


Developing scientists as champions of diversity to transform the geosciences

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1 Title: Developing Scientists as Champions of Diversity to Transform the Geosciences

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18 Abstract:

19 To address complex geoscience questions, communities with a variety of experiences and
20 perspectives are needed in local workplaces and institutions across academia and government.
21 To achieve this goal, geoscience needs leaders who are champions of diversity who have positive
22 attitudes towards others and act upon these attitudes to become change agents in advancing
23 diversity and creating inclusive environments. We established a professional-development
24 workshop, GOLD Institutes (GOLD: Geo Opportunities for Leadership in Diversity), to provide
25 geoscience leaders with the tools and skills necessary to be self-reflective of their own ideas and
26 to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion in their respective institutions. Our objective was to
27 equip senior geoscientists, who are at the core of local communities of practice (CoPs), with
28 knowledge of diversity, equity, and inclusion theories and practices to lead change across the
29 discipline. In this preliminary report, we investigate institute participants' perceptions of
30 allophilia (love of the other) and identify actions taken by senior geoscientists to promote
31 diversity, equity, and inclusion within local CoPs. Results indicate that senior geoscientists who
32 participated in the institute had high scores on the Allophilia Scale and took steps to integrate
33 diversity, equity, and inclusion into their day-to-day activities, and in a few cases created new
34 workplace support structures for diversity and inclusion. Future work will build upon these
35 results by refining professional-development opportunities that target the needs of geoscience
36 champions of diversity.

37

38 **INTRODUCTION:**

39 Transformation in the geosciences is needed to improve diversity, equity, and inclusion.
40 Reports in recent years have highlighted the lack of diverse, inclusive environments within the

41 geosciences. Some of these reports emphasize representation and diversity. For example, the
42 National Science Foundation's National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics reported
43 that only 43% of the doctoral degree recipients in Earth, atmospheric and ocean sciences in 2012
44 were women (National Science Foundation, 2013). Furthermore, less than 5% of doctoral
45 graduates were Black, Hispanic, American Indian, or Alaska-natives, combined (National
46 Science Foundation, 2013). Also, Cech (2015) reported that lesbian, gay, bisexual and
47 transgender (LGBT) individuals are underrepresented across the entire federal workforce. In
48 addition to diversity and representation, numerous studies have shown prejudice and harassment
49 are common in geoscience workplaces (e.g., Cech & Waidzunus, 2011; Fouad & Singh, 2011),
50 leading to "chilly" workplace climates that act as barriers to the full inclusion and participation
51 of individuals from underrepresented backgrounds. Bernard and Cooperdock (2018) conclude:
52 "We will limit the science we do if we do not become more inclusive. We need to do better" (p.
53 295).

54 Many efforts to improve diversity and inclusion have focused on the pathways of
55 students into the geosciences at the elementary, secondary, and postsecondary levels and into the
56 geoscience workforce (e.g., Williams, Morris, & Furman, 2007; Windham, Stevermer, & Anthes,
57 2004). These efforts are necessary but will not be sufficient for large-scale change if those
58 graduates encounter hostile environments in universities, research labs, and field sites, or are
59 encumbered by antiquated and unfair hiring and promotion practices. Therefore, current
60 geoscientists need to adopt the complementary goal of transforming geoscience workplaces into
61 inclusive, supportive environments. Beyond the United States, efforts have largely focused on
62 the inclusion of women in the field, particularly in Europe. The UK and Ireland's Athena SWAN
63 program, for example (also now rolling out in Australia), has led to an increase in commitment to

64 the careers of women in STEM university settings, but has only recently looked to engage
65 departments beyond issues of gender to consider intersections with race and, to a lesser extent,
66 other marginalized identities (Advance HE, n.d.). Project Juno, which is championed by the
67 UK's Institute of Physics, and has a similar structure and goals to Athena SWAN, is also targeted
68 at improving gender equality (Institute of Physics, 2017). These efforts are reflected by
69 professional organizations, such as the European Geoscience Union, who are prioritizing
70 diversity of gender, age, and discipline in their diversity, equity, and inclusion work (European
71 Geoscience Union, n.d.). In this respect, the U.S. has had a leadership role in considering
72 marginalization of individuals along the axes of e.g. race, disability, LGBTQ status, veteran
73 status, and along multiple intersecting identities.

74 Transforming the geosciences to improve diversity and inclusion is the primary goal of
75 Hearts of GOLD (Geo Opportunities for Leadership in Diversity), which is a grant-funded
76 project designed to pilot a new model of professional-development workshops. This project
77 included workshops, called the GOLD Institutes, to develop champions of diversity by
78 engaging participants in discussions of diversity, equity, and inclusion with a focus on enacting
79 change in their local workplaces. Workshop participants were scientific leaders across
80 geoscience institutions and organizations in the United States, who have demonstrated some
81 interest and/or success in working toward greater diversity and inclusion (e.g., mentoring
82 minority students, serving on diversity committees for professional societies) but could also
83 benefit from additional experience, skills, and tools to be more active and effective in their
84 endeavors. This preliminary, exploratory report shares initial insights from participants'
85 experiences and their efforts to improve diversity and inclusion in the year following the initial
86 workshop. In the following sections, we provide definitions for the terms and theories that were

87 used to guide the development of the training and this investigation. We then continue with the
88 methods and results of our study of the participants in the GOLD Institutes.

89 **Champions of Diversity**

90 Champions of diversity is a term coined by the National Science Foundation (NSF) in
91 their solicitation for proposals to create change in the geosciences (National Science Foundation,
92 2016). Change in systems rarely occurs without leaders who are dedicated to explicitly
93 promoting improvements (Nadler & Tushman, 1990). NSF defined champions of diversity as
94 individuals who lead to wide-scale use of evidence-based practices related to diversity, equity,
95 and inclusion. To develop Hearts of GOLD, we argue that champions of diversity should have a
96 desire to include all groups in the pursuit of geosciences and compel others to join their
97 campaign. That is, champions of diversity have positive attitudes towards others and act upon
98 these attitudes to be change agents in their home organizations and across the geoscience
99 disciplines. These champions use a variety of strategies to promote diversity and inclusion. They
100 are reflective of their own practices and beliefs, notice threats to inclusivity and navigate
101 personal interactions to challenge biases, and build or rebuild systemic structures that promote
102 diversity and inclusion, including positive cross-group behaviors (Siem, Stürmer, & Pittinsky,
103 2016).

