



Au Sable Institute of Environmental Studies

# 2013 ANNUAL REPORT



# Place-Based Environmental Education

*Continuing as a trendsetter and resource for Christian Colleges and Universities*

Au Sable finished its 35th year teaching undergraduate students in environmental studies, serving 122 students from 29 colleges. Students completed 187 total courses in the 23 courses offered at the Great Lakes, Pacific Rim, Costa Rica, and India campuses during January, May, and two Summer Sessions (see table on right). Additionally, seven students earned eleven Au Sable certificates during their studies this year.

Au Sable welcomed Redeemer University College (Ontario) as a member of its Sustaining Partners. New partner-based tuition reductions helped six Redeemer students to be able to study at the Institute in 2013 (see complete list of Sustaining Partner institutions on right).



With the support of two alumni and many friends grateful for his life and mentorship, Au Sable established the annual Harold Snyder Fellowship for students with a similar passion and vocational calling as its founder.

Field courses continue to deliver hands-on learning that convey environmental knowledge, skills, and ethics in a supportive, Christian community. Students gave high marks (1-5 scale; 1 low, 5 high) for value of experience (4.8), level of accomplishment through courses (4.5), expressing the Institute mission through its programs (4.8), and overall experience (4.8).



## Sustaining Partners\*

Bethel University (MN)  
Calvin College  
Cedarville University  
Cornerstone University  
Covenant College  
Messiah College  
Redeemer University College

\*Sustaining Partners contribute \$10,000 to the Institute each year in exchange for reduced tuition, guaranteed financial aid, and research priority as well as other benefits.

## Training environmental education practitioners to teach the next generation

Au Sable completed its 36th year of outreach to local schools through its Environmental Education Internship Program (EEIP), training 9 interns in environmental education to deliver place-based, environmental education to 2,003 local school students. The Environmental Education Program initiated a new Citizen Science Program to engage local citizens and schools in collecting meaningful data for environmental protection. The new effort began through a start-up grant from the Michigan Clean Water Corps (MiCorps), where local community members will be trained to monitor and collect data to help protect the Upper Manistee River. Another new program, Adopt-a-Class, garners local community support to fund environmental education in their schools by helping them attend Au Sable programs. The EEIP also hosted numerous local events, including the annual MiCorps conference, an aquatic invasive species workshop, and its 4th annual Butterfly Day with new 5K fun run.



## Direct Scientific Investigation of the Natural World

*Advancing scientific knowledge and serving the local community through research*

Entering its seventh summer of undergraduate research, Au Sable partnered with local non-profit organizations and government agencies to provide seven students with applied research projects in ecological restoration and conservation.

David Petry (*Bethel University; top middle photo, on right*), Casey Shoaff (*Cornerstone University; top middle photo, on left*), Christian Hayes (*Cedarville University; top right-hand photo*), Joel Betts (*Calvin College; bottom right-hand photo, on left*), and Nathan Hadley (*Wheaton College; bottom right-hand photo, on right*) continued a six-year study on the recovery of stream biota following dam removal on the Boardman River for the Conservation Resource Alliance and Trout Unlimited.

Kesley Piepkorn (*Bethel University; left-hand photo*) continued a three-year study of the genetic differences in two physically identical species of the invasive grass, *Phragmites*, and the effectiveness of different control methods for this species using a combination of molecular and restoration ecology techniques with her research benefitting the Grand Traverse Conservation District, Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy, and the Watershed Center.

Kendra Antonides (*Calvin College; bottom middle photo*) studied the relationship between sculpin abundance and stream quality to explore the potential for management agencies to use sculpin as an indicator species for high quality aquatic habitat.



# Sharing the Christian Call to Care for the Earth

## *Spreading the principles of earthkeeping in higher education*

Au Sable hosted meetings, events, and conferences throughout the year to help strengthen the ability of Christians in higher education to integrate the Christian call to serve, protect, and restore God's earth throughout their departments, courses, research, and lives.

Au Sable hosted a Missionary Earthkeeping Conference for 32 faculty program directors of international development and missions majors at 23 colleges to explore how to integrate courses in environmental sustainability into their interdisciplinary curricula in conjunction with the Calvin College Faith and International Development Conference. Speakers included Laura Meitzner Yoder (Merry Lea Environmental Learning Center, Goshen College), Bill Deutsch (Global Water Watch, Auburn University; *see photo on bottom left*), Scott Sabin (Plant with Purpose), David Unander (Eastern University), David Warners (Calvin College), Ronald Oakerson (Houghton College), and Grace Ju Miller (Indiana-Wesleyan University).

