Introduction to Geoversity

Perhaps the best way to introduce our emerging experiment is to start with snapshots of a few of our founding “restless creatives” at work on the Geoversity mission.

In January of 2015, Architect Anand Devarajan, one of Frank Gehry’s senior partners, took a rare break from such projects as the design of the Guggenheim Museum in Abu Dhabi and embarked on an extraordinary adventure with Earth Train in Panama: a 7-day transcontinental hike and kayak trip from the Pacific to the Atlantic coast of the indigenous Guna people.

Anand’s life-changing journey took place shortly after the opening of the wildly colorful Frank Gehry-designed Biomuseo, the world’s first museum of biodiversity located at the Pacific entrance to the Panama Canal. Jungle immersion was his way of getting ready for his next big project in Panama: designing Geoversity’s Green Steel Biocultural Pavilion, a performing arts structure that will be built of bamboo and other natural materials. Conceived as a kind of organic sequel to the Biomuseo, it will be located at forest’s edge on the site of an old firing range in the City of Knowledge, a former U.S. military base repurposed in 2000 for research, education and international cooperation.

Joining Anand on this multi-faceted project are the Panamanian-born architect and Gehry associate Patrick Dillon, the Grammy award winning sound engineer and producer Rob Griffin, and one of the world’s leading authorities on using bamboo, the German builder Jörg Stamm. “The Green Steel Project,” explains Anand, “can model how to design with nature in a new and contemporary way. It can exemplify new interdisciplinary and cross-cultural ways of thinking that celebrate connection with nature through design, the arts, and education.”

Colin Wiel is the founder and chair of Rainforest Capital Management, the socially positive company that established the 10,000-acre Mamoní Valley Preserve in partnership with Earth Train.

Candidly, our efforts to introduce and define Geoversity are often greeted with looks of puzzlement. We speak of it as an “alliance of individuals and institutions dedicated to learning from and partnering with nature.” So, just what does that mean? Why such a wildly diverse group of stakeholders, from prominent scientists and entrepreneurs to emerging leaders still in their teens to tribal chiefs in their 80s?

- Nathan Gray & David S. Ricketts
After successfully co-founding and taking public Starwood Waypoint Residential Trust, Colin launched The Mamoní 100, a fund focused on the development and conservation of the Preserve. Envisioning the Preserve as Geoversity’s global campus for nature immersion and innovation, Colin is recruiting 100 highly accomplished social venture leaders. Joining him in realizing the goal of triple bottom line returns are stakeholders such as Cindy Mercer, a leader in collaborative philanthropy, and the renowned speaker and best-selling author on social media for business and public relations, David Meerman Scott. “The launch of The Mamoní 100 marks the beginning of a new and exciting phase in my life,” said Colin. “We’re growing the Preserve into a community of smart creatives banding together to innovate new models of conservation, ecological restoration, and green enterprises.”

The first native species tree plantation in the Mamoní Valley Preserve got off to an auspicious start in 2008: The first tree was planted by the renowned business coach Verne Harnish, founder of the global Entrepreneurs’ Organization (EO) and chair for fifteen years of EO’s premiere CEO program, the “Birthing of Giants” at MIT. Starting as an advisor to Earth Train, Verne, a columnist for Fortune Magazine and the author of the award-winning bestseller Scaling Up, became increasingly involved in Earth Train’s vision for a “biocultural renewal,” with his sons Cameron and Cole interning for Earth Train and his family vacationing with a purpose at the Preserve.

“The Preserve, and now Geoversity,” says Verne, “are the creation of a remarkable group of individuals all coming together with a common passion and purpose to co-exist and co-create with Mother Earth – and to unleash a multitude of riches.” The seedling that Verne and his sons planted eight years ago now stands 20 feet tall while Verne stands as Geoversity’s founding chair, coaching executives in teaming up with nature.

As we return to the task of defining Geoversity, a conversation we had with a group of ecologists visiting the Preserve comes to mind. “You speak of Geoversity...”
as being a group or an alliance,” said one of them, with a big smile on her face. “Yet what I’m hearing as a biologist doesn’t sound like a consortium with members. It sounds more like an ecosystem with a diversity of simbiotes.” It sounds to me,” offered one of the other ecologists, “like you’re creating a context for emergence, that is, you’re creating an environment out of which something special is going to emerge, something bigger than the sum of the elements and forces you’re mixing together.”

Considering the experiences of Anand, Colin, Verne and many of our other fellow Geoversity founders, we think that the biologists got it right. Seen from their perspective, here’s our ecological rendering of the Geoversity formula for exponential success:

Start with awe-inspiring experiences in nature and add:

- Camaraderie
- Cultural diversity
- Entrepreneurship and
- Commitment to the Geoversity mission

With this report on the design of Geoversity and our plans going forward, we invite you to join us on this exciting experiment.
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Growing the Geoversity Ecosystem

Nathan Gray, Dr. David S. Ricketts and Lider Sucre

The Geoversity Alliance is an ecosystem of organizations, both non-profit and for profit, that share a commitment to “learning from and partnering with nature.” Still in its early stage of development, the alliance is embracing an ambitious long-term vision: To bring about a popular shift in worldview, moving away from values and practices that set humankind apart from nature, toward a deeply-felt and fully-realized oneness with nature.

Geoversity began its evolutionary journey in recent years through simple acts of volunteer service, joint ventures, and adventure learning based at the Mamoní Valley Preserve—including jungle seminars and transcontinental expeditions for senior executives and artists under the banner of Mother Nature, CEO: An Adventure for Restless Creatives. By 2014 several of the business and NGO leaders, educators, scientists, youth social entrepreneurs and artists began to realize that in sharing this mix of fun, adventure and biological and cultural diversity experienced in Panama, a community of good friends was forming, one with a purpose inspired by the Mamoní Valley Preserve. Soon a conversation started around the question “Where does this want to go?” By 2015 the conversation led to action under a name coined by Verne Harnish with Nathan Gray: Geoversity.

Following exploratory meetings in Los Angeles and Boston, a week-long planning session was held in Panama in February of 2016, produced by Earth Train and funded with grants from two foundations and several Geoversity founders. The Panama planning session was planned and managed under the direction of Dr. David Ricketts of the Technology and Entrepreneurship Center at Harvard University (TECH) and held at Earth Train’s Centro Mamoní in the Mamoní Valley Preserve and at the City of Knowledge in Panama City. Although the 24 participants in the Panama sessions dispensed with formal resolutions, a consensus for action took shape around five fundamental ideas:

- Geoversity defines as its biome the nexus between business, science and the arts, and nature. It is dedicated to demonstrating ways whereby human design, creativity, and enterprise can evolve and thrive, inspired by nature and in harmony with nature. Geoversity values nature-inspired cultural and artistic expression. Geoversity also aims to foster mutually enriching “crosspollination” within a diversity of stakeholders.
• We gratefully acknowledge Panama as Geoversity’s founding home with the Mamoní Valley Preserve and the City of Knowledge serving as its primary campuses. We’re also developing “field stations” in other locations, particularly Linton Island on Panama’s coast of Colón and on the island of Sao Jorge, the Azores, Portugal.