104 Central to this effort is the obvious display of “allophilia,” from the Greek for “love of
105 the other.” Pittinsky (2005) initially used this term as a more appropriate antithesis of
106 “prejudice,” because “tolerance” is too neutral. This term is applied specifically in the context of
107 intergroup leadership where one is balancing the need for strong intragroup identification and
108 cohesion while also discouraging or reducing intragroup conflict. Even beyond feelings and
109 attitudes, scholars have connected allophilia with ally behavior (Gonzalez, Riggle, & Rostosky,

110 2015). Pittinsky (2013) argues that strong leaders define their sphere of concern and their
111 constituencies more broadly than just their own ingroup, and that allophilia helps them balance
112 the ingroup/outgroup tradeoff. Conversely, poor leaders are likely to use ingroup identities to
113 motivate followers at the expense of intergroup relationships and greater good for all.

114 To support research by those seeking to quantify positive attitudes rather than only the
115 presence or absence of negative attitudes, Pittinsky and colleagues (2011) developed the
116 Allophilia Scale, which uses a six-point measure of agreement with items describing attitudes
117 about members of a specific outgroup. The Allophilia Scale has been validated for a variety of
118 settings, including both university students and adult participants (Alfieri & Marta, 2011), social
119 justice advocates identified as allies by people of color (Ostrove & Brown, 2018), attitudes
120 toward religious minorities (Rosenthal, Levy, Katser, & Bazile, 2015), attitudes toward ethnic
121 outgroups (Korol, Fietzer, Ponterotto, 2018; Pittinsky et al., 2011), perceptions of different age
122 groups (Wagner & Luger, 2017), social distance toward people with obesity (Magallares, 2017),
123 attitudes toward persons with dementia (Kinney et al., 2016; Lokon, Li, & Kunkel, 2018), and
124 translation for Spanish populations (Morales & Magallares, 2017). Notably, in a study of a
125 predominantly White cadre of teachers in schools with predominantly ethnic minority students,
126 teacher allophilia was significantly related to student achievement, which suggests practical
127 outcomes from increased allophilia (Pittinsky & Montoya, 2016).

128 **Communities of Practice**

129 Champions of diversity act as change agents in their institutions and across the
130 geosciences including higher education, national laboratories and government agencies, and
131 professional societies. To understand how the actions of champions of diversity can lead to

132 change in these institutions, we must consider how an organization acts as a community of
133 practice, how change occurs, and in what ways leaders can promote these changes.

134 Communities of Practice (CoPs) are a collection of people who are historically and
135 socially defined and have shared knowledge and value (Wenger, 1999; Wenger, 2000, Wenger,
136 McDermott, & Snyder, 2002). An organization acts as a CoP when it has these shared knowledge
137 and value, hereafter called competencies. For example, within the geosciences, a national
138 laboratory, such as the National Severe Storms Laboratory, has shared knowledge around and
139 places value on preparing research results for communication with other scientists.

140 Organizations change through the development of new competencies through socially-
141 constructed processes of the people of the organization as well as between people and the
142 organization's external environment (Brown & Duiguid, 1991; Mizruchi & Fein, 1999). Because
143 we consider organizations to be communities of practice, the socially-constructed process of
144 identifying and adopting new competencies can be described using the CoP terms of brokers,
145 bridges, and events (Wenger, 2000). In CoPs, *brokers* introduce new knowledge by applying
146 ideas from outside of the organization to challenges faced by the CoP. *Bridges* are artifacts or
147 discourses that facilitate the adoption of new ideas. For example, when developing a strategic
148 plan for increasing diversity and inclusion, a community of practice may seek out research
149 articles that highlight the value of diversity in promoting innovative science to frame the
150 discussion of inclusion. Finally, *events* are situations and structures that allow for these new
151 ideas to be discussed and to be socially defined. In this way, new competencies can be adopted
152 by the community; *brokers* bring new ideas from other communities that can take the form of
153 *bridges* that are shared and discussed at *events*.

154 Organizational change is efficient when leaders cultivate CoPs to manage and develop
155 competencies (Radcliffe, Crosthwaite, & Jolly, 2002; Wenger, Dermott, & Snyder, 2002).
156 Leaders at the core of the community have influence over CoP processes because members look
157 to them for examples and instructions of what they should be doing (Boud & Middleton, 2003;
158 Wenger, 2000). A champion of diversity can cultivate organizational change by acting as
159 brokers, developing bridges, and creating events to adopt new competencies related to diversity,
160 equity, and inclusion.

161 Communities of practice as a framework for promoting change has been applied in a
162 variety of STEM contexts, such as a college of engineering in a university (e.g., Radcliffe,
163 Crosswaite, and Jolly, 2002), a science-activity club for young girls (Watermeyer, 2012), and a
164 teacher credential program for current STEM professionals (Grier & Johnston, 2012). Notably,
165 Radcliffe, Crosthwaite, and Jolly (2002) report on a “Catalyst Center” to promote a diverse
166 working, learning, and research culture in a college of engineering. When referring to
167 communities of practice to lead change, the authors highlight the integrated approach the center
168 takes to make large-scale change through the in-situ efforts of their advocates. Our study builds
169 upon this work by investigating the role of senior geoscientists as in-situ advocates in their
170 institutions for diversity improvement.