The Au Sable Graduate Fellows explored 'creation and the cross' with Dr. Loren Wilkinson at their annual January 2013 conference at the Great Lakes Campus. Twenty-three fellows from five chapters attended the conference. Dr. Wilkinson, Professor of Interdisciplinary Studies & Philosophy at Regent College and editor of *Earthkeeping in the Nineties: Stewardship of Creation*, led the graduate fellows in discussion on how the centrality of the cross in Christian life relates to the service, protection, and redemption of creation.



The Au Sable Academic Council (*see top photo*) brought 26 faculty from participating colleges to help guide the Institute and participate in professional development to strengthen environmental programs in Christian higher education, learning how to 1) create "Systems of Success" in environmental programs at Christian colleges and incorporate their critical elements and goals; 2) develop systems of personal effectiveness for students and faculty in the study of creation care, and 3) foster systems of successful collaboration with Au Sable that maximize effectiveness and accomplishment for faculty and students.



# Creating Community for a Flourishing Earth

*Building connections to strengthen the Christian environmental community*

Au Sable supported 34 Christian graduate students studying in environmental fields in furthering their understanding of Christian environment stewardship in their academic work and vocational calling (*see middle row photos*). The Au Sable Graduate Fellows has grown to a community of 34 fellows at 10 universities: seven chapters at Cornell University, University of Michigan, Michigan State University, University of Minnesota, Ohio State University, Princeton Seminary, and University of Wisconsin-Madison as well as individual fellows at University of California-Berkeley, Purdue University, and University of Illinois-Chicago.

Au Sable also began two new alumni support programs. The first annual Au Sable Alumni and Friends reunion brought 75 alumni and friends to reconnect with the Institute and Au Sable fields over mid-August weekend (*see photo, top right*). Participants enjoyed guided field trips, Au Sable service projects, and a cookout to honor the 37 years of service from its Director of Support Services, Bob Barr (*see photo, middle row on left*). Au Sable also initiated a new professional mentorship program called the Au Sable Professional Network (ASPN), where alumni can contact 30 Christian environmental professionals for professional guidance in fields as diverse as scientific illustration, wildlife conservation, and environmental policy and organizations as diverse as non-profit organizations, government agencies, and private businesses.

Retreat and conference participants were welcomed by the new Au Sable Gateway to Au Sable's 120 acre campus (*see photo, second from left on bottom*). The Institute hosted ten retreats for church and college groups, pastors, local professionals, and Au Sable faculty representatives.

With its third consecutive year of budget surplus, Au Sable purchased a new trailer and motor for its pontoon boat, renovated the pontoon boat and the Au Sable dock on Big Twin Lake, and purchased a used Toyota 4Runner to be used primarily for its research studies.



*Au Sable would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone that gave their time, energy, and financial resources to make our 2013 programs possible.*

