

THE ROOM WHERE IT HAPPENS": CO-PRODUCING SCENARIOS FOR THE FACETS PROJECT

Wendy-Lin Bartels¹, Carrie A. Furman², Kristin Rowles³ and Mark Masters⁴

¹University of Florida, Gainesville, FL, USA

²University of Georgia, Atlanta, GA, USA

³Albany State University, Baltimore City, MA, USA

⁴Albany State University, Albany, GA, USA

The co-production of knowledge between scholars and practitioners presents a promising approach for generating relevant, credible, and useful science. This paper focuses on an analysis of the nuts and bolts of knowledge co-production, i.e., the “incubator stage” of a participatory modeling project located in the SE USA. Our study documents the iterative process of collaboration to create core modeling components in the FACETS project. These modeling inputs and outputs include the management systems that contribute to the farm and regional scale models as well as the future land use scenarios that are intended to guide discussions about tradeoffs. This paper explores who was in “the room” and how modeling components were generated together. Specifically, we examine 1) expectations for the participatory process among project team members and stakeholders 2) perceived contributions to the process and outcomes (focusing on participation and power relations), and 3) trust dynamics (in product, process, and people). Finally, because much of this stage of the FACETS project occurred during COVID, we investigate the impacts of a virtual exchange space on interactions and outcomes.

PRESENTER BIO: Dr. Bartels works at the interface of academia and society, exploring scientist-stakeholder interactions within the arenas of sustainable rural development, natural resource conservation, and climate risk management. She conducts social research on the factors shaping collaborative partnerships. She also facilitates networks and community platforms for knowledge exchange, collective learning, and problem solving.