



Stanford eCorner

Challenging Engineers to Think Big

Shah Selbe, *National Geographic Society*

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Video URL: <http://ecorner.stanford.edu/videos/3450/Challenging-Engineers-to-Think-Big>

A rocket scientist and pioneer in the field of "conservation technology," National Geographic Explorer Shah Selbe calls for more interdisciplinary thinking in engineering and a bigger focus on problems facing the planet. Because of engineering's ability to improve lives and address global challenges, Selbe says engineers should do more than just develop trivial technologies.



Transcript

I want engineers to start thinking about problems outside of what school has told them are the only problems they can work on. I want interdisciplinary thinking between engineering and the rest of the world. I think that there is a great potential. There is a lot of people doing really stupid things now that if you just had someone who had a different perspective come in and say just check it out and look at how they're doing it, they might be able to save a lot of resources, change the things that they're doing and potentially change the world. I mean, I think that through doing that, through collaborating with each other, we can do quite a bit. So I'd love to inspire other engineers to do the same thing. That's what I'd like to do. Oh and stop all the wildlife crime if I could do that, but you know that's a little difficult.