

# UVA-Wise Faculty and Student Outreach to Primary-Secondary Education in SW Virginia

Challenge: For the socioeconomic populations served at the College, higher education may be perceived as unattainable or connately divergent.

Challenge: Remind students and teachers in our region that UVA-Wise is an excellent nearby resource.

Three Examples of Outreach:  
1-Girls Day in STEM, 2-Pedagogical Workshops,  
3-Biodiversity Institute

# 1 - Girls Day in STEM-H

- Provide local 6<sup>th</sup> grade girls with the opportunity to learn more about and get hands-on exposure to Science, Technology, Engineering, Math, and Health (STEM-H) fields

- 2016 – 414, 6<sup>th</sup> graders
- 2017 – 516, 6<sup>th</sup> graders
- 2018 – 548, 6<sup>th</sup> graders
- 2019 – planned



Madelyn  
Shell  
Assoc. Prof.  
Psychology

Alexandria  
Reynolds  
Asst. Prof.  
Psychology



# 1 - Girls Day in STEM-H

- American Electric Power Foundation awarded a grant to fund the event for three years
  - \$75,000.00 grant
  - 2018 - 2020



# 2 - Pedagogical Outreach

- The science education faculty and NSTA (National Science Teachers Association) student chapter visit schools in Wise, Lee, and Dickenson Counties.



David Goodman  
NSTA chapter  
president

Adriana Undreiu,  
Science Education  
Teaching Fellow

- During 2018-2019
  - 27 events were offered

# 2 - Pedagogical Outreach

- STEM and STREAM events
  - preK – Middle School
  - 100-300 students and parents



- Teacher Workshops
  - Ideas and tools to implement science in elementary lesson plans



# 3 - Biodiversity Institute

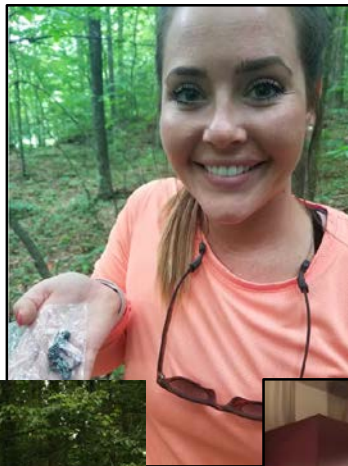
- Purpose: provide continuing education credits to science teachers in the SW VA region at no cost.
  - Week long course
  - 3 undergraduate credit hours
  - Stipend
  - Materials, lodging, meals
- Began in 2016, 10 High School and Middle School teachers each year.
  - The class fills immediately and has a waiting list.
  - Many participants want to return
- Funded by the Anne Carter and Walter R. Robins, Jr. Foundation, \$20,000.00 yearly grant
  - Adrienne Hood is currently seeking funding for a second course for past participants



Adrienne Hood  
Executive Director  
SW VA Public  
Education Consortium  
and Foundation

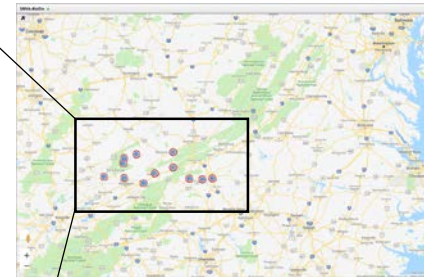
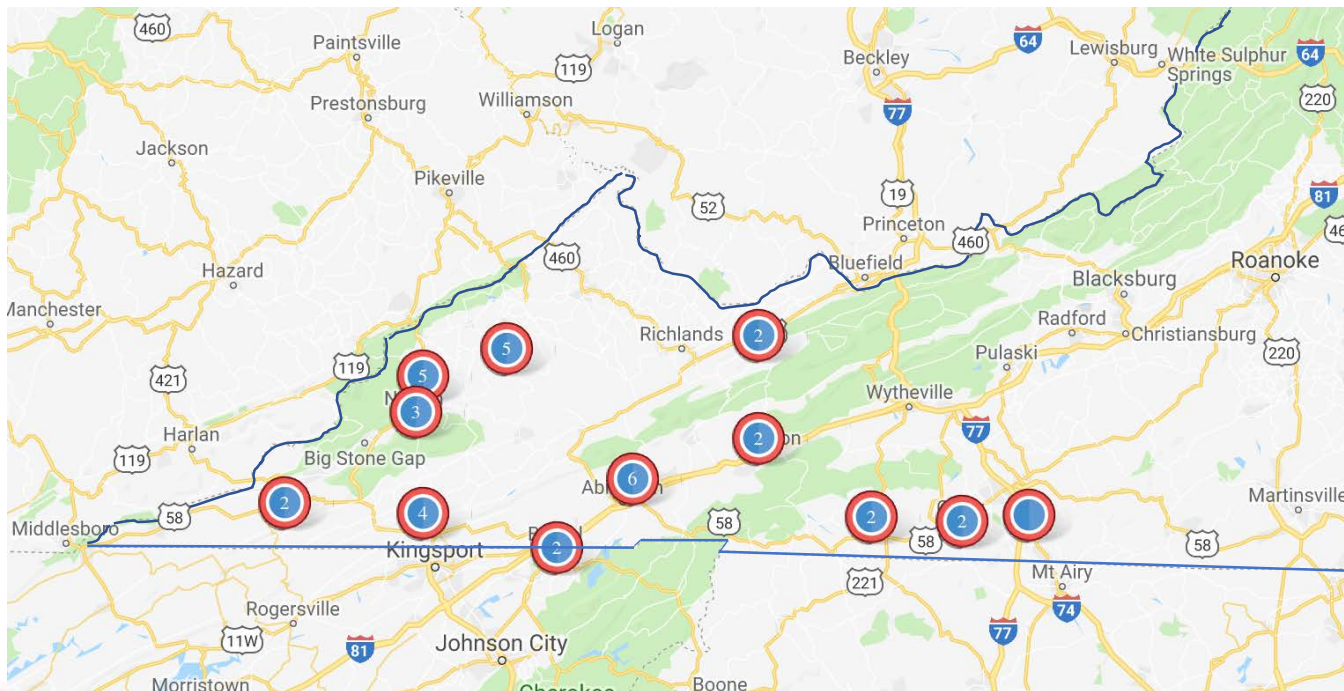
# 3 - Biodiversity Institute

- The course is primarily field biology (botany, herpetology, and vertebrates) using Stan's Woods with a modern molecular species identification component.



# 3 - Biodiversity Institute

- With this summer's cohort, 40 local teachers have been introduced to, or reminded of our college and faculty.





# Summary

- Although student recruitment is led by the UVA-Wise Office of Admission, faculty and students at the college lead outreach activities to increase awareness of our institution.