• The individual and institutional founders of Geoversity all share experiences working together and forming friendships, particularly through the Mamoní Valley Preserve. Each has a central mission or life purpose that is compatible with Geoversity. As many of the Geoversity founders have, in addition, extensive experience in the establishment of major international consortia, we felt comfortable in pursuing an informal and incremental approach in finalizing Geoversity’s structures and its founding alliance. We were content to have Geoversity start functioning immediately as a mission-driven network and allow shared experience and learning to help guide future decisions regarding the secretariat, criteria for membership in the Geoversity alliance, the privileges and obligations of membership, and a host of other institutional considerations. We agreed, as one of us expressed it, “to start now, learn by doing, and begin later”.

• Most importantly, we agreed to launch several collaborative activities (Geoversity initiatives) that either start with or build on work each of us are already doing and which can be accomplished with greater efficacy—measured in both financial and social/environmental terms—while serving the Geoversity mission. The measure of our success will be the degree to which Geoversity fulfills its core mission while appreciably enhancing revenue-generation and market share for its active members.

• Geoversity is an educational network currently placing considerable emphasis on experiential learning, particularly through volunteer service, mentoring and internships. Geoversity is starting off with a major emphasis on “the business of nature and the nature of business” and on natural design, broadly defined to include the arts and science.

“Geoversity defines as its biome the nexus between business, science and the arts, and nature. It is dedicated to demonstrating ways whereby human design, creativity, and enterprise can evolve and thrive, inspired by nature and in harmony with nature. Geoversity values nature-inspired cultural and artistic expression. Geoversity also aims to foster mutually enriching “crosspollination” within a diversity of stakeholders.”
Geoversity Shared Resources and Facilities

The Geoversity Alliance Secretariat

The Earth Train Foundation, an international educational organization, has been coordinating the planning of Geoversity and is currently hosting Geoversity.org, that is the secretariat of the alliance that will ultimately become a separate not-for-profit corporation.

**Geoversity.org has as its mission to serve the Geoversity ecosystem by ensuring:**

- **Cooperation**: We facilitate networking and joint venture development between Geoversity alliance members.
- **Biocultural diversity**: Continual enrichment of the cultural, generational and biological diversity of the ecosystem.
- **Evolution**: By educating about Geoversity, we are helping to recruit eventual new members and to grow a network of open source learning organizations dedicated to the Geoversity mission and vision.

**The Mamoní Valley Preserve with Centro Mamoní**

The Mamoní Valley Preserve, co-founded by Earth Train and Rainforest Capital, is Geoversity's 4,000-hectare rural campus, located only two hours from Panama City. The Preserve is a vital buffer zone protecting a vulnerable section of the largest remaining stretch of contiguous rainforest – almost 2 million hectares that is one of the world's top 20 ecological hotspots.

Stretching 18 kilometers along the Pacific side of the Continental Divide and bordering the Chagres National Forest and the semi autonomous territory of the indigenous Guna, the Preserve offers a locus of global connectivity and biological and cultural diversity unlike any other spot on Earth. The Mamoní Valley Preserve is home to conservation efforts, eco-tourism, scientific research, nature-based enterprise and education involving several of the Geoversity founding institutions.
Through our family’s involvement in Panama’s Mamoní Valley Preserve since 2008, I’ve grown to think of it as a sanctuary for restless creatives.

Nothing compares to how a native jungle inspires all the senses and provides the perfect setting for nature to teach us her secrets - insights that are fueling technologies, healthcare solutions, organizational and building design, and many other aspects of our modern lives.

The Preserve provides a perfect destination for busy people seeking to escape, reflect, and create in the most accessible large jungle environment in the Americas. It is just two hours away from a major international hub with all of the amenities of a developed economy.

The Preserve is the creation of a remarkable group of individuals including forward-thinking tribal elders, highly accomplished business leaders, Grammy-award winning musicians, famous architects, and internationally renowned scientists - all coming together with a common passion and purpose to co-exist and co-create with Mother Earth - and to unleash a multitude of riches.

Verne Harnish
Co-Founder and Chairman, Geoversity
Earth Train

Nathan Gray and Lider Sucre, Co-Executive Directors, Earth Train Foundation

Co-founded in 1991 by a network of 100 youth leaders, many still in their teens, Earth Train started off as a campaign of “youth calling youth to action for a better world.” The message of the young organizers as they conducted major international conferences, such as the Youth Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro in 1992 and call-to-action whistle stop train journeys across continents, was: “Don’t wait to inherit the world you’re going to get. Let’s create the world we want. Now.”

A kinetic combination of campaign organizing and peer-to-peer coaching and networking drove the Earth Train experiment for 10 years, resulting in life-changing experiences for over 14,000 young people from more than 40 countries and the launch of numerous youth-led national and even global organizations, such as the Global Youth Action Network, engaging hundreds of thousands of young people in a diversity of socially- and environmentally-positive activity.

Earth Train’s move in 2001 to establish a permanent international base in Panama spelled a shift in focus away from global campaigns and networking into creating a land-based community of purpose. Earth Train set about involving both young people and a growing circle of mentors in the mission of promoting leadership for biocultural renewal, that is, the practice of creating sustainable communities and institutions in harmony with nature and enriched with biological and cultural diversity. Over a period of 15 years, the Earth Train team worked hard and mostly out of the limelight to nurture the partnerships that grew the Mamoní Valley Preserve and other places and opportunities in Panama to model and encourage biocultural leadership.

The new Earth Train remains dedicated to the mission of biocultural renewal, above all making sure that young people get the practical learning opportunities, coaching and networking they need to become effective leaders. We are pursuing that mission primarily by focusing our attention on growing and supporting the Geoversity Alliance. We organized and hosted in Panama the planning session in February. We’re collaborating on several of the Geoversity initiatives now underway. We are working with TECH to address the alliance policy and management questions that remain to be resolved. Once a permanent Geoversity secretariat is finally formed, we will continue to ensure that generational and cultural diversity is among the key drivers of Geoversity’s joint ventures and initiatives.
Glance at Earth Train’s history and you will see that boldness is written into our organization’s DNA. Starting in 1990, Earth Train rolled out its agenda of youth calling youth to action with impact, using steam locomotives, youth conferences held in several countries - including the UN General Assembly Hall in New York City - and global media campaigns. In 2001, we set out to create a natural campus that is now one of the largest private reserves near a capital city in the Americas. It is that audacity and commitment to excellence that continues to drive Earth Train’s mission of biocultural leadership.