171 **Theory of Change**

172 A theory of change is the logic behind the design of initiatives aimed at creating large-
173 scale change (Blamey & Mackenzie, 2007; Connell & Kubish, 1998; Robson, 2017; Vogel, 2012).
174 Evaluators of change initiatives developed the concept of ‘theories of change’ when they realized
175 the importance of context in evaluating these programs (Blamey & Mackenzie, 2007). In
176 evaluation, a theory of change is not necessarily meant to be the same as a scientific theory and

177 is sometimes referred to as a logic model that connects the activities, context, and outcomes of
 178 change initiatives (Connell & Kubisch, 1998; Robson, 2017). Hearts of GOLD’s theory of
 179 change is based on the application of allophilia and Communities of Practice.

180 The GOLD Institutes were designed for senior geoscientists who want to move the
 181 greater discipline toward inclusivity and who are formal scientific leaders poised to promote
 182 change. When participants return to their organizations, they act upon their love of others
 183 (allophilia) to redefine community of practice competencies concerning diversity, equity, and
 184 inclusion (Figure 1).

185 [Insert Figure 1 here.]

186 **SETTING**

187 **GOLD Institutes**

188 The GOLD Institute is a two-day, professional-development workshop designed to train
 189 geoscientists in diversity, equity, and inclusion principles and practices and to empower them to
 190 become champions for diversity. The inaugural institute was held in July 2017 in Colorado
 191 Springs, Colorado. Planning for the institutes began approximately 10 months in advance with a
 192 review of the curricula provided by the Knapsack Institute (KI), who also served as facilitators.
 193 KI is a well-established effort at the Colorado Springs campus of the University of Colorado that
 194 uses social-justice pedagogy to effectively navigate discussions about diversity and inequality.
 195 The curricula went beyond typical “diversity training” to include interactive education with an
 196 emphasis on inclusive-leadership development specifically within the geosciences. In the
 197 planning phase, a pilot workshop with the investigators and facilitators was held to refine the
 198 content to be particularly relevant to the geosciences.

199 The call for nominations was issued at least eight months in advance each year.
200 Announcements were disseminated via websites, social media, and e-newsletters for a number of
201 professional societies and groups, including the American Geophysical Union, CLIMLIST, Earth
202 Science Women's Network, Geological Society of America, National Association of Black
203 Geoscientists, and Society for the Advancement of Chicanos/Hispanics and Native Americans in
204 Science.

205 Nominations required a statement of recommendation from the nominator, nominee's
206 discipline/area of expertise, and contact information for both the nominee and nominator. For the
207 2017 cycle, 74 nominations were reviewed and evaluated according to the following criteria:

- 208 1. Demonstrated willingness or eagerness to support diversity and inclusion efforts in the
209 geosciences along with a lack of experience, expertise, or confidence in how to proceed
210 in this realm;
- 211 2. Demonstrated participation in geoscience education and research;
- 212 3. Current employment at a public or private two-year or four-year academic institution,
213 government research facility, scientific society, or other geoscience organization; and
- 214 4. Established or emerging scientific eminence as demonstrated through research
215 experiences, publications, award/honors, and service to the geoscience community.

216 The purpose was to identify those who want to see positive change but have never been active in
217 trying to create it. The name "Hearts of GOLD" was chosen as a reference to this group of
218 people. Therefore, it was inherent in the call for nominations that participants should not be
219 experts in teaching and/or promoting diversity and inclusion.

220 Research subjects

221 Twenty-eight nominees were invited to participate in the inaugural GOLD Institute, and
222 23 (82.1%) attended. Two participants could not attend in 2017 but accepted in 2018, so the
223 overall acceptance rate could be reported as 89.2%, which was much higher than anticipated.
224 Initial guidance from NSF representatives was to expect an acceptance comparable to that for
225 grant-reviewer invitation (i.e., ~25%). Approximately 70% of the participants represented groups
226 traditionally underrepresented in geosciences leadership, including women and people from
227 underrepresented groups. A total of 23 individuals representing 22 different institutions and
228 organizations participated in 2017. Five participants from the 2017 institute returned as mentors
229 in 2018 to foster connections between the cohorts.

230 All participants in the inaugural institute (n=23) were invited to be part of this research
231 study, which was approved by the appropriate Institutional Review Board (IRB). Attendees were
232 invited to take part in the research one week prior to the institute as part of the invitation to take
233 the allophilia survey. Research participation included invitations for follow-up surveys one week
234 after the institute and one year after the institute. On the post survey that was sent one week after
235 the institute, research participants were given the opportunity to provide their email to take part
236 in a follow-up interview.

237 RESEARCH QUESTIONS

238 This research on the GOLD Institute was guided by two research questions.

- 239 1. To what degree do participants express positive attitudes toward outgroups?
- 240 2. In what ways do participants use bridges, create events, and/or act as brokers to
241 facilitate change in their home community of practice?

242 The purpose of these questions is to guide exploratory research into the outcomes of the
243 project. To address the first research question, we first expect champions of diversity to have
244 allophilia. We have asked this question to evaluate if our recruitment process has identified those
245 geoscientists with positive attitudes towards others. For the second research question, we analyze
246 how participants acted as change agents by describing the actions they have taken to change the
247 community of practice competencies at geosciences organizations in the year following their
248 participation. Both of these questions will help us to understand to what extent our theory of
249 change has been realized.

250 **RESEARCH DESIGN AND METHODS**

251 This investigation is part of a larger case study analysis (Yin, 2009). In this preliminary
252 report, we answer two research questions using quantitative methods (Likert-scale survey) and
253 qualitative methods (semi-structured interviews). We use our theoretical framing of allophilia
254 and communities of practice to answer these research questions.

255 Data were collected from research participants via surveys and interviews. Research
256 participants completed a survey before (within one week), soon after (within one week), and 12
257 months after the GOLD Institute. The interviews were conducted approximately 10 months after
258 the institute, which placed them between the second and third surveys. Of the 23 attendees, 18
259 (78.2%) completed the survey prior to participation, 15 (65.2%) completed the survey sent one
260 week after attending, and 8 (34.8%) completed the survey one year after participation. On the
261 second survey, 13 attendees agreed to be contacted for a phone interview. Eleven attendees
262 participated in the interview. In an effort to protect identities, we have not reported the
263 demographics for participants.

