

William “Breck” Bowden

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Summary

I have 40 years of experience in program development as a teacher, environmental research leader, federal program director, academic executive administrator, and community-natural resource advocate. My interests lie at the intersections between environmental science, community well-being, and economic benefit, especially in areas undergoing rapid climate change. I have worked in academic, government, and private sectors. I am retired and seek opportunities to use my skills to advance a better understanding of science, protect the environment, and improve communities.

Skills

- Leadership – ideation to implementation, setting goals and inspiring staff
- Strategic planning – for institutional, state, national, and international needs
- Program development – visions for multifaceted federally-funded programs
- Program administration – management of complex staff and budgets
- External relations – collaboration with key partners and stakeholders
- Synergistic activities – to stimulate communication and collaboration
- Teaching – theoretical as well as practical courses in environmental sciences
- Research – watershed science and planning, next-generation water quality sensors

Education

- Ph.D. North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC
- M.S. North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC
- B.S. University of Georgia, Athens, GA

Professional Positions

- 2023-present, Robert & Genevieve Patrick Professor of Watershed Science & Planning Emeritus
- 2002-2022, Robert & Genevieve Patrick Professor of Watershed Science & Planning, Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources, Burlington, Vermont. Provided leadership in teaching, research, and community service, focused on management of natural resources through an approach to watershed management that integrates environmental, social, and economic considerations and approaches.
- 2020 to 2022, Interim Associate Dean for Research and Faculty Development, Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources, Burlington, Vermont. Provided strategic support for research and faculty development, including annual review of faculty; reappointment, promotion, and tenure. Administered the school’s graduate programs.

- 2008-2023, Director and Principal Investigator, Theme 1, Northeastern States Research Collaborative, Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources, Burlington, Vermont. Developed and managed an interdisciplinary research program on the integration of resource management and socio-economic concerns in the northern forests of the New England region. Funding source: USDA Forest Service.
- 2012 to 2022, Director, Lake Champlain Sea Grant program. Developed and managed resources for research, education, and outreach relevant to the mission of the National Sea Grant College Program. Funding source: NOAA.
- 2004-2022, Director, Vermont Water Resources and Lake Study Center, Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources, Burlington, Vermont. Managed and developed resources relevant to water resources of Vermont and the Lake Champlain region. Funding source: USGS.
- 1997-2002, Programme Leader, Integrated Catchment Management Programme, Landcare Research, Lincoln, New Zealand. Provided science leadership for a national research program involving approximately 40 research scientists and collaborators focused on integrated management of land and water resources in a regional-scale catchment. Maintained communication and collaboration with key government and industry stakeholders. Reported to executive managers within the company. Funding sources: New Zealand Foundation for Research, Science & Technology, collaborating research institutions, regional and district councils.
- 1997-2002, Team Leader, Catchment and Biospheric Processes, Landcare Research, Lincoln, New Zealand. Provided direct human resources support and guidance for a team of 15 science staff. Identified and developed consulting opportunities to minimize the un-funded time of team members. Identified career training and development opportunities. Conducted annual performance appraisals and recommended merit increases and bonuses.
- 1992-1997, Associate Professor (Tenured) and Curriculum Coordinator, Water Resources Management, Department of Natural Resources, UNH, Durham, NH. Led the development of new M.Sc. and Ph.D. programs in Natural Resources Management.
- 1987-1992, Assistant Professor and Curriculum Coordinator, Water Resources Management, Department of Natural Resources, University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH. Developed a new undergraduate major in Water Resources Management.

Funding Success

Generated a career total of \$35,000,000 in local, state, and federal funding for projects and programs ranging from basic environmental science to applied resource management, outreach, and education.

For additional details see <https://site.uvm.edu/breck/>