## Annual Gifts 2013

Richard and Karen Acker

Phyllis Andersland

William Ashworth

Brian and Kelly Aukema

David and Mary Baker

Janet and Brian Barclay

Donna Bates

Howard and Donna Bledsoe

Blue Lake Association

Dorothy Boorse & Gary Wernsing

Brian Bosgraaf

Dietrich Bouma & Deena Thomas

Lynn Braband

Robert Braman

Jon and Carol Brand

Caroline Brock

Tonya Raugust and Jeff Bronleewe

Henry and Jane Brouwer

Jared and Heidi Burgess

Scott and Dawn Carr

Patrick and Helena Cicero

Robert and Louise Conradi

Jon Dahl

James and Wilma DeRuiter

William and Janet Deutsch

Bert and Sally DeVries

David and Joy Dornbos

Paul Drew

Christine Duff

Eric and Carolyn Elder

Marvin Elenbaas

Gary and Sylvia Emberger

Charles and Susan Emmerich

Eric and Rebecca Everman

Michael Ferber

Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund

Dale Fogelsanger

David and Meg Foster

Andrew and Jolly Fritz

Bertel and Mae Froyland

Geoff and Carole Gaiser

Alan and Genevieve Gebben

Paul Goodwin

Brenda Gordon

Roger Greeley

Duane Grobman

Tricia VanDyke & Benjamin

Groenewold

Norm and Mollie Guillaume

Tina Hay

Terry and Ruth Heath

Rebecca Heidkamp

Aaron and Emily Iverson

D. Blake Janutolo

Charlene Kalebic

Paul and Brenda Katerberg

Robert Keys

William and Betty Kimble

Robert Kistler

Claudia Koehler

John and Sally Korstad

Michele Lamse DiDiego

Vernon and Anna Laninga

James and Mary Lantz

Bethany Laursen

Alton Leger

Adam and Victoria Louwagie

Ben Lowe

David and Julia Mahan

Estate of Paul Mahan

Erin Mangold

Sheila Marcus & Timothy Mervak

Brett Markey

Clinton and Jamie Martin

Rhonda Mejeur

William Miller

Montreat College

Steve Morgan

Vincent and Ellen Morris

Gregory Michalak

James and Millie Muller

Marvin Mullet

Neland Avenue Church (CRC)

Network for Good

Kenneth Nieuwenhuis

Susan and Vic Norman

Joseph and Lynette Norris

Brittany North

Peter and Martha Northrup

David and Barbara Nyenhuis

Ryan O'Connor

Char Olmstead

Donald Petersen

Pfizer Foundation Matching  
Gifts Program

Janelle Phillips

Keith and Mandi Post

Sandra Powell

Leigh and Laverne Power

Mozhgon Rajae

Hal Reed

Sarah Richart

Samuel Riffell

Todd and Cheryl Riggs

Jonathon and Katie Schramm

Heidi Bixler Sell

Nathalie Shanstrom

Rebecca Sizelove

Harold and Ellen Snyder

Luke and Helen Snyder

Harold and Dorothy Springsteen

Marya Spurling

Chuck and Deann Stankey

Ralph and Gloria Stearley

Jacob Stowell

John Taylor

Steve Thompson

Edwin and Susanna Tobias

Marjory Tobias

Lauren Trapp

Andrew and Rebekah Tucker

Mary Evelyn Tucker

David Unander

John and Susan VanDyke

Fred and Linda Van Dyke

Pamela Veltkamp

Ronald Vos

David and Teri Warners

Wendell and Jolene Weaver

Jerry Wenger

Petty and Jennifer Westerman

Mark and Cynthia White

David and Ellen Whitehead  
 Brook and Emily Wilke  
 R. Wayne and Danna Wood  
 James and Susan Woodburne  
 Sara Wyse  
 Uko and Jane Zylstra

### Scholarships

Norman Andresen  
 Timothy Burkholder  
 Garrett and Charlyn Crow  
 Jeff Dye  
 Bertel and Mae Froysland  
 Orin and Charlette Gelderloos  
 Holly Kress  
 Steve Morgan  
 Daniel and Dee Ann Snyder

### Environmental Ed

Andrew and Jessica Broucek  
 Peter Carlson  
 Allison De Jong  
 James and Janice Decker  
 Lynn Drew  
 Patricia Fagg  
 Nathan and Rebecca Friebel  
 Bertel and Mae Froysland

Great Lakes Energy People Fund  
 David and Ashley Jewell  
 Bruce and Carol Kingsley  
 David and Julia Mahan  
 Michigan Clean Water Corps  
 (MiCorps)  
 Susan and Vic Norman  
 Rebecca Sizelove  
 Daniel and Dee Ann Snyder  
 Marjory Tobias  
 Lauren Trapp  
 United Way of Northwest Michigan  
 Lauren Vanagasem  
 Paul Wiemerslage  
 Paula and Sheila Wiemerslage  
 Worthington Family Foundation

### Research

Dean and Denise Biggins  
 Blue Lake Coldsprings Civic  
 Association  
 Conservation Resource Alliance  
 Grand Traverse Conservation  
 District  
 Grand Traverse Regional Land  
 Conservancy  
 Manistee Lake Association

Trout Unlimited

### Graduate Fellows

Rolf and Sandra Bouma  
 Steven Bouma-Prediger  
 Ben Lowe

### Volunteers

Rhonda Allen  
 Jacob Boone  
 Hannah Boughton  
 Jeff and Sharon Davis  
 Kelsey Drew  
 Art and Roxanne Harvey  
 Jared Hinken  
 Marv and Carol Kingsley  
 Michelle LaForge  
 Steve Largent  
 Cindy McCulloch  
 Matt McDonough  
 Victor Norman  
 Alyssa Riggs  
 Collin Whitsett  
 Kathy Van Bruggen  
 Mary Walker  
 Ellen Whitehead  
 Linda Van Dyke