So, what then are the cultural carryovers that the new Earth Train is bringing to Geoversity? One is the campaign energy and dash of daring that drove our trains. Another is the connectedness with nature realized through conservation and celebrated through the arts that nurtured the Mamoní Valley Preserve and Junglewood into existence. To that mix, we’re adding a deep commitment to alliance building aimed at effectively integrating business, science and the arts in the pursuit of catalyzing a biocultural renaissance.
City of Knowledge

Ely Aquino

Only a few minutes away from the center of Panama City and strategically located alongside the Canal, is the City of Knowledge.

On the site of the former Clayton U.S. military base, City of Knowledge encompasses an area of 300 acres with more than 200 buildings, and houses a thriving international community where academic, scientific, humanistic and corporate institutions collaborate to further human and sustainable development, based on knowledge.

The old barracks and other military facilities have been transformed into modern offices, laboratories, and classrooms. Former training areas and parade grounds have also been repurposed to create a favorable environment for research, learning, innovation, creativity and interaction.

This transformation has been the responsibility of a private, non-profit, Panamanian institution: City of Knowledge Foundation.

Since its inception, the Foundation has worked to attract and establish innovative enterprises, prestigious centers for research and training, as well as advanced academic programs and major international agencies.

The organizations and companies that operate in City of Knowledge specialize in communication and information technologies; global services; business management and entrepreneurship; biosciences; environmental management; and human development.

City of Knowledge offers visitors and guests alike, a unique experience in the most prestigious knowledge forum of the region; scene of renowned programming of academic, scientific, business and cultural activities. To that end, City of Knowledge provides a theater, a large auditorium, meeting spaces, video conference and classrooms, equipped with the most advanced IT infrastructure, quality lodging, a recreational complex, and attractive commercial space with several restaurants and cafes.

The Master Plan provides for the conservation of more than 60% of the campus as green areas, in addition to maintaining and adapting for new uses the site’s historic, architectural and landscape legacy.

This is all carried out with a vision to transform the site into a global meeting point, connecting the country to worldwide knowledge networks, while modeling sustainable urban development for the Americas.
The Green Steel Biocultural Pavilion

Patrick Dillon

The Green Steel Biocultural Pavilion is a Geo-versity project, currently in the conceptual development phase, of the City of Knowledge Foundation and the Geo-versity Foundation. The Pavilion will be located at the northern edge of the City of Knowledge, where it will facilitate panoramic views of the Panama Canal at the entrance to the Pacific Ocean, the inter-oceanic railroad, and the port of Balboa. In the same manner, the installation of these facilities adjacent to the Camino de Cruces National Park will allow direct access to an extensive area of humid tropical forest that is part of the vital canal watershed.

The Pavilion is conceived of as a venue for cultural and educational activities which will celebrate the intrinsic connection between knowledge, nature, and place – that is, between the City of Knowledge and the “Forest of Knowledge.” This will be a meeting place where an ample variety of activities will take place: music, dance, theater, forums and film projections, along with an important interpretive component that reveals the nature of this significant place and allows visitors to understand the history of the transformations engendered by human actions on the landscape of Panama and specifically on that of the canal area, for more than 500 years.

The activities planned for the Pavilion will be enriched by a varied program of public activities offered by the national and international network of organizations based in the City of Knowledge, as well as the Geo-versity network. In the same manner, the pavilion will be a valuable tool for the display of a cultural and educational proposition based on the conviction that the different cultures of Panama are integrally tied to the biodiversity that characterizes its tropical environment. This notion aligns with the vision of the City of Knowledge Foundation and Geo-versity, which focuses on community development in which human values, economic initiatives, and habitat are in harmony with nature.

The location of the Pavilion on what was once a firing range on a US Army installation (Fort Clayton) gives the project an additional layer of significance, as it seeks to transform a military space into an example of architecture with an ecological sensibility, oriented toward understanding environmental history and promoting intercultural dialogue. The design of the Pavilion has been entrusted to Anand Devarajan, a partner in the firm Gehry Partners, LLP. Previously, Mr. Devarajan was the partner responsible, with Mr. Gehry, for the design of the internationally-renowned Museum of Biodiversity – Biomuseo.
Geoversity Field Stations and Cultural Center

The Azores
Seaside property donated to Geoversity and located on the island of Sao Jorges in the autonomous region of the Azores will serve as a field station for Geoversity internships and field trips that also focus on biocultural renewal, oceanic research and protection, and coastal conservation practices and policies.

Centro Mamoní
A 90-minute drive from Panama City’s international airport brings you to Earth Train’s Centro Mamoní in the Mamoní Valley Preserve, located on the Pacific side of the Continental Divide alongside the river valleys of Guna Yala and the Chagres National Park.

Centro Mamoní is home to conservation research, workshops, leadership training, and a variety of hands-on and adventure-based learning experiences for teachers, children, college students, film-makers, researchers, nature guides-in-training, and executives on team-building retreats.

Located at the forest’s edge on the Central American Biological Corridor, Centro Mamoní has over 2,000 square meters of housing, meeting, shop and recreational space, including a 25-meter stream-fed swimming pool - all powered with a micro-hydro-electric system and linked to the world through broadband satellite service.

The Mamoní Valley Preserve is amongst the most accessible private jungle reserve in the world – an extraordinary adventure destination for business leaders and the whole family.

Linton Island
The Geoversity Biocultural Field Station at Linton Island, located on the coast of Colón, Panama, is a 265-acre forested island preserve owned by the conservationists Allan and Rosalind Baitel, founding-owners of the Linton Bay Marina, located on the mainland across from Linton Island. The island preserve will serve as a field station for Geoversity internships and field trips focused on biocultural renewal, oceanic research and protection, and coastal conservation practices and policies.

Geoversity House
Geoversity House is the former residence of Tomás Arias, a co-founder of the Republic of Panama and first transitional president. Geoversity House is a 900-square meter house overlooking the Pacific entrance to the inter-oceanic canal and located in Panama's historic district. Renovated by the Gray-Dias family, Geoversity House has ground floor retail space dedicated to Forest Finance’s Oro Moreno, the Mamoní Valley Preserve, a health food café related to the Preserve, Geoversity office meeting and event space, and three guest apartments.
The Mamoní Valley Preserve covers a radius of global connectivity and biological and cultural diversity unlike any other spot on Earth.
The Mamoní Valley Preserve covers a radius of global connectivity and biological and cultural diversity unlike any other spot on Earth.

Mamoni Valley Preserve
11,000 acres of preserved and restored rainforest.

