



Dr. Ingrid Shockey

Title of the Talk: Enabling “Two-Eyed Seeing”: Connecting Indigenous and Western Knowledge in STEM

Brief Bio: Dr. Shockey is Co-Director of the New Zealand Project Center in Wellington, New Zealand, and Director of the India Project Center - a partnered site hosted at the Indian Institute of Technology Mandi (IITMandi). These research sites pair undergraduate WPI (Worcester Polytechnic Institute) students with local students, agencies, and other community or research partners to share learning and innovation strategies in host communities. The goal is to recognize and promote balanced views of environment, technology, and society in decision-making. The scope of her work includes teaching STEM students the art of stakeholder interaction in complex contexts. This includes engagement and methodology tools, cross-cultural perspective-taking, and fostering community collaboration skills for project teams. In affiliation with Environmental and Sustainability Studies, she also teaches Case studies in Environmental Governance and Innovation, featuring design strategies for climate adaptation, community accessibility, and affordability. She holds a PhD in Environmental Sociology from Brandeis University.

Abstract for the Talk:

Enabling “Two-Eyed Seeing”: Connecting Indigenous and Western Knowledge in STEM: This talk will reflect on how we prepare US-based STEM students at WPI to partner with agencies and organizations in New Zealand. In recent years, Aotearoa/New Zealand has moved towards a co-governance strategy that directly acknowledges Indigenous knowledge frameworks. This has implications for participatory decision making and policy recommendations, especially around New Zealand’s bio heritage initiatives. STEM undergraduate students partnering with Māori stakeholders in (ISTP-type) projects need to be prepared to understand these conversations. This talk will share our experiences with project-based learning and collaborative engagement with Māori partners over the past several years.