Meeting basic human needs while preserving Earth’s vital systems will require innovation from the local to global scale. This effort must be grounded in scientific knowledge, yet scientists have often been left out of discussions focused on solutions. Meeting sustainability challenges will require leaders across all sectors to communicate and work collaboratively, create new paradigms for environmental problem solving, change patterns of behavior and decision making, and influence large-scale transformations.

Mission
The Leopold Leadership Program, based at the Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment, provides outstanding academic researchers with the skills, approaches and theoretical frameworks for translating knowledge to action and catalyzing change to address the world’s most pressing sustainability challenges.

Goals
We prepare Leopold Leadership Fellows to:

- Learn new approaches to working collaboratively with partners to communicate and integrate science into practice, making a strong impact on decision making
- Model effective practices and engage students and colleagues in the use of new practices and knowledge
- Grow a network of fellows and their collaborators and students to contribute to collective knowledge building and development of best practices
Building Leadership Capacity

Leopold Leadership Fellows lead change in many dimensions. The Leopold Leadership Program provides leadership training that is useful and relevant wherever fellows choose to work. In our core training, we offer two intensive sessions to help fellows learn where, when and how to engage in order to most effectively further their vision for change.

Engaging Across Sectors

Recognizing that fellows work in a wide range of settings, we provide advanced training that focuses on specific skills or contexts that they and their cross-sector collaborators need to understand in order to integrate science into decision making.

Network Building

Fellows are on the leading edge of developing the practices needed to solve sustainability challenges. As a network, they provide powerful ongoing support to each other. Through Leopold Leadership Program events and online resources, fellows have the opportunity to reconnect, learn new approaches and exchange best practices for teaching and ideas about integrating science into practice.

Spotlight on Leopold Leadership Fellows

Since 1998, the program has trained 195 fellows who have subsequently shared their learning about leadership with thousands of colleagues and students. Fellows are working on critical issues around the world, advising leaders in government, nonprofits and businesses, engaging local communities and changing the culture of academic leadership.

For more information:
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