

Climate Education Solutions for the U.S. Corn belt

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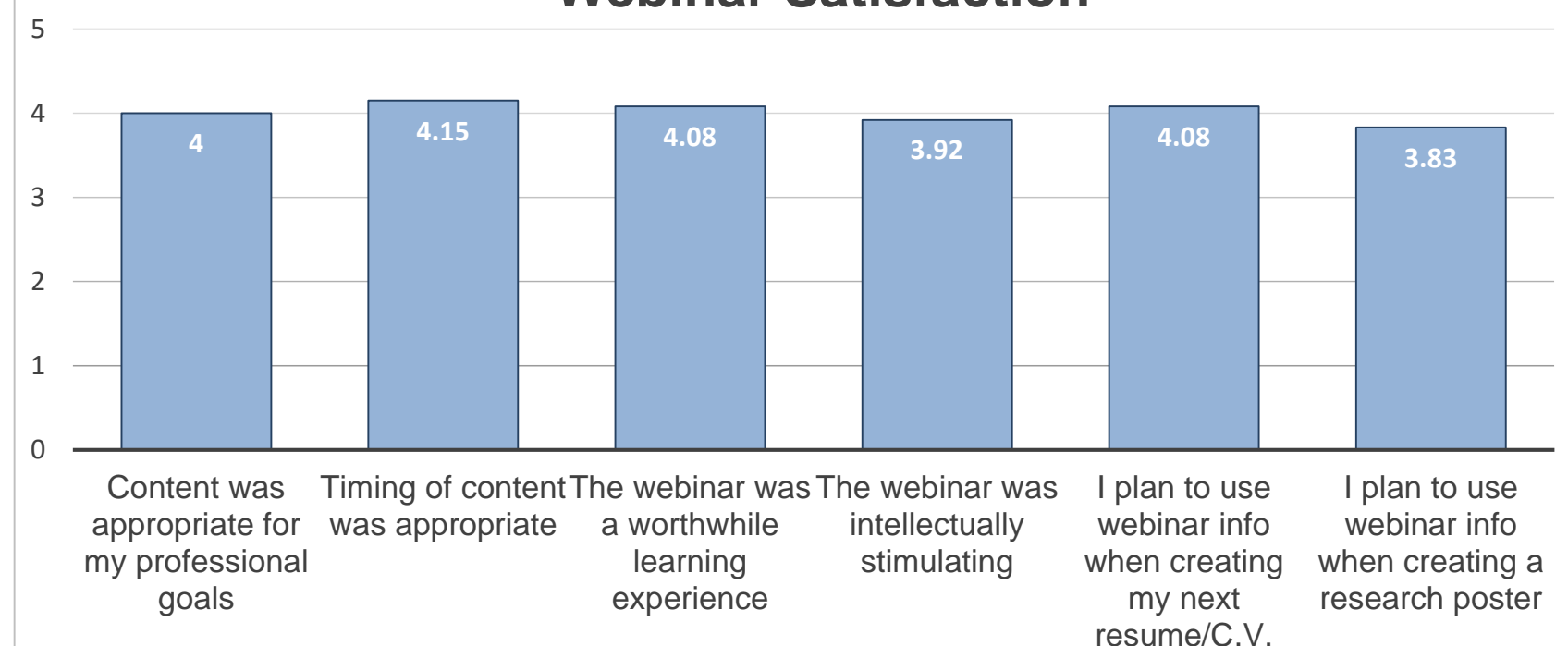
Introduction

The USDA AFRI grant “Climate change, mitigation, and adaptation in corn based cropping systems” involves more than 100 researchers focused on different aspects of corn cropping systems as well as a component dedicated to educating teachers, students, farmers and the public. The goal of the education objective is to increase the climate change and agriculture knowledge of science and agriculture Researchers also developed a graduate level course and a webinar series to engage students in project findings and professional development.