Centro Mamoni
Central facilities for programs in the Mamoni Preserve, includes lodging and education buildings and facilities.

Azores Field Station
A field station for eco-tourism and education.

Linton Island
A field station for eco-tourism and education.

Guna Yala
The semi-autonomous territory of the indigenous Guna that borders the Mamoni Valley Preserve.
Many of the Geoversity initiatives involving collaboration between two or more alliance members are focused on experiential education and internships. These are hands-on and in-the-field learning experiences that are rigorous, diversified, and accountable. The programs already started and in development are all taking place in Panama and involve, at least to some degree, immersion in nature in the Mamoní Valley Preserve.

Eventually, Geoversity will focus primarily on “Geoversity Accelerator Programs” (GAP Year), that is yearlong internships with Geoversity members involving experiences in three or four distinct organizational settings for a multi-disciplinary approach to hands-on learning.

**GAP Year interns will benefit from:**

- In-field coaching and mentoring;
- A growing body of relevant online resources, including Geoversity webinars;
- Training in video and photo documentation to better share internship experiences and insights with a growing network of peers and coaches.

Our long range goal is to ensure that Geoversity Group members eventually reap major benefits from guiding and growing new talent, that is uniquely skilled young people loyal to the company’s goals and values.
The Nature of Business Executive Education Masters Program

Brian Dumaine, Senior Editor at Large, Fortune Magazine

Geoversity's The Nature of Business Executive Program is a four-day experiential and educational workshop where CEOs, executives, and entrepreneurs will team up with business leaders, best-selling authors, and designers to gain practical insights from nature that will help them drive their businesses to new levels. The 2017 workshop is the first segment of a three-year Nature of Business program, with follow-up workshops to be held in Panama in 2018 and 2019.

Program Overview

Conceived by business educator Verne Harnish and directed by Fortune Magazine Editor-at-Large Brian Dumaine, The Nature of Business Executive Program will take place in Panama, the epicenter of the Americas. Participants will attend two days of workshops at the City of Knowledge campus bordering the Panama Canal, followed by two days of immersion in the spectacular 10,000-acre Mamoní Valley Preserve along the Jaguar Trail in one of the world’s richest areas of biodiversity.

Participating thought leaders will be discussing how:

• Biological systems are informing strategic and competitive decision-making.
• Biomimicry is helping companies create new innovative products and services.
• Nature is instructing leaders on how to build not just resilient but "anti-fragile" organizations.
• Companies are embracing sustainability and eco-efficiency to drive increased revenues and profits.
• Workplace design is being influenced by natural environments.
• Executives are finding in nature the peace and quiet they need to unleash their best creative and problem-solving talents.
Executive Curriculum

The 2017 executive curriculum will include sessions on:

Bio-Inspired Products

Although the modern discipline of biomimicry is only about fifteen years old, bio-inspired products, such as Velcro, which was inspired by how burrs cling to clothing, and self-cleaning buildings, which mimic the leaves of the lotus plant, have already generated billions of dollars in sales. The growth potential is clear. Projections are that by 2025, biomimicry-based products and services could become a $1 trillion market. At Geoversity, you’ll gain insights into this fast-developing world and will learn how to apply this thinking to your business.

What Nature Teaches Us about Organizational Structure & Strategy

Nature has a lot to teach businesses about how they can better structure their organizations to scale up and to compete in today’s digital marketplace that is driven by real-time communications. By examining the natural organization and communications used by animals (for example, bees and ants), companies can create a more organic organizational structure that will help them thrive. Transitioning to an organic-based organizational structure requires a change from a “command and control” structure to a “team of teams” approach. In doing so, employees also need training in relationship skills to make them better team members. By following nature's guidance, companies can create a winning organizational structure and strategy.

The Circular Economy

At Geoversity, you will learn about the concept of “circularity” where a business, following the rules of nature, makes sure that everything it consumes is either reused or safely returned to the earth. You will gain insights into how circularity can help drive innovation at your company, resulting in safer, healthier, and more profitable products and services. You will be shown how to account for the future price of carbon emissions in your P&L, and how to gauge the costs and benefits of using renewable energy, carbon offsets, and a green supply chain. Perhaps most importantly, you will discover how this new approach can create an organization where your employees feel proud to come to work every day.

“You will be venturing into two dramatically contrasting settings. For the first two days, you will attend workshops at the high-tech City of Knowledge, Latin America’s leading technology and education park, located near the Pacific entrance to the Panama Canal. On days three and four you're in for a dramatic change of scenery as we bring our conversation to the rain forest within one of the world's most important ecological hotspots, at the 10,000-acre Mamoní Valley Preserve.”

- Brian Dumaine

Senior Editor at Large, Fortune Magazine, Co-Chair
Fortune Magazine Brainstorm E Conference
Workplace Design
Anyone who wants a “green” workspace will quickly feel daunted by the complicated choices and the potential traps, including cost overruns and unintended consequences. You can, for example, design a totally sustainable building that meets all the LEED standards but ignores the deep human need for contact with nature.

At Geoversity, we go beyond the usual lecture format to engage in a real dialogue about your particular challenges. This includes discussions about exciting case studies of some of the most imaginative and effective design solutions in the world, ranging from the new Facebook Silicon Valley headquarters to the avant-garde Jazz Bakery in Beverly Hills. You’ll be introduced to the cutting-edge practice of biophilic design and the many ways you can experience nature in your built environment.

Nature: The Next Great App
Science is proving what we’ve always known intuitively: nature does good things to the human brain. It makes us healthier, happier and smarter. Building on advances in neuroscience and psychology, researchers have begun to quantify what once seemed like well-meaning conjecture. These measurements – of everything from stress hormones to heart rate to brain waves to protein makers – indicate that when you spend time in green space, something profoundly positive is going on.

At Geoversity, you’ll be introduced to best practices in the fast-emerging field of creating performance-enhancing experiences in natural environments. We’ll learn about in-nature exercises that can be created in the workplace, as well as life-changing and team-building experiences in the great outdoors. We’ll also introduce you to an exciting menu of options of special value to families, including father-son/mother-daughter rite of passage adventures that have proven to be positively life-changing.

Innovating with Nature
Diversity is the cornerstone of the success of evolution. It is also a crucial element of innovation. Using the proven theory and methods taught at Harvard University, you will learn how to apply what we know about nature to make your organization more creative and diverse. Envisioning new ideas for business strategy and technology requires seeing the world through nature’s lens. Yet finding and applying analogies is one of the most difficult skills to learn because we are all programmed to see and think the same when presented with information. In this session you will engage in new ways to think about innovation, leveraging the seemingly endless scientific solutions nature has created to develop new business models and solve complex problems in your organization. Examples include a social media strategy derived from insect behavior, a consumer product solution based on the digestive system of a horse, and a 10 story building that stays cool in the hottest city in Africa because of insights gained from termites.