## AU SABLE INSTITUTE

### Financial Summary - Revenue

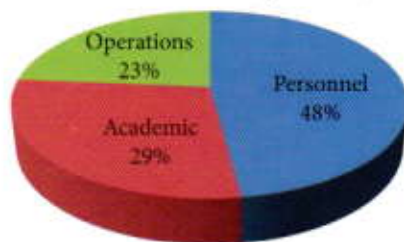
	FY 2013	FY 2012
Retreat Program Income	\$18,638	\$24,372
General Program Income	\$148,063	\$167,592
Academic Program Income	\$370,675	\$394,227
Sustaining Partner Colleges	\$58,500	\$75,000
Contributions and Grants	\$128,363	\$80,856
Trust Income and Transfers	\$309,016	\$278,000
Miscellaneous	\$907	\$2,576
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$1,034,162</b>	<b>\$1,022,623</b>

### Expenses

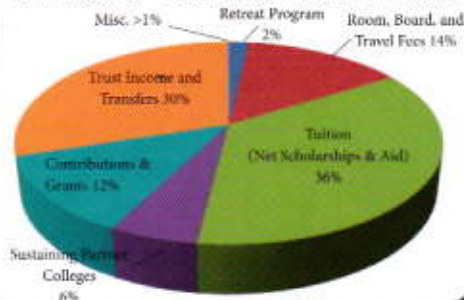
Personnel	\$476,685	\$400,113
Academic Support	\$284,870	\$312,403
Operations	\$234,648	\$241,662
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$996,203</b>	<b>\$954,178</b>

**Final Net Income** \$37,959 \$68,445

### FY 2013 - Expenses



### FY 2013 - Sources of Revenue





# Au Sable Institute

of Environmental Studies

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## Staff

Fred Van Dyke, Executive Director  
David Mahan, Associate Director & Registrar  
Rolf Bouma, Graduate Fellows Coordinator  
Paul Wiemerslage, Environmental Education Coordinator  
Eric Bond, Director of Support Services  
Dietrich Bouma, Communications, Development, and  
Recruitment Coordinator  
Lynn Drew, Office Manager  
Susan Norman, Business Manager

## Board of Trustees

Mr. Ben Lowe, Chair  
Dr. David Foster, Vice Chair & Faculty Representative  
Mr. Ryan O'Connor, Secretary & Alumni Representative  
Mr. Vincent Morris, Treasurer  
Dr. Steven Bouma-Prediger  
Dr. Dorothy Boorse  
Ms. Cindy Crosby  
Charlene Kalebic, J.D.  
Mr. Bertel Froyland (Founding Trustee)  
Dr. Harold Snyder (Founding Trustee)



*Au Sable staff and board*

*Front Row (left to right): Lynn Drew, Bert Froyland, Bob Barr, David Mahan, Vincent Morris, David Foster  
Back Row (left to right): Ben Lowe, Rolf Bouma, Dorothy Boorse, Dietrich Bouma, Ryan O'Connor, Fred Van Dyke, Steven Bouma-Prediger*

*Staff not pictured: Paul Wiemerslage, Eric Bond, and Susan Norman  
Trustees not pictured: Charlene Kalebic, Cindy Crosby, and Harold Snyder*

*Photo: Nathian Hadley*

*The Board welcomed Dr. Dorothy Boorse, Professor of Biology at Gordon College (Wenham, MA) and Cindy Crosby, a Chicago-based nature writer, as new members in 2013.*

*Together, the Board and Staff celebrated the life and legacy of Robert (Bob) Barr, Director of Support Services, for his innumerable personal and professional contributions to the life of the Institute over 37 years of service. Bob will be succeeded on the staff by Eric Bond, a former staff member of the Institute and most recently Program Director of CampTOWN, Inc. of Indianapolis, Indiana, a ministry of outdoor education to Indianapolis youth building confidence, character and hope through outdoor adventure programs. We are sad to say good bye to Bob, but pleased to have such a skilled and dedicated individual as Eric to continue this important work and ministry on the Au Sable team.*