264 Survey Methods

265 Each survey was administered using Qualtrics. As a measure of attitudes toward
266 outgroups, the survey included the Allophilia Scale (Pittinsky et al. 2011). Item response options
267 were based on a six-point Likert scale ranging from “strongly agree” to “strongly disagree,” with
268 no neutral option. The Allophilia Scale asks respondents to consider the degree to which they
269 agree with statements about outgroups. For example, “I feel like I can be myself around
270 [members of outgroup].” In our use of the Allophilia Scale, we defined outgroup using National
271 Science Foundation's (2008) examples of underrepresented groups in need of broadening
272 participation: Alaska Natives, Native Americans, Blacks or African Americans, Hispanics,
273 Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders, and Persons with Disabilities. For each statement
274 on the Allophilia Scale, participants were presented with a randomly selected outgroup (e.g.,
275 Alaska Natives), so their answers were always with respect to a particular group, yet all
276 outgroups were represented in a given participant's completion of all 17 items of the Allophilia
277 Scale. Knowing that participants may be uncomfortable or frustrated with the restrictions of
278 Likert scale options, we concluded the survey with an open-ended comment box, allowing
279 respondents to explain their ratings.

280 While our sample size was too small for factor analysis, we relied upon previous research
281 that supports five factors: affection (positive affective evaluations of outgroup members),
282 comfort (a feeling of ease with outgroup members), kinship (a feeling of closeness with outgroup
283 members), engagement (a tendency to seek to affiliate and interact with outgroup members), and
284 enthusiasm (having emotionally heightened positive attitudes about outgroup members). In their
285 exploratory and confirmatory factor analysis, Pittinsky and colleagues (2011) found the “five-
286 factor interpretation of allophilia is robust and replicable” (p. 46), with alpha coefficients ranging

287 from .88 to .92. Responses to the Allophilia Scale are interpreted as an overall score and scores
288 across five factors (i.e., subscales).

289 In analyzing data from the Allophilia Scale, our primary focus was simple descriptive
290 statistics, revealing potential benchmarks for future application of the Allophilia Scale with
291 geoscientists. Because the research question focused only on participants' attitudes toward
292 outgroups, without any particular attention to time (e.g., before or after the institute), we
293 calculated the mean and standard deviation for all observations and compared them to the
294 Allophilia Scale validation study (Pittinsky et al., 2011), analyzing differences with a simple T-
295 test and a p-value of .05. Although the limited number of participants prevents rigorous
296 interpretation of differences between groups and points in time, the exploratory nature of this
297 study warranted more detailed reporting so future researchers can consider options for expanded
298 studies. Accordingly, we used descriptive statistics (means and standard deviations) to analyze
299 the data in logical groups, including before and after participation, as well as allophilia ratings
300 for each outgroup (i.e., Alaska Natives, Native Americans, Blacks or African Americans,
301 Hispanics, Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders, and Persons with Disabilities). In total,
302 we analyzed 41 observed completions of the Allophilia Scale from 18 program participants, with
303 all of them having the opportunity to provide self-ratings at three points in time: one week before
304 the institute, one week after the participation, and one year after participation. We used paired
305 sample T-tests to consider differences between individual ratings at each point in time. Due to
306 lingering questions about the assumption of normal distributions, we also analyzed the data using a
307 nonparametric test, specifically the Wilcoxon signed rank test.

308 Interview Methods

309 The interviews were semi-structured and designed to last less than 30 minutes to
310 accommodate the busy schedules of the participants. The interviews had three sections. The first
311 section asked about the participant's history with diversity, equity, and inclusion and their
312 current professional experience. The second section covered the participant's decision to attend
313 the GOLD Institute and their thoughts on the training. The third section included questions about
314 the participant's activities related to diversity, equity, and inclusion that occurred within the last
315 year. The interview protocol is available as supplemental material.

316 Interviews were scheduled with individuals via email and conducted over the phone.
317 These conversations were recorded and then transcribed. The concepts of bridges, brokers, and
318 events as detailed by Wenger (2000) framed the constant comparative analysis of the interviews
319 (Glaser, 1965). Definitions for these codes were discussed and agreed upon by two researchers
320 prior to the beginning of coding. Next, these researchers independently coded for brokers,
321 bridges, and events in the same interview. Then, the researchers compared their work and found
322 they had identified mostly the same occurrences of bridges, brokers and events. Furthermore,
323 after discussion, they agreed on all of them. The researchers slightly modified the definitions
324 according to the slight differences in interpretation that occurred in the first attempt at coding.
325 For example, the "events" definition was adjusted to specify that events must physically bring
326 people together rather than generally bringing people together. Next, the researchers coded a
327 second interview independently and compared their codes. Their codes had a 10/11 or 91%
328 agreement. According to Campbell (2013), researchers often identify acceptable agreement
329 percentages between 70% and 94%, but intercoder agreement ranges have no firm cutoff.
330 Instead, researchers should be particularly careful to consider if high agreement is due to chance

331 (Campbell, 2013). Through discussion, the two researchers were able to determine that the 91%
332 agreement was true agreement and not due to chance. Because of the high levels of agreement,
333 the researchers split the efforts in coding the remaining interviews with the definitions in Table
334 1. Although one coder completed the initial analysis of the remaining interviews, both coders
335 read and were familiar with the entire set of interviews. The interviews and corresponding codes
336 were each discussed throughout the process by both coders according to constant comparative
337 analysis methods. In the results, we use *categories* to reference the deductive codes of bridges,
338 brokers, or events.