Marketing with Nature
Today's real-time world offers agile businesses an unprecedented opportunity to reach buyers directly. Yet most executives are stuck in the past, investing in expensive agencies and armies of sales people to create intricately devised long-term “campaigns.” The top-down approach doesn't work in a web-centric, 24x7, rapidly changing environment. We need to shift our paradigms from the traditional military hierarchy model to alternative ideas we can learn from nature. Join one of the most respected authorities on new media and naturalists in exploring the insights to be gained from such natural phenomena as hunting in pods, pheromone trails, decentralized self-organization, swarm behavior and other natural techniques that generate attention and engage people, leading to more customers with fewer resources.
Experience Mamoní
Connecting the world with the Mamoní Valley Preserve

Mission
Experience Mamoní empowers biocultural conservation, and inspires local stewardship and environmental leadership through facilitating learning and sustainable tourism in service to the Mamoní Valley Preserve.

Background
Experience Mamoní is a sustainable enterprise, developed by The Mamoní 100 to provide access to amazing experiences for all of the visitors that come to The Mamoní Valley Preserve for experiential learning opportunities and ecotourism.

In partnership with non-profits like the Mamoní Valley Preserve 501c3, Global Student Embassy, Earth Train, Kaminando, and numerous universities and educational institutions, Experience Mamoní supports the programs and missions of such entities within the Mamoní Valley Preserve and the greater Mamoní region – reaching down the river valley through the towns of Las Margaritas, Chepo, and on to Panama City.

Learning programs
Experience Mamoní provides students and guests the opportunity to roll up their sleeves and learn from direct experience in:

- Community development
- Agroforestry
- Integrated farming systems
- Farm-to-table
- Community garden development
- Spanish language education
- Cooking and nutrition courses
- Animal husbandry
- Silvopastoral strategies
- Conservation sciences
- Ecosystem restoration
People from around the world and all walks of life collaborate with our foresters, farmers, economists, philanthropists, social entrepreneurs and expatriates who visit our Preserve to learn, experience and thrive.

**Ecotourism**

“Sustainable tourism” brings non-extractive, positive-impact and inclusive development opportunities to local economies and cultures.

- Kayaking
- Horseback riding
- Birding
- Wildlife viewing
- Cultural encounters
- Agritourism
- Voluntourism
- Mountain biking
- Hiking
- Camping
- Fishing
- Waterfall picnics
- BBQs on the river with friends

All of our local guides, farmers, cultural ambassadors, scientists, artists and leaders allow the Mamoní Valley Preserve to be shared with visitors who value unique, meaningful travel and adventure. Direct benefits to the local community include sustainable livelihood generation, knowledge and technology transfer, skills development such as nature and tourism guides, as well as conservation practitioners.

**Business Model**

Revenues are generated from fees charged to interns, apprentices, volunteers, tourists, and event planners. Each client profile will have a personalized experience designed for them and their guests.

Experience Mamoní has a team of 10-employees depending on client and student volume, and can manage as many as 50-guests in the Valley per day. These revenues help to cover the cost of managing the Preserve, maintaining its assets, infrastructure, accommodations, transportation, equipment, tools, supplies and provisions, etc. – all made available for our visitors and partners.

Agencies that focus on study abroad opportunities, alternative learning, international learning, volunteering, and research travel are well-established worldwide. In cooperation with several of these groups, we are also leveraging shared academic and business goals to build a worldwide base of stakeholders who consistently bring students, groups, events and researchers.

**Collaboration**

Rainforest and wildlife conservation is a mission that brings people together in solidarity and action, including students from high schools, colleges and universities, professionals and executives from small businesses, non-profits, and multinational corporations, and retired experts.

Our common mission is to effect real world results by connecting our guests with nature, education and experience, and thereby support the conservation model of The Mamoní 100 and the Mamoní Valley Preserve.
The University of Redlands

Dan Klooster, Ph.D., Professor of Environmental Studies, Chair of the Department of Environmental Studies
Steve Moore, Ph.D., Director of the Center for Spatial Studies

The University of Redlands

Founded in 1907, the University of Redlands is a private, independent liberal arts university committed to providing a personalized education that frees students to make enlightened choices. Redlands emphasizes academic rigor, curricular diversity, and innovative teaching. Redlands fosters a community of scholars and encourages a pluralistic notion of values by challenging assumptions and stereotypes in both classes and activities.

Through its College of Arts and Sciences, School of Business, and School of Education, the University blends liberal arts and professional programs, applied and theoretical study, traditional majors and self-designed contracts for graduation. Undergraduate degrees are offered in more than 40 programs of study. Graduate degree programs include a Master of Science in Geographic Information Science, Master of Business Administration, Master of Science in Communicative Disorders, and Ed.D. in Educational Justice. Approximately 2,400 residential undergraduate students attend the University of Redlands at its main campus; another 2,000 students pursue professional degrees at the University of Redlands campus and its eight satellite campuses.

The Environmental Studies Department

The Department of Environmental Studies creates learning opportunities in the intersections between human and environmental systems where our students analyze problems and opportunities for a sustainable future. Our principal aim is to improve understanding of the relationship between people and nonhuman nature, drawing heavily on the integrated study of living systems, earth science, related policy and management issues, environmental values and ethics, as well as environmental, social science, and experiential field-based learning about particular ecosystems. Course content and faculty interests bridge the divide from local to global; from science to religion; from terrestrial to marine; from politics and economics to ethics; and most importantly from environmental problems to solutions.
At Redlands, we promote active, problem-driven, discovery-based learning, usually with an interdisciplinary emphasis. Our students have the opportunity to engage in problem-driven, collaborative learning communities that tackle real-world environmental issues using state-of-the-art facilities and geographic information systems (GIS). Students are encouraged to engage in field work, study abroad, take travel courses and conduct applied research that connects them to real-world problems and opportunities.

**Center for Spatial Studies**

Established in 2014, the Center for Spatial Studies’ (CSS) mission is to support the University of Redlands in its endeavor to excel as a spatially-infused learning community. The vision of the CSS is to be a highly visible, responsive, efficient, and capable support service that empowers faculty and students to integrate spatial thinking in their academic, personal, and professional lives; fosters cutting-edge spatial research and scholarship; enhances the academic reputation of the University of Redlands; and helps create a better world through meaningful community service. The CSS supports spatial activities in the College of Arts and Sciences, School of Business, and School of Education. It also supports campus operations, including facilities management, emergency preparedness, alumni relations, and marketing and recruitment.

