

2022 Next  
Generation  
Leadership  
Institute  
Information &  
Application  
Announcement  
Webinar

July 14, 2021

National Conservation Foundation



Next Generation Leadership Institute

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# Welcome Comments

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BRENT VAN DYKE | NATIONAL CONSERVATION  
FOUNDATION CHAIR



# Agenda

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- Welcome Comments & Agenda
- NGLI Formation & Purpose
- Cohort Roundtable Presentations
- 2022 NGLI Recruitment & Application Process
- Appreciation for NGLI & 2022 Cohort Recruitment
- Questions & Discussion
- Closing Comments



# Session Objectives

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- Promote and provide information on 2022 NGLI Cohort Application Process, show information on website and demonstrate application form
- NGLI member connection with webinar participants through shared stories about each cohort member's leadership journey at start of NGLI, during and plans for after.
- Answer questions by webinar participants



# Logistics

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- All muted lines except presenters
- Questions via web – use questions area on webinar dashboard (not the chat)
- Will get to as many questions as we can
- Presentation will be recorded
- Feedback welcome – kudos, comments, etc. – email [Aubrey-evans@nacdnet.org](mailto:Aubrey-evans@nacdnet.org)



# Self Introductions

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Enter in chat area of dashboard

- Name
- State
- Organization



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# NGLI Formation & Purpose

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# NGLI Formation & Purpose

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- Presentation on the NGLI formation, purpose and first cohort activities by *Ray Ledgerwood*





# NGLI Background

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- The focus of the National Conservation Foundation (NCF) is to develop the next generation of conservation leaders.
- Advisory committee created program structure and adjourned
- Operating committee formed



# NGLI Goals

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- Focused topics for conservation district leaders
- Nation-wide participants
- In person trainings throughout U.S.
- Professional instruction, affordable tuition
- Sustainable program for future years



# Curriculum

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- Explore personal leadership style and conservation ethic
- Learn to communicate through conflict arising from conservation challenges and diverse political climates
- Understand the value of civic and organizational leadership
- Gain practical tools such as needs assessments and strategic planning for both public districts and nonprofit associations
- Practice leading districts through change and in accessing new opportunities
- Networking with conservation leaders from across the nation.
- Capstone activity | activities



# Applicants

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- Currently appointed or elected conservation district officials with current or potential for a statewide leadership position
- Serving in term during 2022 program year (February 2022-February 2023)
- Committed to future conservation district service
- Seven participants will be selected for the second program year (2022), one from each NACD Region
- Recruiting an applicant from each state & island territory (50 plus) | 14 applicants selected for interviews (2 from each region) | 7 participants selected



# Applications

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- Submit online application found at NCF website <https://forms.gle/Ti2jLLD3VZFKsptX7>
- Application window | July 15 to September 24, 2021
- More details on Application Form, Agreement, Tuition to follow our Cohort Roundtable!!!



# 2020-21 Cohort Activities

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- After in-person meeting at Las Vegas in February 2020 our plans changed to web-based training to be followed up with in-person training when safe
- Restarting in-person meetings at NACD Summer Meeting and continuing through February 2022



# Example 2020-21 Activities

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- Urban Agriculture Conservation Webinar | 4.28.20
- Policy Work & Influence of COVID 19 Webinar | 5.27.20
- Public Speaking Recommendations & Tips for Conservation Leaders Webinar | 6.30.20
- Nobel Research Institute Session on Generational Intelligence & Working Effectively with Different Generations | 11.12.20
- Leonard Jordan “Fireside Chat” with Cohort on “Leadership Lessons Learned” in his conservation career | 12.17.20



# Example 2020-21 Activities

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- Noble Research Institute work session on Advanced Training on Working Effectively with Different Personality Types | 1.27.28
- Communications & Marketing Tools | Planning Effective Public Outreach Training Session | 1.28.21
- Virtual 2021 NACD Annual Meeting | Attending General Sessions, President's Association Virtual Social | 1.27.21 to 2.11.21 & 2021 Virtual Annual Meeting Review | 2.12.21
- Virtual 2021 NACD Fly-In – NGLI Work Session on Legislative Contacts, NACD Issue Papers | 3.31.21





