

7th International Fire Behavior & Fuels Conference

Transatlantic Lesson Sharing Workshop

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How do we share lessons with those in our local and regional areas? Is there a way to share such lessons across the Transatlantic? And what might those types of lessons and activities look like? This workshop, through engagement and interaction, will explore examples of learning exchanges and the potential funding mechanisms needed for Transatlantic lesson sharing.

Lesson Sharing

The North Atlantic Fire Science Exchange (NAFSE), which is part of the Joint Fire Science Program's Fire Science Exchange Network, offered up some examples of their lesson sharing activities. In addition, those attending offered up suggestions as well.

- NAFSE Lesson Sharing Activities
 - Student Webinar Series (connect students with the fire and forestry community to build positive working relationships and share information)
 - Panel Discussion Series (a conversational webinar with panelists sharing insight on relevant topics)
 - Help develop workshops (Northeast Midwest Prescribed Fire Workshop, 7th International Fire Behaviour and Fuels Conference, etc.)
 - Field trips
 - New Jersey Fire Camp (provides an opportunity for fire and forestry students to engage in prescribed burning and learn about fire effects, fire behavior, fuels, fire ecology, fire history, fire weather, etc.)
 - Working Groups (leverage expertise to share information related to a specific topic that other practitioners need to be aware of. For example, we

referenced to the impact of Southern Pine Beetle)

- Activities Suggested from Attendees
 - Skill building and Peer Exchanges
 - TREX and WTREX Events
 - Forest Camp held in Poland
 - How to training sessions
 - Share lessons in Wildfire Magazine (IAWF)
 - International Journal of Wildland Fire
 - Germany created fire fighting booklets
 - Pao Costa Institute
 - Women in Fire training

Funding Constraints

We discussed funding constraints that limit the ability to lesson share locally, regionally, and across the Transatlantic.

- Examples of constraints
 - The government will not pay.
 - Geographic area.
 - Some might not be open to accepting private funding.
 - Competency and cultural barriers (words such as wildland fire do not translate well in some areas, with Scotland being one).
 - Inability to connect funding to a specific need (might only need a soil scientist instead of trying to fund a scientist for multiple functions).
 - Similar to the previous example in which categories are important. To help set up funding you need to better define what groups need to be funded (operations, community, etc.).
 - Need funding for activities like Train the Trainer so countries can develop the capacity to train their own.

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- Information not readily available to learn about conferences and workshops on either side of the Atlantic How can IAWF assist with this and other endeavors such as communities of practice in specific topic areas?

Funding Opportunities

We had a very good discussion related to funding opportunities that might help with lesson sharing locally, regionally, and across the Transatlantic.

- Examples of opportunities
 - Prescribed Fire Councils and Coalitions.
 - IAWF offers scholarships to students.
 - Government funding and grants for universities.
 - Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPPs) can connect with many federal grants to do the work that is needed.
 - Erasmus Grants (not sure if this is correct as I did not know how to spell it).
 - Look for sponsorship opportunities from IAWF and the private sector.
 - Build trust and ensure collaboration efforts are meeting objectives and you will better your chances for funding.
 - NASA's Wildfire Initiative has both federal and international funding opportunities.
 - Look to groups like The Nature Conservancy, organizations, and other private companies to help fund TREX and WTREX events.
 - Fortune 500 companies and the private sector and asking, "what can I do for the wildland fire community?" They are wanting to support people and not sell products.
 - Venture capital companies (Burnbot and Nero for example) are also funding sources.
 - Betty Moore Foundation.
 - University of California Network's Teaching Assistantship funded PhD programs.