**Links to Geoversity**

Faculty from the University have been working with Experience Mamoní to develop courses to be offered in the Valley during the University’s May term semester when students take only one class and can travel for immersive learning experiences. Students will get hands-on experience measuring water, soil, and air quality using US EPA protocols while generating data useful for the Mamoní Valley Preserve’s baseline monitoring objectives. They will also use the tools and approach of Geodesign to work on applied projects, including land-use change analysis and field verification, mapping deforestation and forest recovery, estimating and mapping carbon sequestration, and using aerial and satellite imaging to identify key parcels for bioconnectivity and habitat quality enhancement. While gaining experience using cutting-edge conservation techniques including data collection using aerial drones, GPS, camera traps, and aerial imagery, students will learn about comparative approaches to conservation in Panama, including innovative market-based techniques and the time-honored cultural approach to conservation of the Guna indigenous people, whose semi-autonomous territory borders the Mamoní Valley Preserve and which we will visit. Students will generate, analyze, and display data crucial for conservation activities, produce Esri Story Map reports, and make presentations to key stakeholders in the preserve’s conservation activities.

The University is also facilitating summer student internships in the Valley in which students will partner with Experience Mamoní to develop work skills in tropical conservation, silviculture, community development, food production, GIS, mapping, and environmental business.

In the future, the University hopes to collaborate with other nodes in the Geoversity ecosystem to develop more academic opportunities in tropical science, sustainable development, and environmental business.

“Geoversity connects human advancement with ecological wealth. It combines geographic and cultural knowledge, nature-based design, and entrepreneurial thinking for the purpose of creating a world that is green, prosperous, fair, and inspirational. Emerging at the interface of knowledge and the creative arts, Geoversity represents a “map” of discovery for today’s explorers in search of biocultural diversity and sustainable economic opportunity in the 21st century.”

- Lamont (Monty) Hempel, Ph.D

Hedco Professor and Director Center for Environmental Studies, University of Redlands
The Mamoní 100 Conservation Fund

Sam Larson, Managing Director of Rainforest Capital

The Mamoní 100 is committed to promoting biocultural leadership and engaging in large-scale land conservation and habitat restoration in the Mamoní Valley in Panama.

Fifteen years ago, Earth Train established operations in the Mamoní Valley, launching its initial conservation strategies and introducing biocultural education to the Valley and greater Panama. With Earth Train’s support, in 2005 the Wiel-Cohn family established Rainforest Capital to help achieve the Earth Train vision and demonstrate that a private-market-based enterprise can successfully conserve and restore critical habitat.

Over a period of several years, Rainforest Capital subsequently acquired a land portfolio comprising about a third of the Valley. It has invested in property improvements, titling, mapping, property management, and community development strategies. The organization has introduced agroforestry, silvopastoralism, sustainable animal husbandry, and horticultural systems as an alternative to open-field cattle grazing, and is now initiating efforts to accelerate the restoration of habitat throughout the Valley on lands formerly impacted by unsustainable grazing, illegal logging, and illegal gold extraction -- providing alternative livelihood activities for the local communities.

In 2014 Earth Train and Rainforest Capital incorporated the Mamoní Valley Preserve as a not-for-profit NGO entity together with the Mamoní Valley Preserve Association, open to all conservation-minded landowners and stakeholders in the Mamoní Valley watershed.

“We never envisioned the Mamoní Valley Preserve as an exclusive place of fences and Keep Out signs. Rather we sought to ensure that the watershed of the Rio Mamoní – the source of potable water for thousands of people – remains available to all as a place of enduring beauty and productivity protected by a diversity of shareholders, from agriculturists feeding a growing nation to the children growing to love and respect the precious gifts of Mother Nature.”

- Stephen Wiel, Ph.D.
  Director, Mamoní Valley Preserve and Founder of the Mamoní Valley Preserve Association
To drive forward on the mission set forth by these partnerships, Rainforest Capital consolidated its asset portfolio into a vehicle that other like-minded investors could participate in pro rata. A management entity was created for the investment vehicle, and a real estate fund with conservation as its principal mission was launched. Called The Mamoní 100, the equity fund is now making it possible for up to 100 restless creatives, sustainability pioneers, and artists to have the opportunity to become members and participate in the realization of the Mamoní Valley Preserve vision.

The Mamoní 100 Organizational Structure
The goal of The Mamoní 100 is to demonstrate that a market-based investment can have conservation and stewardship as its principal mission.

Membership funds and revenues from The Mamoní 100 will be applied toward:

- Conserving the existing forested land in the Valley with environmental easements, forest guards, and remote surveillance.
- Restoring cleared land over the next few decades with forest plantations and productive agroforestry systems - managing lands towards a natural forest state.
- Supporting the Valley’s local campesino communities and the neighboring indigenous communities.
- Enhancing and improving upon the landholdings in the Valley for the benefit of members, their guests, and the public.

The Mamoní 100 project development team has a strong capacity for developing and executing on native tree plantations, fish farms, fruit tree orchards, bamboo forests, and cacao plantations to produce food and cash crops.

“I invite you to join me on a walk through the Preserve. You’ll be exploring Mother Nature’s busiest laboratory where location, micro-climates, creative planting strategies and an abundance of water are enabling a dazzling array of experiments and adaptations. You’ll see our native species tree and bamboo plantations, fledgling food forests, silvopastoral systems and biochar operations - and see how they work together to ensure the vitality and productivity of our complex tropical soils. You’ll see how our approach to forest restoration starts with a deep understanding of the complex workings of natural succession, nutrient cycling, and microbial life, encouraging and empowering natural mechanisms to restore ecological function and stimulate economic returns. It’s a spectacular place where the expansive Darien tropical wilderness intersects with tropical campesino life in a gorgeously abundant valley, a short drive from Panama City. Join us and you’ll be teaming with Nature.”

- Matt Brewer
Chief Forester, Rainforest Capital Management
using agroforestry and permaculture techniques, while integrating sustainable waste management, nutrient recycling, and energy production into all activities.

By linking productive and forested lands with an expansive trail network and series of remote jungle stations, the tourism and real estate values of the portfolio will be greatly enhanced. Real estate sales will focus on small-footprint home sites and large blocks of forestland to be placed into permanent conservation.

In addition to private-capital-related income, The Mamoní Valley Preserve non-profit, along with Earth Train and a cadre of affiliated conservation organizations and educational institutions, will be actively seeking grants and donor funds for the watershed protection, community education, reforestation and ongoing biodiversity investigation efforts within the Valley – providing an open source platform for sharing the Mamoní Valley experience with the broader global sustainability and scientific community.

