-State Consortium

Discussions to focus on engaging communities in science and research

LAS VEGAS – In a candid dialogue about climate change, researchers from the Desert Research Institute are speaking at the two-day EPSCoR Western Tri-State Consortium conference. The workshop will highlight how scientists and policy makers’ will work together to accommodate climate change in their future planning and research initiatives.

“This workshop will not only engage and inform stakeholders on Nevada’s new climate change science initiatives, but most importantly, it will provide the venue for building collaborations between Nevada’s stakeholders and scientists,” said Dr. Gayle Dana, DRI Associate Research Professor and EPSCoR Director.

Under the Nevada System of Higher Education, Nevada’s Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) collaborates with institutions of higher learning statewide including the Desert Research Institute and the University of Nevada, Las Vegas to evaluate and assess climate change adaptation in Nevada.

The workshop will be held at the UNLV Student Union Ballroom Tuesday and Wednesday March 27th and 28th. The media is invited to attend **Wednesday from 8:30 a.m. to noon** during the speakers’ portion where presenters will highlight discussions ranging from climate change in the Western U.S., decisions on climate change, and engaging stakeholders in research.

Speakers include:

- **Dr. Gayle Dana, EPSCoR Project Director, DRI Associate Research Professor**
- **Dr. Kelly Redmond, Regional Climatologist, Western Regional Climate Center, DRI Research Professor**
- **Pat Mulroy, SNWA General Manager**
- **Henry Golz, National Science Foundation Director**

As a Climatologist, Dr. Redmond says a critical aspect to climate change adaptation is engaging communities and the general public in long-term real-world solutions to impacts of climate change. “There are two sides to this equation: technical side and the people-side,” Redmond said. “We’re at an important point in time, where climate research could be more effectively incorporated if public understanding of the topic were better.”

Attendees for the workshop will include scientists, students, and stakeholders including the Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the U.S. Department of Defense.

About Desert Research Institute: *DRI, the nonprofit research campus of the Nevada System of Higher Education, strives to be the world leader in environmental sciences through the application of knowledge and technologies to improve people's lives throughout Nevada and the world. All DRI news releases are available at: <http://news.dri.edu/>.*

About the Nevada Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR): *The goal of Nevada EPSCoR is to support collaborative research partnerships between higher education institutions and private industries to create long-term improvements in scientific research and infrastructures, strengthening our research and development capacity in Nevada and at a national level. Nevada EPSCoR programs enhance graduate education, stimulate undergraduate student research, and promote the involvement of women and underrepresented groups in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) disciplines. For more information on Nevada EPSCoR please visit: <http://www.nevada.edu/epscor/>*

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Note to Reporters and Editors: DRI, the nonprofit research campus of the Nevada System of Higher Education, strives to be the world leader in environmental sciences through the application of knowledge and technologies to improve people's lives throughout Nevada and the world.