

2024 Interactive Session Report

Going Beyond the Academy: How can we make our science count for conservation?

Session Organizers: Dr. Claire Kremen, UBC; Dr. Don Carruthers Den Hoed, UBC

The session, which brought together a diverse group of around 30 attendees, was highly interactive. Participants actively engaged in the session activities, sharing their unique experiences and learning from one another about successes and challenges in creating conservation impact and collaborative connections. The session was structured with the following goals in mind: to share experiences, learn from each other about successes and challenges, and create a network for continued exchanges.

Session Content:

- 1) Introduction of the session, followed by the first table discussion, asking participants to introduce themselves at the table with answers to two prompted questions.
- 2) Framing the Discussion: We started by asking participants the meaning of interdisciplinary, inclusive, and solutions-oriented conservation & restoration using padlet and discussed the answers in the group.

Padlet brainstorm: When it comes to conservation and restoration: What do the following terms mean to you?

- Interdisciplinary: Collaboration Across Fields, Integrative Solutions, Respectful Knowledge Sharing, Innovation and Perspective.
 - Inclusive: Diverse Engagement, Reciprocal Communication, Barrier-Free Participation, Community Involvement
 - Solutions-Oriented: Practical Application, Informed Decision-Making, Problem-Solving, Respect and Realism
- 3) Brief discussion of the history of the Interdisciplinary Biodiversity Solutions Collaboratory, followed by a panel discussion of IBioS members Dr. Claire Kremen, Dr. Alex Moore, and Dr. Kaitlyn Gaynor sharing their experience within the Collaboratory using the Thorn, Rose, Bud template.
 - 4) Second Table discussion: Participants were asked to share their experiences with interdisciplinary, inclusive, and/ or solutions-oriented conservation, highlighting what worked and what challenges they encountered.

Padlet brainstorm: What enablers for interdisciplinary inclusive and/or solutions-oriented conservation have you encountered?

- Interdisciplinary: Career and Team Support, Cross-Disciplinary Collaboration, Community Involvement, Informal Spaces
 - Inclusive: Diverse and Inclusive Communication, Trust and Humility, Support for Marginalized Groups, Effective Facilitation
 - Solutions-Oriented: Realistic and Trust-Based Goals, Respecting Time and Expertise, Quick Implementation of Ideas, Community and Practice Integration
- 5) Connections and Commitments: At the end of the session, we asked participants to share skills/expertise/experiences they could bring to a community and what they would need to get back on index cards which we collected. Summary of the information collected below
 - 6) Closing remarks

Session Outcome:

To further the connection and continue the discussion, we created a [Slack channel](#). This platform, which currently has 15 members and 12 channels, is a great place to share resources, ask questions, and continue the conversations from the session. We encourage NACCB to share the Slack channel with anyone who might be interested, because it will only really be useful if there are quite a few people joining to share information on it.

Summary of Index Card Responses:

