

Building a Pipeline of Next Generation Collaborative Conservation Leaders

Capacity Building Session Notes

Presentations:

Matt McKinney reviewed the growth in university-based programs developing collaborative leadership skills; from three in 1992 to 26 in 2019.

Three case studies and three panelists utilized their academic and career paths to help identify opportunities, challenges, and gaps related to building capacity around developing collaborative leadership skills.

Group Discussions:

What's working: The next generation of leaders is already leading; it just looks different than we are traditionally used to. The mainstays of collaboration are still just as relevant today: trust, interconnectedness, partnerships, and the value of real-world experiences.

What's not working: There is a sense of urgency moving forward, driving a need for change, for instance utilizing new technologies, communicating success stories, and acknowledging and incorporating diverse knowledge and partners.

Where are our Gaps: Strengthen the two-way exchange between the real world and the classroom.

References: Handout: Academic Collaboration Program List

Key Points of Discussion: Future leaders are here; everyone just needs to recognize it

- Interconnected partnerships are still the synergy for collaboration
- Academic programs attract a variety of diverse students with a shared value for collaboration

Key Next Steps:

- Continue to convene to collectively empower future leaders (university-programs, conferences, workshops, etc.)
- Learn how to tell the success stories of collaborative partnerships
- Acknowledge who is missing from the "table" (classroom) and extend an invitation to participate