Webinar Series

The webinar series was designed to help with graduate student professional development. Speakers discussed communicating across disciplines, fields, and with the public about science, risk, and collaboration. Other webinar topics included how to use LinkedIn as a networking tool, designing research posters, and developing your resume.

Webinar Satisfaction



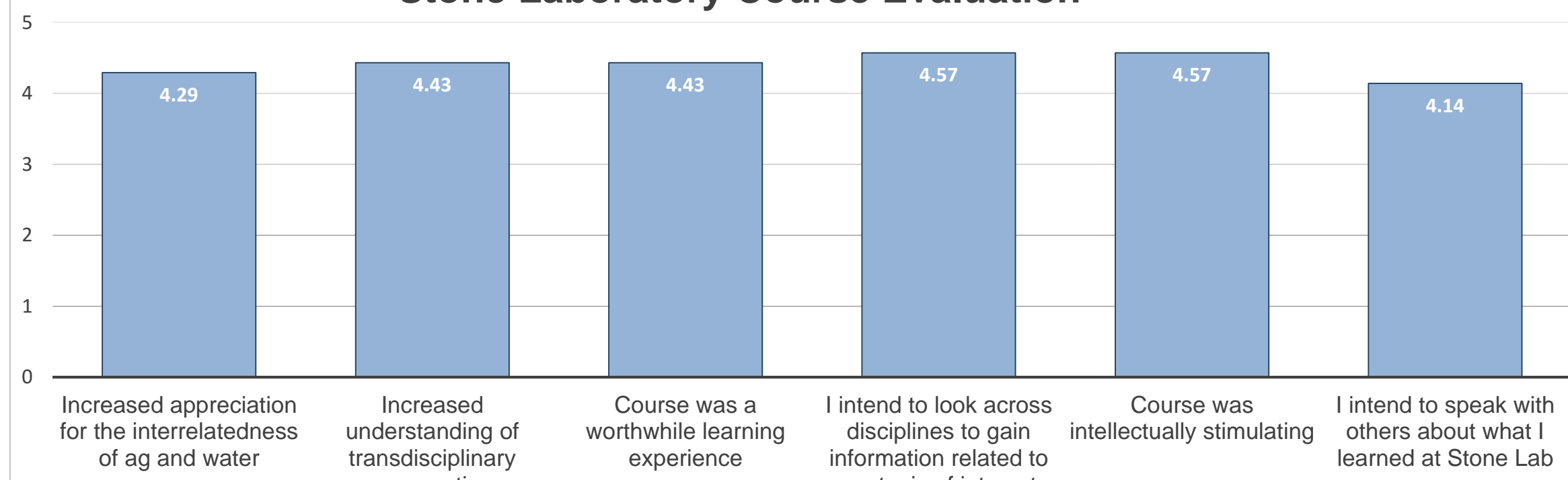
Summer Climate Programs

Weeklong camps were held at Lincoln University and South Dakota State University. Workshops were designed to involve teachers in a learning experience that would increase their knowledge and awareness of the effects of climate change on agriculture and the natural world. Workshops included presentations, field trips, group discussions, and hands-on activities that facilitated the learning process.

Stone Laboratory

The graduate level course, Climate, Agriculture, and Sustainability in the Corn belt, is offered through The Ohio State University Stone Laboratory Field Research Center on Lake Erie. The goal for this course was to increase participant awareness of climate change and the effects of agriculture on natural systems, specifically water resources in Lake Erie. This weeklong course engaged participants in hands-on activities, field trips, and presentations designed to build a foundation of knowledge based in scientific research.

Stone Laboratory Course Evaluation



Notable Findings

The webinar series was an effective method for communicating ideas and information. Programs were found to be an engaging and worthwhile learning experience. All participants expressed an intent to share the knowledge they gained through participation in these programs in other professional settings.

Recommendations

- Webinars should be used in similar projects to disseminate information
- Stipends, incentives, and/or scholarships should be offered to increase participation in programs

Acknowledgements

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