Climate literacy for secondary science teachers: Inspiring Climate Education Excellence

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The Essential Principles of Climate Sciences (http://www.climatescience.gov/Library/Literacy/) provides a coherent framework for climate education, but educators need professional development and standards-aligned curriculum to implement it. Climate literacy efforts at CIRES range from professional development for teachers, scientists and communicators to online courses and curriculum development. The NASA-funded Inspiring Climate Education Excellence (ICEE) project is a professional development project for secondary science educators, incorporating face to face workshops, an online course and self-directed learning modules for teachers. Focusing on changes in Arctic ice and sea level rise, the modules use NASA resources for professional development around key guiding questions, and build content knowledge and pedagogical skills for how to teach climate science. The resources are being developed in partnership with GLOBE, the National Science Digital Library (NSDL) and the University of Colorado, Boulder Independent Learning Program. This presentation describes ICEE and other CIRES climate literacy projects, and describes results from a recent CIRES survey of US teachers on their climate education needs, practices and knowledge of climate literacy topics. Learn more at http://cires.colorado.edu/education/k12/.