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# Cohort Roundtable

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# Cohort Roundtable Presentations

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- Presentations by each cohort member on...
  - How the NGLI experience has helped in our leadership journey
  - What we have learned and where we are taking it
  - Favorite session and how using in everyday lives
  - Where we started and where we are now
  - *moderated by Aubrey Evans*



# Joe Caughlin

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**Tonkawa, Okla.**

**Kay County Conservation District**

“You call me ‘teacher’ and ‘master,’ and rightly so, for indeed I am. If I, therefore, the master and teacher, have washed your feet, you ought to wash one another’s feet. I have given you a model to follow, so that as I have done for you, you should also do.” -Jesus Christ, John 13:13-15”



# Barbara Bleiweis

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Charlotte, N.C.

Mecklenburg Soil and Water  
Conservation District

“Bad things happen in life, it’s how you respond that counts.” -Dabo Swinney



# Mark Masters

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**Dawson, Ga.**

**Lower Chattahoochee River Soil  
and Water Conservation District**

“Never let your memories be greater than your dreams.” -Doug Ivester



# Cassius Spears

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Ashaway, R.I.

Southern Rhode Island  
Conservation District

“Leadership is not about you; it’s about investing in the growth of others.” -Ken Blanchard





# Ryan Britt

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Clifton Hill, Mo.

Randolph County Missouri Soil  
and Water Conservation District

“Tell me and I forget. Teach me  
and I remember. Involve me and I  
learn.” -Benjamin Franklin



# Sam Steiner

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Franklin, Ohio

Warren County Soil and Water  
Conservation District

“The measure of a life, after all, is  
not its duration, but its donation.”  
-Corrie ten Boom





# Phil Campbell

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Luther, Okla.

Oklahoma County Conservation District

“The best method of overcoming obstacles is the team method.” - Colin Powell



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# 2022 NGLI Recruitment & Application Process

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# 2022 NGLI Recruitment | Goal

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- One outstanding candidate application from each state and island territories | sponsored by state or island association
- 50-plus applications
- 14 interviews (2 from each region)
- 7 new cohort members (1 from each region)



# 2022 Application Form

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- [Application Form](#) review | Aubrey Evans



# Applications & Financial Considerations

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- Application window | July 15 to September 24, 2021
- Submit online application [www.nacdnet.org/NCF-Next-Gen](http://www.nacdnet.org/NCF-Next-Gen): Info and 8 questions (250-word limit)
- Signed letters of support (PDF uploaded with application):
  - State/Territory Association
  - Applicant's conservation district
  - Contact us for alternate options for submitting letters of support
- \$50 application fee (not refunded)
- Agreement to [participant terms](#) if selected



# Financial Considerations

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- The total value of the program exceeds \$10,000 per person
- Tuition is \$1200
- Some scholarship opportunities exist, or payment plan option if needed
- Reimbursed or paid by program
  - Airline travel for all sessions
  - Ground transport in session locations
  - Meals during travel
  - Training, instruction and transportation during all sessions
  - Lodging and meals during all sessions
  - Participant materials and supplies



# Financial Considerations

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- Costs borne by participants
  - transportation to/from your local airport
  - parking at your local airport
  - any personal expenses | including expenses incurred before or after planned session activities



# Sessions

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- February 2022 | In conjunction with NACD Annual Meeting
- March 2022 (second or third week): In conjunction with NACD Fly-In in Washington, D.C. Date dependent on legislative calendar.
- July 2022: In conjunction with NACD Summer Meeting in Bismarck, N.D.
- November 2022: In Ardmore, Okla. at Noble Research Institute
- February 2023: In conjunction with NACD Annual Meeting | Graduation of 2022 cohort and first session for 2023 NGLI cohort (three days required).