339 In the second round of analysis, three lists were compiled which contained all the
340 examples of each category- bridges, brokers, and events. That is, all the bridges were combined
341 in one list, the brokers in a second list, and the events in a third list. Within each of these lists,
342 the occurrences of the categories were gathered into themes. For example, a theme within the
343 broker category was “Noticing importance of diversity, equity, and inclusion in day-to-day
344 situations.” Eight participants reported activities that were labeled as this theme. The two
345 researchers discussed the themes within each category and agreed upon them. During this
346 discussion, the researchers also referenced the original transcripts in accordance with constant
347 comparative analysis. In the results, we use *themes* to reference the inductive sub-codes of
348 similar activities within each category.

349 To discuss the themes as they relate to participant effort, we ranked them along a
350 continuum from low to high on a scale of time and effort needed to complete the activity. We
351 chose this ranking continuum based on previous work in organizational learning that discusses
352 change as a “continuum of innovating practices” that spans from “daily activity” to “radical
353 innovation” (Brown & Duguid, 1991, pg. 53). With our results, we hope to help future

354 champions of diversity change competencies in their organizations. Substantive significance is
355 given to results that are useful for an intended purpose (Patton, 2001). By ranking the themes, we
356 enhance the usefulness of our results by reporting findings that champions can use to identify
357 activities that they have both the time and resources to enact.

358 To rank the themes, two researchers independently ordered each theme according to how
359 much time and effort it would take to complete. Except for three instances, the researchers
360 agreed on the ranking without discussion. However, to recognize that some interpretation of time
361 and effort is dependent on context of the champion of diversity, we stress the importance of
362 being “near the highest ranking” or “near the lowest ranking” instead of the specific ranks. For
363 example, the theme of broker activities of noticing the importance of diversity, equity, and
364 inclusion in day-to-day activities was ranked as low time and effort. This low rank indicated that
365 the day-to-day activities existed prior to the addition of the new ideas of diversity, equity, and
366 inclusion and “noticing” of these activities requires little time and energy.

367 **Roles of the researchers**

368 The grant-funded investigators, all of whom are authors, attended the GOLD Institute and
369 they were involved in designing the training. However, they did not lead the diversity, equity,
370 and inclusion sessions and were not participants in the research. One of the authors is a research
371 assistant who did not attend the institute. The two researchers who analyzed the interviews had
372 different roles during the training sessions. One of the researchers attended the institute and was
373 familiar with both the attendees and the workshop material. To offset the potential bias of the
374 first researcher, coding was completed with another researcher who did not attend the institute
375 and did not know the attendees prior to the interviews. The differences in familiarity with the
376 workshop and its attendees provides credibility and confirmability of this investigation. Despite

377 their different backgrounds, both researchers agreed on the examples of categories and themes
378 identified from the interviews.

379

380 **RESULTS**

381 **Research Question 1: Allophilia**

382 As anticipated, our recruitment of individuals who were interested in diversity, equity,
383 and inclusion resulted in participants who displayed higher allophilia scores (Table 2) compared
384 to participants in an early validation study (Pittinsky et al., 2011), and their scores are quite
385 similar for various groups of people which are underrepresented within the geosciences (Table
386 3). While the small number of research subjects prevents rigorous and robust analysis, we have
387 reported means and standard deviations on logical groupings, knowing that readers and program
388 participants may consider such averages in their overall assessment of the Allophilia Scale.

389 [Insert Tables 2 & 3 here.]

390 Mirroring findings of the Allophilia Scale validation study, participants' ratings were
391 highest for the affection subscale and lowest for the kinship subscale. Regarding the restrained
392 attraction to kinship, one participant's comment offers insight on a potential explanation:

393 "I can't claim a kinship or a sense of belonging with groups I don't belong to...being a
394 Black American, I also can't claim that I have a desire to be more like another group.
395 However, I very much seek to understand, affirm, and form bonds with Native peoples
396 and with Persons with Disabilities...that would naturally lead to a cultural exchange."

397 Considering ratings among different underrepresented groups, all were highly rated, with
398 the highest overall ratings for "Blacks or African Americans" and the lowest overall ratings for

399 “Persons with Disabilities.” The following participant comment offers some insight on
400 discernment among rating options:

401 “I struggled with several of the answers. Mostly, because statements are worded in terms
402 of categories rather than individual people. For example, I feel very strong kinship with a
403 disabled friend of mine; but even with him, I can barely gauge the impacts the disability
404 has on his life. Hence, I can't say that kinship with people with disabilities in general
405 would be a fair statement, simply because I have not had to deal with disability in my
406 own life.”

407 Other participant comments conveyed the comfort with reporting the highest possible ratings was
408 inhibited in part by lack of exposure. For example, participants shared the following:

409 “These questions were difficult to answer because I've never met and had a relationship
410 with an Alaska Native or a Pacific Islander. I respect all people regardless of ethnicity,
411 but its difficult to assess whether I'm impressed by people I've never had significant
412 engagement with.”

413 “I would like to think that I have as positive attitudes about people from underrepresented
414 minority groups as about people from my own racial group. However, I realize I live in a
415 segregated society where I have little chance through my work or my residential
416 community to meet people from under-represented groups. I would not like to put people
417 from other groups on some sort of magical pedestal, nor would I pretend to know what
418 their lives are like, since I think that would be offensive, but I am impressed with the
419 achievements of people who have overcome disadvantages and bias.”

420

421 Research Question 2: Bridges, Events, and Brokers in Communities of Practice

422 In this section, we report on the participant activities within the categories of bridges,
423 brokers, and events in three ways: (1) through themes of participants' activities within each
424 category, (2) with rankings that approximate the level of effort required to complete each theme
425 in relation to the other themes identified within the category, and (3) as relationships across the
426 categories. At times the activities of brokering, bridges, and events co-occurred. In the final
427 section of these results we discuss this relationship among the three categories.