“Panama offers fertile ground for creatives who want to see their ideas profit the world. As an environmental economist and entrepreneur, I see it as a small country with enormous intellectual property potential. Not property to be patented and guarded rather unlocked and widely shared as a ground for hope. This is the place to incubate breakthroughs in biomimicry; demonstrate naturally enriching land use practices; model empowering rural-urban partnerships, and ultimately grow healthy and bioculturally diverse communities that are one with nature.”

- Sam Larson
Managing Director of Rainforest Capital
Junglewood

Nathan Gray, co-founder of Junglewood Design and director of the Junglewood Gallery

The Junglewood name applies to a diversity of programs and places “dedicated to bringing nature alive and into our lives through the arts.” They are administered by Earth Train Foundation and the Mamoní Valley Preserve – both U.S. federally tax-exempt educational and conservation organizations – and by Junglewood Design, a socially-positive company engaged in cutting edge innovation in biocultural design.

The musical programs of Junglewood, started in 2008 by the Panamanian jazz musician Danilo Pérez and the sound engineer and producer Rob Griffin, both of whom are multi-Grammy Award-winning musicians, have included several nature-inspired compositions and events involving numerous artists and storytellers of diverse ages and backgrounds. Earth Train has hosted several Junglewood programs at the Mamoní Valley Preserve for youth and children, including the “Jungle and Panama Jazz Festival Experiences” directed by the musician Shea Welsh, and nature immersion programs for inner city children and youth in partnership with the Danilo Perez Foundation of Panama.

Among the Junglewood musical projects currently underway is the Junglewood Sound Lab, an “experiment in composing with nature” directed by the percussionist Richie Barshay and involving several other accomplished musicians including the flamenco guitarist Juanito Pascual. Shea Welsh and the French photographer Doug Bruce are creating musical and audiovisual projects in partnership with Guna villagers in the western mainland of Guna Yala.

Junglewood also encompasses Junglewood Village being developed by the Mamoní 100, a place overlooking a picturesque bend in the Mamoní River located at the eastern entrance to the Preserve containing a venue where musicians, visual artists, and educators will eventually have state-of-the-art facilities for nature inspired programs and compositions.

Junglewood Design was started in 2015 by the internationally-recognized architect Patrick Dillon (hired by Frank Gehry to represent Gehry Partners in overseeing the construction of the Biomuseo), Rob Griffin and Nathan Gray. The Junglewood Design team, which now includes the builder and natural materials specialist Jörg Stamm, is currently focused on two long-term projects:

“There’s a rhythm and an order to nature. There’s also an order to music, one that emanates from the human heart and spirit. I think it’s fantastic that through Junglewood people are able to draw this parallel.”

- Herbie Hancock, Jazz Legend
**The Green Steel Biocultural Pavilion at the City of Knowledge, Panama.** The architect Anand Devarajan, Partner at Gehry Partners, is directing the design of a performing arts amphitheater with Patrick Dillon and the builder Jörg Stamm that will be located on a rise overlooking the City of Knowledge and, in the distance, the Pacific entrance to the Inter-Oceanic Canal. The Green Steel structure, rising up over 30 meters, will feature bamboo and other natural building materials in a landscaped setting that honors both the adjacent national forest parkland and human ingenuity. The facility, to be operated by the City of Knowledge Foundation, will feature a diversity of acoustical music, dance and theatrical events, including many Junglewood productions produced and directed by Rob Griffin.

**Natural acoustics innovation directed by Rob Griffin.** The current priority is a collaboration with Bloomline Acoustics in Holland in the promotion of Omni-Wave speakers, a breakthrough in natural sound amplification that is an omnidirectional and “robust virtual sound source that you can walk around.” Omni-Wave speakers will be featured at the Green Steel facility.

"We think of the project to design and build the Green Steel Biocultural Pavilion at the City of Knowledge in Panama as a kind of organic sequel to the Biomuseo that opened in 2014 and overlooks the Pacific entrance to the inter-oceanic canal and the high-rise waterfront of the country’s dynamic capital. The Green Steel performing arts facility, featuring innovative use of bamboo and other natural materials, will also have a commanding view of the canal in the distance. While also close to the city, its setting is a natural amphitheater in the embrace of a primary urban forest.

Coming to fruition at a critical juncture in human history, it offers an unparalleled opportunity to model how to design with nature in a new and contemporary way. In addition, it can exemplify new interdisciplinary and cross-cultural ways of thinking that celebrate connection with nature through design, the arts, and education. We’re working to create both a biocultural landmark and a program of great and enduring value.”

- Anand Devaran
  Architect and Chief Designer of
  The Green Steel Biocultural Pavilion
The Geoversity Wildlife Conservation Chocolates with Forest Finance

Over the last 20 years the ForestFinance Group has grown to become one of the most respected trendsetters in building forests and achieving a balance between preserving nature while establishing an economically sustainable operation. They convert the value of these certified and sustainably managed forests into economic and ecological investment products benefiting more than 16,000 investors in Germany alone. Unlike other forestry operations, they achieve this by reforesting a mixed-tree-species forest that finds balance between the interests of local communities – including economic progress - and nature’s interest to remain "wild" and retain its biodiversity.

ForestFinance is a major stakeholder in the Mamoní Valley Preserve with tree plantations featuring an extraordinary diversity of native tree species. They have been collaborating with Rainforest Capital and Earth Train on economic development and educational projects for over five years.

The Geoversity initiatives that they are spearheading involves Oro Moreno, a Panamanian chocolate brand that is a joint venture of the ForestFinance Group and a company founded by the 27-year old entrepreneur Yoshiris Peña. Oro Moreno’s authentic and artisan chocolates combine the best Panama has to offer, its rich biodiversity, its mix of cultures from all over the world, and its fresh tropical fruits and flavors.

All chocolates are handmade in Panama all with locally sourced ingredients, from tree to bar, without additives and preservatives. Their independently certified cacao plantations, located in Panama’s Bocas del Toro Province are an important source of employment for indigenous communities, All farms are managed as shade forests to enhance biodiversity and ecosystems and they are, of course, free of any child labor, a major problem in cacao farms around the world. The cocoa plantations in Panama are UTZ certified and also have been the first cocoa project worldwide to receive GoldStandard certification for carbon sequestration, which makes the chocolate business a climate positive venture.

Oro Moreno’s flagship store, the first “tropical chocolate café” in Panama, has just opened in Geoversity House located in beautiful Casco Antiguo. The store’s wide selection of chocolates will be combined with chocolate tasting nights and conferences about sustainable production at Geoversity House. Soon also will be opening a sister store in Berlin, Germany.
A team of ForestFinance and Earth Train staff are now developing a line of Geoversity Wildlife Conservation Chocolates to benefit Geoversity’s scholarship fund for deserving youth - particularly from indigenous nations - seeking internships with Geoversity alliance members on projects related to the conservation of natural habitat.

