Water, Water Everywhere and Not a Drop to Drink: Access, Health, and Money

Tuesday, November 10, 2020: 4:00-5:00 PM

Panel Presenters

Dr. Angela Dills
Dr. Angela Dills is the Gimelstob-Landry Distinguished Professor of Regional Economic Development at Western Carolina University. She received a B.A. from the University of Virginia and an M.A. and Ph.D. from Boston University. She previously held faculty positions at Clemson University, Mercer University, Wellesley College, and Providence College. Specializing in the economics of education, crime, and health, her research focuses on policy issues such as school choice, accountability, peer effects, college quality, and alcohol and drug prohibition. This research has appeared in journals such as the Journal of Health Economics, Economic Inquiry, the Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, and the Economics of Education Review. She lives in Franklin, NC with her economist-husband and three children.

Dr. Kim Hall
Dr. Kim Hall is an Assistant Professor and Program Director for the Environmental Health Program at WCU. Dr. Hall teaches courses in water quality control, wastewater technology, food sanitation and protection, as well as several other public health-focused courses in WCU’s Liberal Studies program. Dr. Hall actively engages undergraduate students in her water quality research, which involves the evaluation and modeling of fecal pollution and source indicators in surface waters for the development of microbial risk assessment models. External to WCU, Dr. Hall is an Adjunct Professor in the Environmental Health Sciences Program at East Tennessee State University and has served as a content developer and instructor for the National Environmental Health Association’s Registered Environmental Health Specialist credential review courses. She received her Bachelor’s degree in Ecology and Environmental Biology from Appalachian State University and her Ph.D. in Environmental Health Sciences from East Tennessee State University.

Dr. Amy Murphy-Nugen
Dr. Amy Murphy-Nugen joined the social work faculty at Western Carolina University in 2014. She has over 20 years of social work practice and policy experience in the areas of housing, community building and engagement, community economic development, and not-for-profit management/leadership. Her professional experience includes providing team leadership; analyzing and advocating for socially and economically just local, state, federal legislation and administrative policy; delivering organizational capacity technical assistance to not-for-profit community-based development organizations and local units of government; and, managing a fee-for-service line of business that provided needed technical services and diversified funding for her employer’s social mission.
Dr. Murphy-Nugen enjoys serving as a consultant to community partners where her academic knowledge complements her practical experience to help build human, social, and political capacity. For example, she facilitated a public input and planning process for a town’s Corridor Community Revitalization Plan. The process included engaging residents, collecting and analyzing primary data, and reviewing key community planning documents. The plan and community involvement was identified as critical components of a successful Low Income Housing Tax Credit application, which resulted in the construction of affordable units for older adult residents. Dr. Murphy-Nugen has facilitated inclusive community building and engagement processes for groups with five key stakeholders to neighborhoods with 40,000 residents as well as county-wide planning efforts and everything in between.

She welcomes partnerships and collaborations with students and community stakeholders that strengthen individual well-being, not-for-profit organizational capacity and community quality of life.