428 *Bridges*

429 Bridges are either artifacts (such as policy documents) or discourse that allows for
430 sharing of ideas across community boundaries. Nine participants reported using at least one
431 bridge (Table 4). Some participants made small adjustments by taking advantage of pre-existing
432 artifacts to facilitate the sharing of ideas while other participants created new artifacts or
433 accessed new discourse opportunities to share ideas. The most common themes of activities were
434 providing GOLD Institute materials as a resource, discussing or facilitating the discussion of
435 diversity, equity, and inclusion with the network of investigators or participants, and writing a
436 public blog, article, or newsletter. An example of making small adjustments by accessing pre-
437 existing materials was described by a participant who shared materials with other members of his
438 academic department. They said, "there was good information [from Hearts of GOLD] that I did
439 share, I went to a couple of meetings, and I made a handout, photo copies, from the literature and
440 shared that with people." Another participant facilitated and contributed to the writing a of a new
441 bridge in the form of a white paper on diversity, equity and inclusion. To contribute to this effort,
442 the participant dedicated time to working group meetings and the writing process. This was a
443 substantial time and effort above and beyond the regular activities of the participant.

444 *Events*

445 Events are activities that physically bring the community together to discuss diversity,
446 equity, and inclusion. Nine participants reported creating or taking part in an event (Table 5).
447 Small adjustments to prior activities included attending diversity, equity, and inclusion
448 professional development and engaging in informal discussions. On the other end of the rank
449 continuum, two people created a process within their institution for planning to be diverse,
450 equitable, and inclusive. The most frequent themes of events were participating in informal
451 discussion and planning for inviting an external expert to lead a discussion. One participant
452 described their plans to host a workshop, “I noticed the issue of implicit bias- how important that
453 is... we're going to bring a group to the university to [host a] workshop on implicit bias.” In this
454 case, the participant is creating an event where diversity, equity, and inclusion will be discussed.
455 The participant also expressed that this will likely be a mandatory event where all community
456 members will be asked to engage in discussion.

457 *Brokers*

458 Brokers bring new ideas to the community. An activity within the broker category
459 signifies that the participant reported applying new ideas from the GOLD Institute to the local
460 community. Ten participants reported acting as brokers (Table 6). The most frequently reported
461 brokerage was noticing the importance of diversity, equity, and inclusion in day-to-day
462 situations. One participant described this process as “there’s daily opportunities to see things and
463 to try to understand them in the context of inclusion and diversity...the daily routines and the
464 things that we’re faced with, whether it’s students’ complaints, whether it’s hiring faculty.” This
465 participant spoke about bringing ideas to the workshop to understand day-to-day events and to
466 help use this information to create inclusive environments. The second most commonly reported

467 brokering activity was considering how diversity and inclusion concepts can and should impact
468 hiring routines for new scientists or acceptance into the program for students. An example of this
469 broker theme was described by a participant who said “I never really appreciated before that if
470 you want to be a more diverse, inclusive institution you have to start at the recruitment level. In
471 meetings with our faculty members, with others who are members of hiring committees [and
472 other people I interact with professionally] that was something that I emphasized.” This
473 participant brought ideas from the GOLD Institute to the process of hiring new faculty members.

474 In addition, three participants described the planning of new events where brokerage can
475 take place. Two of these participants provided more information about these events and what
476 bridges supported their work. These cross-cutting activities are described in more detail in the
477 following section.

478 Because the participants had some shared characteristics (attended the same training and
479 were all geoscientists), they may have applied the same diversity, equity, and inclusion concepts
480 to their local workplace. However, participants’ reports did not indicate any patterns in
481 application of new ideas. Many participants referenced only generally discussing diversity and
482 inclusion. Only four participants identified specific topics that they brought back to their
483 community. These topics were unique to each participant, including implicit bias, privilege,
484 microaggressions, and the differences between equality, inclusion, and social justice.

485 *Relationships among bridges, brokers, and events*

486 Sometimes a suite of activities included a bridge, a broker, and an event. Thus far, we
487 have discussed each of these separately but in this section, we highlight the two participants who
488 described forming committees in the workplace that used all three processes. In both instances,

489 the participant spearheaded the creation of a new committee. These committee meetings created
490 events where diversity, equity, and inclusion could be discussed. In one committee, these
491 discussions were supported by bridges in the form of GOLD resource material provided by the
492 participant. In addition, the first committee created a bridge in the form of a written strategic plan
493 for incorporating diversity, equity, and inclusion within the workplace. In the second example,
494 the committee did not develop a strategic plan but instead addressed immediate needs of the
495 workplace. This included two bridges: a diversity and inclusion statement for the workplace and
496 guidelines for inclusive field work. We have not provided direct quotations in this section
497 because the details provide too much specific information that could be connected to the
498 participants. In both examples, participants created a committee that held meetings where
499 discussion of diversity, equity, and inclusion resulted in the creation of bridges to share with all
500 members of the workplace.

501 **LIMITATIONS**

502 Like all forms of research, this study has limitations. As an exploratory study, we have
503 relied upon participants' self-reported allophilia and change-agent activities. In both instances,
504 the participants were aware of the type of answers that would be the most desirable (high levels
505 of allophilia and implementation of diversity, equity, and inclusion ideals). This may have led
506 them to provide these types of responses. For the allophilia analysis, not every survey participant
507 had the opportunity to respond to items for each underrepresented group, which could have
508 skewed results. In addition, the involvement of the team of grant investigators as participants in
509 the workshop was beneficial for training even more geoscientists in diversity, equity, and
510 inclusion but may have introduced bias to this study, since the researchers and subjects gained
511 increased familiarity with one another. For this reason, the research questions were limited to

512 non-evaluative exploration. Future work will need to consider how evaluation of geoscience
513 diversity, equity, and inclusion workshops can define success and contribute to improvement of
514 the professional development.

