

## SERD Meeting Minutes

1/26/09

**Attendance:** Gargi Roysircar, Cindy McKusick, Nate Thorn, Corey Gifford, Vincent Pignatiello, Afshan Afsahi, Antoinette Booth, Sandra Carrazza, Jamie Carroll, Amanda Blanchard, Brian Denietolis

- Checked in and discussed breaks/news
- Environmental Studies program will be making an outreach trip to Nevada in March and is seeking assistance from SERD in gaining cultural competency in interacting with Western Shoshone and Paiute communities there; Gargi is willing to speak to the environmental justice field studies course on February 18<sup>th</sup>.
- Environmental Studies program is also interested in having their students from the EJ course conduct a presentation in April to talk about their course and the trip, and would like SERD to attend. A potential date needs to be arranged with the program.
- Due to the many activities that Gargi and SERD has been involved with over the past few months, the status of the trip to Houston, TX is still not clear. The Shakti application needs to be updated with the mission of SERD and cohesiveness scale. It is clear that there is still need there but the news is not covering this. Corpus Christi is in particularly bad shape.
- Discussed the Jan 8 earthquake in Costa Rica which Corey had brought to SERD's attention. Potential involvement of LCC for an outreach trip was discussed. Also discussed the option of providing resources without making a trip due to the Texas trip still being a possibility.
- Brian discussed his work on a book with Gargi, How Disasters Affect Adults, Communities, and Children, which will continue throughout the year. It should be published in May, and will be put together through SERD and proceeds will also benefit SERD. The outline of the book will be as follows: 1)Reconceptualizing trauma through a disaster lens, adult trauma and treatment, child trauma and treatment, and self-care for practitioners. Several students are involved, and several SERD members expressed interest during today's meeting in helping out with the book.
- Discussed how SERD did not have a holiday party this past semester, although we did contribute to the department holiday party. We would like to have one potentially towards the end of this semester.
- It was shared that APA accepted Gargi and Nate's proposal!