# Evaluations

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- Program assessments will be completed
  - Experience
  - Outcomes
  - Value
  - Locations
  - Support
- Input of cohort will be key for each year
- Information will help shape future program development.



# Timeline

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- Application Opens | July 15, 2021
- Application Closes | September 24, 2021
- Applications Reviewed & Ranked | to October 5, 2021
- Interviews | October 11-22, 2021
- Committee Selection Completed | October 29, 2021
- Offers Made | November 2021
- Acceptance & Payment Confirmed & Welcome Webinar | December 15, 2021
- First Session at Annual Meeting | February 2022



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# Questions & Discussion

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MODERATOR – AUBREY EVANS



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# Appreciation for NGLI & 2022 Cohort Recruitment

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MODERATOR – AUBREY EVANS



# Thank You

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- Thank you to NCF and NACD for Next Generation Leadership Institute | by Joe Caughlin



# Guest Presenters | Trainers

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Acknowledging guests, we had in our meetings |  
by Phil Campbell & Cassius Spears

- Urban Agriculture Conservation Webinar
  - Susie Kirschner, Inland Empire RCD, CA
  - Jan Rybka, Cuyahoga SWCD, OH
  - Damon Yakovleff, Cumberland SWCD, ME
- Policy Work & Influence of COVID 19 Webinar
  - Kevin Norton, NRCS
  - Jenny Mesirow, Farm Credit Council
  - Ryan Richards, Center for American Progress
  - Coleman Garrison, NACD



# Guest Presenters | Trainers

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Acknowledging guests, we had in our meetings | by  
Phil Campbell & Cassius Spears

- Public Speaking
  - Randy Frazier, Frazier Communications
- Generational Intelligence & Working Effectively with Different Generations Training Session
  - Amy Hays, Noble Research Institute



# Guest Presenters | Trainers

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- “Fireside Chat” with Cohort on Leadership Lessons Learned
  - Leonard Jordan, Retired Acting Chief, NRCS
- Advanced Training on Working Effectively with Different Personality Types
  - Amy Hays & Brenna Gaik Noble Research Institute
- Communications & Marketing Tools | Planning Effective Public Outreach
  - Laura Johnson (Meyer), WA State Conservation Commission
- National Conservation Foundation Interviews for NCF Annual Report
  - Katrina Vaitkus Stacey, NACD





# NGLI Cohort on NACD Committees

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NACD Committees, Work Groups the cohort members serve on | by Barb Bleiweis

- **Mark Masters** elected President of Georgia Association of Conservation Districts | Chair of the NACD Groundwater Task Force | NACD District Operations RPG Committee | NACD Audit Committee
- **Samantha Steiner** elected 2nd Vice President of the Ohio Federation of Conservation Districts | NACD Farm Bill Task Force | State Association Agriculture Committee
- **Phil Campbell** elected to chair Oklahoma Conservation Commission | NACD Awards Committee | NACD Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Task Force
- **Ryan Britt** is completing his term as Missouri Association of Conservation Districts President | NACD Board Member | NACD Legislative Committee | NACD Climate Action Task Force



