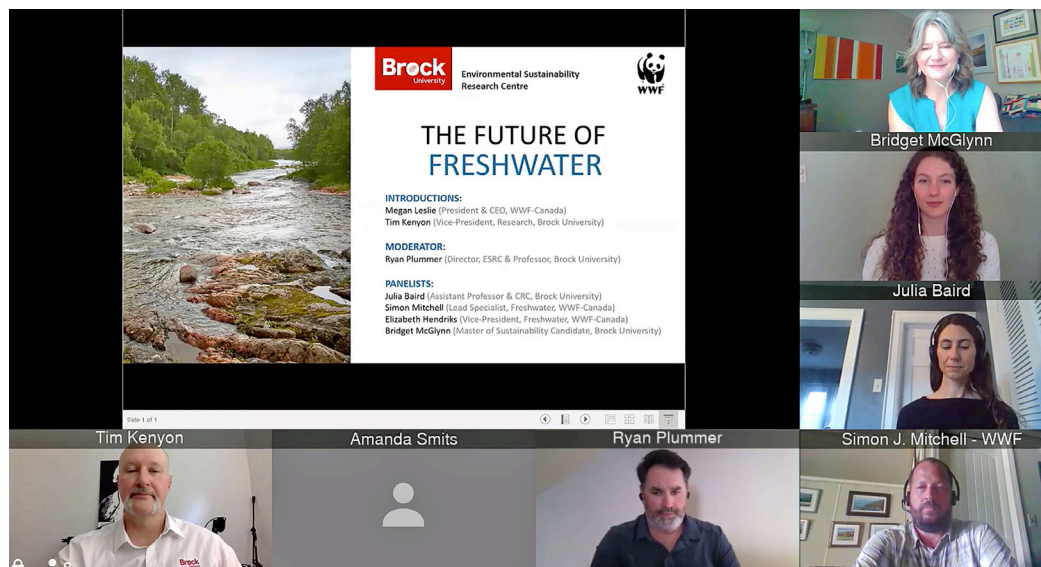


Partnership for Freshwater Resilience Year in Review 2020

Partnership Overview & Launch Event

WWF-Canada and Brock have identified a shared interest in collaborating on a program of mutual benefit with a focus on freshwater resilience and stewardship. The collaborative initiative aims to advance our collective understanding and promote the application of freshwater resilience and stewardship. In this context, it specifically looks to: 1) co-create knowledge at the interface of research and practice and 2) generate innovative and evidence-based approaches for management and governance. Mobilizing knowledge and experience is paramount to maximize the impact of on-the-ground efforts, and to ultimately enhance water futures.



The formal launch of the partnership took place virtually on June 25, 2020 in the form of a panel discussion with professionals from World Wildlife Fund-Canada and Brock. It was a huge success, with attendees from across Canada and beyond! The event was reported on in [The Brock News](#) and can now be viewed on our the [ESRC Youtube Channel](#).

Knowledge Mobilization Activities

Julia Baird and Bridget McGlynn presented at the St. John River Basin Summit (Oct 1-6, 2020) hosted by WWF-Canada to share preliminary results from the research project. The presentation highlighted key aspects of the current collaboration network, and the following panel discussion elaborated on how those in the watershed can



use this knowledge to take practical actions to enhance collaboration in flood planning and broader climate adaptation projects. There was a high degree of interest in the results from those working in the basin and potential for future workshops to discuss results further.

Simon Mitchell (WWF-Canada) contributed a case study of the St. John River Basin to a book chapter co-authored by Julia Baird, Ryan Plummer, and colleagues. The book was recently published and can be accessed [here](#).

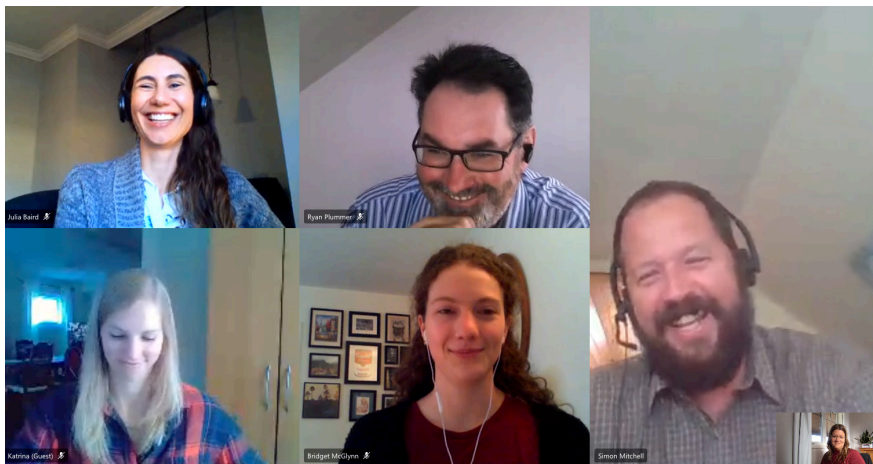
For more information visit: brocku.ca/esrc/partnership-for-freshwater-resilience

Research Activities

Bridget McGlynn (photo right) is a Master of Sustainability candidate working under the supervision of Dr. Ryan Plummer and Dr. Julia Baird and her thesis research is embedded in the Partnership for Freshwater Resilience to address climate change resilience and governance in the St. John River watershed in New Brunswick. Since she began working within this research project, the entire process has been transdisciplinary. From Brock researchers attending flooding resilience and climate workshops in the St. John River watershed to our WWF-Canada partners joining the discussion for her proposal presentation, joint goals have been prioritized. Bridget's portion of the project is investigating the current collaborative governance arrangement for flood planning in the watershed using a network approach. A related project focused on flood planning tasks has engaged international social network and crisis management experts Örjan Bodin, Angela Guerrero, and Daniel Nohrstedt. In November, Bridget presented initial findings to the partnership team virtually (see bottom right photo).



Additionally, WWF-Canada joined a SSHRC Insight Grant proposal (led by Dr. Julia Baird) as a Collaborator. This project, if funded, will focus on the role of individuals in building water resilience. The project has an important objective of making the knowledge gained immediately applicable to those working in water management and governance, and WWF-Canada will support the co-development of a 'primer and guide' to realize this objective.



Experiential Education Opportunities for Brock Students

In fall 2019, Students in Julia Baird's fourth year undergraduate Research Themes in Water Resources class at Brock University had the opportunity to work with WWF-Canada staff to address questions of importance to WWF-Canada's work in freshwater. Students synthesized research and prepared creative ways of presenting the findings (e.g., Twitter accounts, infographics) and presented their work to WWF-Canada at the end of the term. Both students and WWF-Canada found this to be an interesting and useful exercise, and a similar project is planned for the 2021 class.

On November 16th, 2020, members from the Environmental Sustainability Research Centre presented virtually to Master of Sustainability students in their Foundations of Sustainability Science course (SSAS 5P01) about the Centre's seven innovative community partnerships. The presentation focused on how the partnerships allow Brock students, faculty, and staff to collaborate with partners to move knowledge into action to make an impact within the community. They also discussed the importance of applying transdisciplinary ways of thinking and knowing to generate solutions to complex problems that Brock and community partners face.

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