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UWSP STUDENT CHAPTER HOSTS LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP

By Emilia Kenow, Student Chapter President

The University of Wisconsin- Stevens Point (UWSP) Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society recently hosted its first Leadership Workshop. The workshop was an idea developed by members of the board after identifying the need to seek out more leaders early in their academic career since we have about fifty leadership roles between the officers, board, and project leaders.

Other student chapters voiced similar concerns during the Student Chapter Session and student breakfast at [TWS Annual Conference](#) in Pittsburgh this past October. Therefore, we extended invitations to the other student chapters in Wisconsin (UW-Madison and Northland) as well as other student organizations in the College of Natural Resources, resulting in 45 participants.

Part of the leadership training required participants to take the Myer-Briggs Personality Test prior to meeting as a group. Students then met at the UWSP campus to hear presentations by Dr. Bernie Patterson (UWSP Chancellor), Dr. Karl Martin (Program Director for UWEX- Community Natural Resource Economic Development), and John Zach (UWSP Career Services). Chancellor Patterson addressed the value of student leaders on campus and in the community, as well as the importance of diverse leaders. Dr. Martin followed with a discussion on leadership and teamwork in the field of Natural Resources. John Zach finished off the morning by applying the results from the Personality Tests to types of leadership.

Participants were assigned to groups after lunch for afternoon breakout sessions. Each group had a UWSP faculty leader who facilitated discussion on the relationship between personality types and leadership style in the context of a team. Groups engaged in a problem-solving activity that demonstrated various personalities within their group. They then identified an issue from within their student organization, brainstormed solutions, and created action items to solve the issue. Following

these breakout sessions, all groups then presented and discussed proposed action items with each other. These action items were recorded and distributed in a follow-up communication to all participants to implement within their own groups. The day ended with a closing statement from Dr. Scott Hygnstrom (Douglas R. Stephens Chair in Wildlife at UWSP and Director of the Wisconsin Institute for Wildlife) and the presentation of certificates.

Participant enthusiasm, feedback, and evaluations all indicated the workshop was a success. This was a huge learning opportunity for the officers and steering committee as we worked together to create and execute this event. We hope this is the first of many workshops and look forward to improving and expanding our Leadership Workshop offerings. Specifically, we plan to create a three-year workshop series rotation on leadership development, teambuilding, and conflict- resolution.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW? AN INTERVIEW WITH MARTIN GRENIER (CLASS OF 2010)

Read about what a Leadership Institute alum is up to now and what they have achieved since they participated.

Martin Grenier (Class of 2010) is the Manager of Conservation Programs in Wyoming & Colorado for Ducks Unlimited, an organization committed to wetlands and waterfowl conservation. He previously worked for Wyoming Game and Fish Department as a nongame mammal biologist, where he worked while participating in the Leadership Institute.

Martin's background is in wildlife; he received his Bachelors of Science in Wildlife Management from Humboldt State University and his Masters in Zoology and Physiology from University of Wyoming. Martin was encouraged to participate in the Leadership Institute by TWS Past President Thomas Ryder.

Martin's goals for participating in the program were to engage the parent society while contributing to his own professional development. He found the experience valuable in networking and making professional connections at all levels of the TWS.

Martin has also participated in the National Conservation Leadership Institute (NCLI), which is currently accepting applications through April 30th. Martin felt both NCLI and Leadership Institute were valuable experiences that helped set him apart from other candidates while transitioning to Ducks Unlimited. He would encourage future Leadership Institute participants to fully immerse themselves in the experience to maximize its benefit.

ALUMNI NEWS

Sarah Bullock (Class of 2013) has recently accepted a wildlife biologist position with the USFWS at the Desert National Wildlife Refuge, just north of Las Vegas, NV. She will be working with desert bighorn sheep, but this position will include various endangered species, bats, small mammals, and herps.

Kent Fricke (Class of 2010) was elected to become the Treasurer for the Nebraska Chapter of The Wildlife Society for the 2015-2017 term.

Chris Ayers (Class of 2012) is now a permanent instructor at Mississippi State University.

Jessica Dowler (Class of 2011) took a new job with NRCS that started in August 2014. Her new position is Soil Conservationist located in the Britton Field Office in Britton, SD.

Angela Fuller (Class of 2008) is now the Leader of the USGS New York Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, Cornell University.

Congrats to all!

LEADERSHIP TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Nominations Open for 10th Annual National Conservation Leadership Institute

The National Conservation Leadership Institute (NCLI) recently announced that it is accepting applications for its 10th cohort of future conservation leaders, reports the Wildlife Management Institute. The program trains upper and middle level managers how to address adaptive challenges, lead through change, and other critical leadership skills that are essential for the efficient and effective management of today's fish and wildlife agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and related industries. With the completion of this incoming class, NCLI will have trained almost 350 conservation leaders. Applications are due by April 30.

<http://www.conservationleadership.org/>

Leading From Within

Leading from Within is a five-month ICL intensive program of workshops, coaching, and peer learning. Develop a leadership style that takes advantage of your unique personal traits. Be ready to tackle any situation through greater awareness of your individual strengths and confidence to impact others. Develop life-long leadership skills to create productive teams, address conflicts, and build the trusting relationships we all need to succeed.

<https://www.icl.org/programs/signature-intensive/leading-within>