CONTINUING WES IN NORTH CAROLINA

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North Carolina continued the "Water and Earth Systems" course during the spring of 2002. The LIT team consisted of John White, employee with the North Carolina Department of Air Quality, Fanette Entzminger, teacher with Pitt County Schools, and myself, teacher with Sampson County Schools.

The first meeting was held in January, at the National Weather Service Office in Raleigh, North Carolina. We had 7 participating teachers in the program with school locations ranging from our coast to the foothills of North Carolina. The primary purpose of the first meeting was to distribute materials and supplies that would be needed during the semester. Since several of the teachers had previously taken Datastreme, we wanted to familiarize the participants with the features offered in WES that differed from the Datastreme Course. One such item is the "Case-in-Point" scenarios provided in each chapter. These scenarios illustrate applications relevant to the subject matter covered during the lessons.

The National Weather Service Office served as the location for the mid-course meeting in March. During this class, we conducted the chapter 5 "Super-cooling" activity. In the past, having this meeting at someone's home has eliminated some of the problems created by transporting and crushing ice for this activity. However, this did not keep the participants from getting great results with the experiment.

For the final meeting in May, we decided to change locations and go to the North Carolina Ozone Forecast Office in Raleigh. This was a great opportunity for the teachers to have a tour of the office. After the tour, John gave a presentation on the difficulties of ozone forecasting.

For the fall 2002 "Water and Earth Systems" course, we have 8 participants. These teachers range geographic area range from the piedmont to outer banks. With and increased awareness of finding teachers that work with students from lower economic groups, we feel that this fall semester will aid in that effort.