515 The study also involved trade-offs and decisions associated with a small number of
516 research subjects, exacerbated by the inevitable problem of non-response. In the analysis of
517 quantitative data, we treated each completion of the Allophilia Scale as a separate data point.
518 Although we could have averaged the Allophilia Scale ratings for each individual and restricted
519 ourselves to that unit of analysis, the result would have been no practical difference in the means
520 yet reporting of smaller standard deviations, which would result in an increased false sense of
521 confidence in our findings. It is important to remember this is an exploratory study, and we are
522 not generalizing any of our findings. Instead, our hope is that our findings spark ideas for future
523 research. More research is necessary to fully uncover the potential of allophilia and community
524 of practice characteristics for improvement of diversity, equity, and inclusion in geosciences.

525 **DISCUSSION**

526 We defined “champions of diversity” as leaders who are reflective of their own practices
527 and beliefs, notice threats to inclusivity and navigate personal interactions to challenge biases,
528 and build or rebuild systemic structures that promote diversity and inclusion. Our theory of
529 change posited that developing champions of diversity from scientific leaders will lead to
530 positive changes in the geosciences discipline. We used the Allophilia Scale to determine to what
531 extent participants have positive attitudes towards others. We analyzed interviews to determine
532 how participants facilitated the adoption of new competencies in their home community of
533 practice.

534 Results suggest that we were successful in attracting geoscientists to the workshop who
535 held the positive attitudes towards others that are needed to act as champions of diversity. One of
536 the first considerations for professional development is the motivation of scientists to participate.
537 Many discussions may focus on incentives for participation or punishments for abstaining (e.g.,
538 Oliver, 1980). Conversely, participation may be considered an internal motivator. Hearts of
539 GOLD was designed from the perspective that there are some senior geoscientists who want to
540 create inclusive environments but lack the training, tools, and skills that are necessary to lead
541 change. Even the name, “Hearts of GOLD,” was chosen because it references those who want to
542 do good for others, especially in the latter parts of their careers when they are considering their
543 legacies. We created a nomination system that was meant to honor individuals who have shown
544 their dedication in the past and could benefit from focused training. Our results on the allophilia
545 support our conjecture. We found that our participants have positive attitudes towards others. In
546 fact, many of them were connected to other geoscientists whom they recommended for the
547 training and desired for the training to be made available to even more champions of diversity.
548 Future work should explore how this network of allies can be used to increase the impact of
549 professional development. Further, the concerns of NSF representatives about the availability
550 and willingness of senior geoscientists to participate in the GOLD Institute were not realized; we
551 received numerous nominations and saw an acceptance rate of nearly 90%.

552 We know that change requires more than positive attitudes towards others. Systemic
553 issues have greatly contributed to the challenges that we face in the geosciences (Bernard &
554 Cooperdock, 2018). For this reason, we considered how participants were able to facilitate the
555 adoption of new competencies in their own activities. While we have ranked themes according to
556 time and effort, we recognize that time and effort does not always result in institutional change.

557 For example, policies that take a long time to develop can be misinterpreted or enacted in a way
558 that is unexpected (Coburn, 2001). Instead, the benefit of this suite of examples is that change
559 agents can identify a variety of activities that they can enact given their professional roles.
560 Indeed, our findings are complementary to the findings of Goldstein Hode, Behm-Morawitz, and
561 Hays (2018). These authors reported that cultural competency was increased by professional
562 development but could not speak to institutional change. With our study we have begun the
563 investigation into specific change agent actions after professional development participation.

564 At the GOLD Institute, the participants were given time to consider how they would
565 apply the new ideas at their home institutions. Potential future iterations can provide more
566 pointed activities aimed at leading change by building on the successes of previous years. These
567 activities will not be prescriptive but will build on the first participants to think about how
568 diversity, equity, and inclusion can be created in the geosciences.

569 **CONCLUSION**

570 While preliminary, the results presented here are encouraging. Indeed, we have shown
571 that many leading geoscientists are aware of the problematic lack of diversity in their discipline,
572 and they are eager to make positive change. These leaders are already recognized by their peers,
573 proteges, and/or students as doing good in this area. However, it also seems apparent that,
574 despite their eagerness to lead change, these scientists have been waiting for help. If workshops
575 like the GOLD Institute can act as the catalyst for activating these concerned geoscientists, then
576 change may be within reach.

577 Participants in the GOLD Institute have shown that they can lead real changes within
578 their workplaces, and it seems that few of them were doing this prior to their participation in this

579 project. One ongoing challenge of this effort will be to maintain enthusiasm and support for
580 colleagues as they try to lead change. The Hearts of GOLD investigators have spent much time
581 discussing strategies for supporting the network of participants into the future. It may require
582 consistent, active nurturing, or it could be self-sustaining once a critical mass is achieved. Either
583 way, it is important that this effort not be allowed to fade, so future research is necessary to
584 identify successful strategies for maintenance as well as creation of these champions for
585 diversity.

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590

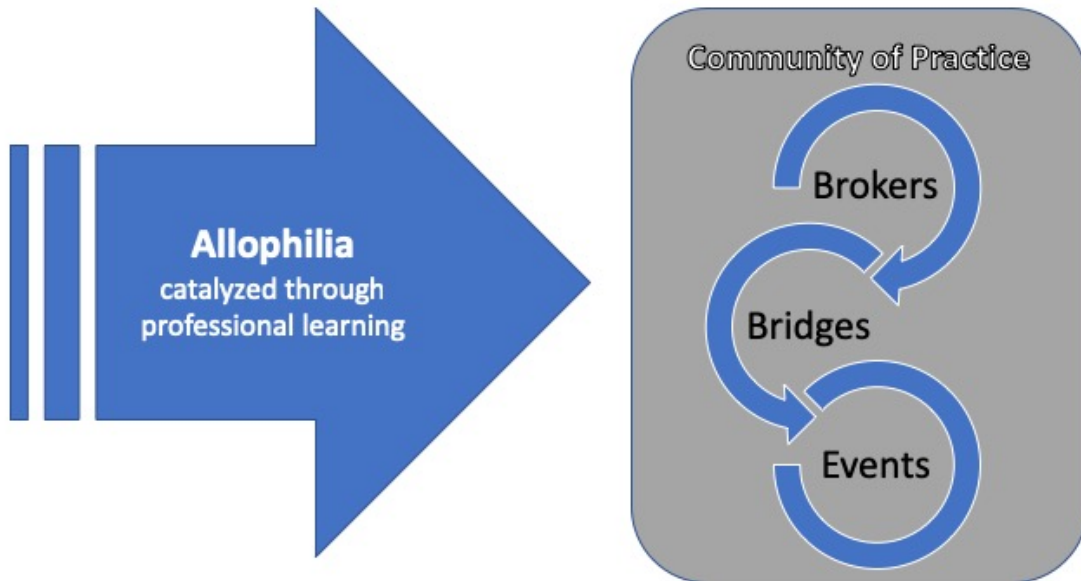
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- 699