# NGLI Cohort on NACD Committees

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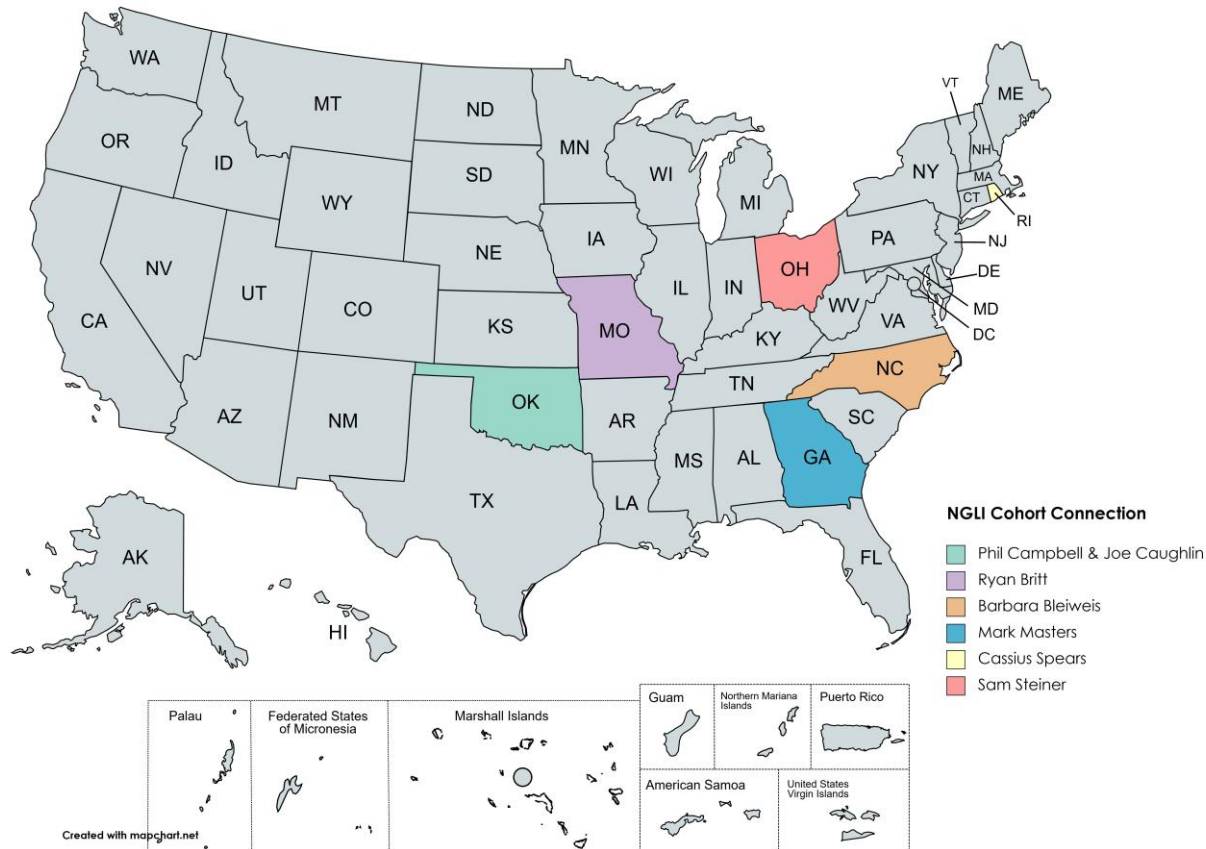
NACD Committees, Work Groups the cohort members serve on | by Barb Bleiweis

- **Barbara Bleiweis** | NACD Public Lands RPG | nomination for the NC Urban Ag & Innovative Production Committee
- **Joe Caughlin** | NACD Policy Book Review Work Group | NACD District Operations RPG Committee | NACD Board Member Alternate
- **Cassius Spears** | Rhode Island Association of Conservation Districts President | NACD Awards Committee | NACD National Tribal Policy Group | NRCS Regional Tribal Policy Group



# Location & Connectivity

by Samantha Steiner



# 2022 Cohort Recruitment

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- Mark Masters
- Ryan Britt



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# Questions & Discussion

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MODERATOR – AUBREY EVANS



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# Closing Comments

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RAY LEDGERWOOD



# More Information

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- Aubrey Evans | email [aubrey-evans@nacdn.net](mailto:aubrey-evans@nacdn.net) | phone 913.775.0286
- Ray Ledgerwood | NGLI Advisor | email [rayledgerwood@msn.com](mailto:rayledgerwood@msn.com) | phone 208.301.4728
- NGLI Website | <https://www.nationalconservationfoundation.org/ngli/>.