Building on ForestFinance’s popular ChocolateTree, their Geoversity offering will be:

Buy a cacao tree in Panama and receive a sweet dividend. Donate $50 (plus handling and shipping fees where applicable) and we give you a return in the form of five chocolate bars and the multiple satisfaction of contributing to reforestation, sustainable rural enterprise, wildlife conservation and the development of young environmental and social entrepreneurs.

For your donation to Geoversity.org, you get:

1. Five premium bars of fine quality chocolate (sent as soon as your order is complete);

2. An individually named Planting Certificate as proof that you are a producer of fine cocoa;

3. The GPS data indicating the location of the cocoa forest where your Chocolate Tree grows.

4. Reports into the future regarding the social and environmental returns on your donation.
The Geoversity Alliance Ecosystem

- City of Knowledge Foundation
- Green Steel Pavillion
- Earthtrain
- Mamoni
- Experience Mamoni
- Mamoni Valley Preserve
- Mamoni Holdings
- Centro Mamoni
- Mamoni 100
- University of Redlands
- Azores Field Station
- Guna Yala
- Junglewood
- Forrest Finance
- Oro Moreno
- The Business of Nature Education Program
- Summits
- Exec. Masters
- Linton Island

Alliance Members
Secretariats
Initiatives
Shared Resources (locations)
I like to think about our experience during our week in Panama planning Geoversity in terms of the very first song of the outdoor Junglewood concert held in the Mamoní Valley Preserve. The high-school, trombone-playing version of me used to make fun of “free jazz in the park.” It all looked to me like a languid version of spirit hands waving and someone singing in a raspy voice, all conjuring thoughts of Halloween. Free jazz, I whispered, not that again! It was only because I wasn't good at it that it caused such a reaction, and that was because I wasn't good at listening.

The music in the jungle started with the bugs and the birds and the wind. The ripple of the water below the clearing and the rustle of leaves. We listened to what was there before us – there in spite of us, ignorant of us, or even because of us – before the first instrumentalists picked up their bows, mallets, and flutes. Then, the music started to grow as the musicians played off each other and off the symphony of sounds already around them. A bird chirped, once, twice - the flute answered. Three. Four. Moments were passed from guitar to violin, to percussion, and from my seat, I could see the smiles when something clicked.

What had always made me uncomfortable when faced with improvisation as a young musician was the fear of not knowing the right answer. Not having notes on a page meant I didn't know if what I played would be correct. But this is what all innovation is, isn't it? Improvisation? In the valley, when the diversity of planners gathered, it was just as much, if not more, about listening rather than planning – listening to each other, and to what was already there: the forest. Just like the musicians, what grounded each of us participants in our separate endeavors was the central motivating factor of conservation. The backdrop of the jungle never let us forget that because we gave it a voice.

Huddled in our breakout groups, we bounced ideas off each other, asking questions and pressing each other for responses. We had to find out what was important about Geoversity's vision, what projects to focus on, and how to move forward. Which melody lines to pick up, and which to let go. Through these sessions, we also explored how each of us fit into the organization and how our individual specialties could complement others’. Through this give and take and continuing on in our large-group sessions, we arrived at the ‘aha’ moment that fueled the rest of the week: the model of a team of teams based on shared values. When David Ricketts drew the web-like diagram of groups and interactions on a board for all of us to see, the disparate ideas connected. We weren't a hierarchy of institutions, but rather a community. In this process of playing off one another, we found how to optimize the relationships we already had to make Geoversity thrive. Accented by claps and hugs, we all finally understood where each of us stood in this amorphous, quickly-changing community. We were like musicians who had just picked up a beat, enthusiastic to keep playing.

The following few days were a creative process of learning, traveling, and exchanging ideas. It felt as if each person we talked to and each location we visited – the Biomuseo, the City of Knowledge, the newly renamed Geoversity house – clicked into place in the growing web. It was Juanito Pascual, a guitarist and one of the musicians that played that night in the jungle, who made the observation in our wrap-up session in the beautiful Commander's House: Geoversity works like an ecosystem. When each of us changes, we change what is around us as well. Our work as individuals will have lasting effects on the organization as a whole, and it is the synchronization of our endeavors that will allow Geoversity to thrive.

Back in the jungle, at the end of the Junglewood concert, the musicians quieted, leaving more and more room for the jungle sounds once more. This is also our goal: to give back to the forest. To partner with and enjoy what we can of this beautiful place, but ultimately to step back, and let the jungle sing for itself.
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The City of Knowledge Foundation
Stanley Motta
Juan David Morgan.
John de Cuevas.
From the Editor

Creating this whitepaper has been both a joy and a challenge as both the content and the diverse individuals have made it a challenge to properly describe the discussions, ideas and collaborations that took place in February, on a warm afternoon in the rain forest, shaded by the thatched roof of Centro Mamoni meeting center. My goal was to bring out the voices of those present while providing a guiding organization for the reader. I thank all the contributors — as this is their story, in their words — for their time and effort in developing what I hope will be the start of a great enterprise. This is not a finished product, and never will, be as the story and vision of Geoversity is much like nature, continually evolving, never stopping.

Dr. David S. Ricketts
Technology and Entrepreneurship Center at Harvard
Participants in the Geoversity Planning Sessions in Panama 2016

Richie Barshay, Percussionist and Junglewood artist who performs with The Klezmatics, Herbie Hancock, Esperanza Spalding, and Chick Corea.

Mercedes Eleta de Brenes, President, Stratego Communications, Panama.

Anand Devarajan, Senior Partner and Design Associate, Gehry Partners. Contributing associate, Junglewood Design.

Patrick Dillon, Architect, owner, ENSITU, S.A. and Managing Director, Junglewood Design.

Brian Dumaine, Senior Editor at Large, Fortune Magazine; Founder and Co-Chair, Fortune E-Brainstorm Conferences.

Ferrán Galindo, Ambassador for Panama, Singularity University.

Ben Goulet, in Ph.D. program in the department of Organismic and Evolutionary Biology at Harvard University

Nathan Gray, Founder and Co-Executive Director, Earth Train Foundation; Co-founder and board member of the Mamoní Valley Preserve.

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Graciela Nuñez, First Violinist of Panama, Junglewood artist.

Lucas Oshun, Executive Director, Global Student Embassy, GSE.

Juanito Pascual, Flamenco guitarist and composer and Junglewood artist.

Ely Aquino Pineda, CEO, Endobrand.

David S. Ricketts, Innovation Scholar, Faculty Associate, Technology and Entrepreneurship Center, School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, Harvard University

Allison Scott, Student, Boston University School of Medicine.

David Meerman Scott, Consultant and lecturer on new media and social networking in business; author of several best-sellers on the topic.

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