700 FIGURES Captions



701
702 Figure 1: *Hearts of GOLD Theory of Change*

1 TABLES

2 Table 1:

3 *Category definitions based on Communities of Practice terms (Wenger, 2000)*

Communities of Practice Term	Category Definitions
Bridge	An artifact, tool or document that can be understood by people in different communities. Discourse which allows people to negotiate meaning across boundaries.
Broker	A person bringing new ideas from the workshop back to their job.
Event	A physical gathering of the community to help it develop a new identity.

4

5

6 Table 2:

7 *Allophilia scale means and standard deviations for data collected from Hearts of GOLD 2017*
 8 *Institute participant self-ratings (before, one week after, and one year after participation),*
 9 *alongside data from the scale's validation study (for comparison purposes).*

Subscale	Hearts of GOLD Participant Self-Ratings				Validation Study Subjects (n=200)
	Before (n=18)	1-Week Post (n=15)	1-Year Post (n=8)	All (n=41)	
Affection	5.31 (1.18)	5.25 (0.63)	5.22 (0.65)	5.27 (0.90)	4.41 (1.12)
Comfort	4.88 (1.19)	5.20 (0.71)	5.13 (1.01)	5.04 (0.99)	4.03 (1.27)
Kinship	3.39 (0.94)	4.16 (0.90)	3.96 (1.23)	3.78 (1.03)	3.03 (1.20)
Engagement	5.13 (1.19)	5.28 (0.67)	5.25 (0.46)	5.21 (0.89)	3.76 (1.20)
Enthusiasm	4.51 (1.19)	5.00 (0.76)	4.75 (1.50)	4.74 (1.11)	3.56 (1.20)
Allophilia - All	4.72 (0.96)	5.01 (0.52)	4.90 (0.84)	4.86 (0.79)	3.80 (1.01)

10 Note 1. Paired samples t-tests indicate the only significant difference between ratings at each point in time are for the subscale of
 11 Kinship, between the pre-survey and the one-week post survey. Wilcoxon signed rank tests indicated the same.

12 Note 2. T-tests indicate all of the Hearts of GOLD ratings are all significantly different from the ratings in the Allophilia scale
 13 validation study.

14

15

16 Table 3:

17 *Hearts of GOLD participants' allophilia statistics for underrepresented groups in need of*
 18 *broadening participation (as defined by the National Science Foundation).*

Group	Mean	Standard Deviation
Blacks or African Americans	5.01	0.96
Native Americans	4.96	0.95
Hispanics	4.88	0.83
Alaska Natives	4.83	1.01
Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders	4.78	0.93
Persons with Disabilities	4.76	0.77
All underrepresented groups	4.86	0.79

19 Note. While the data reflect 41 completions of the Allophilia Scale, the outgroups were randomized across items with each
 20 administration of the survey, so each response to the Allophilia Scale included some items for each outgroup, rather than all scale
 21 items for all six outgroups. When individuals (n=18) completed the Allophilia Scale at a different point in time (e.g., before and
 22 after the Institute), they received a new random match between items and outgroups.

23

DEVELOPING SCIENTISTS AS CHAMPIONS OF DIVERSITY

24 Table 4:

25 *Themes within the bridge category and the number of participants who reported activities within*
 26 *each theme. Activities are ranked approximately such that those requiring less time and effort*
 27 *are at the top. Nine participants reported at least one bridge.*

Ranking	Theme	Number of Participants
Less time and effort	Provided GOLD Institute material as a resource (article or definition)	4
	Discussed or facilitated the discussion of diversity, equity, and inclusion with colleagues outside of the local workplace	2
	Discussed or facilitated the discussion of diversity, equity, and inclusion with the GOLD Institute network of investigators or attendees	5
	Wrote a public blog, article, and/or newsletter	4
More time and effort	Wrote a community-guiding document on diversity, equity, and inclusion (e.g., white paper)	2

28

29

DEVELOPING SCIENTISTS AS CHAMPIONS OF DIVERSITY

30 Table 5:

31 *Themes within the events category and the number of participants who reported activities within*
 32 *each theme. Activities are ranked approximately such that those requiring less time and effort*
 33 *are at the top. Nine participants reported at least one event activity.*

Ranking	Theme	Number of Participants
Less time and effort	Has had informal conversations with colleagues about diversity, equity, and inclusion	4
	Includes discussion of diversity, equity, and inclusion as part of hiring meetings	3
	Discuss diversity, equity, and inclusion at faculty meetings	2
	Makes a choice to attend diversity, equity, and inclusion lunches or professional development	2
	Developed/developing/plans to create a diversity, equity, and inclusion talk/workshop	4
More time and effort	Create a process for strategic planning, statement, policy development	2

34

35 Table 6:

36 *Themes within the broker category and the number of participants who reported activities within*
 37 *each theme. Activities are ranked approximately such that those requiring less time and effort*
 38 *are at the top. Ten people reported at least one brokering activity.*

Ranking	Theme	Number of Participants
Less time and effort	Noticing importance of diversity, equity, and inclusion in day-to-day situations	8
	Acting as a resource when sought out by others	1
	Hiring procedures or student acceptance influenced by diversity, equity, and inclusion	5
More time and effort	Created events where brokerage could take place	3

39