Today’s environmental leaders need a foot in two worlds.

Increasingly, environmental professionals are called upon to possess multiple skill sets. In addition to environmental expertise, acumen and knowledge in business, law, public policy and engineering is critical. Today, more than ever, leveraging the synergies between the economy and the environment will require greater integration of environmental expertise into the private sector on the one hand, and professional savvy into the organizations and sectors that have traditionally focused on environmental issues on the other.

In short: We need environmental managers who know business, law, public policy and/or engineering; and business managers, lawyers, policy makers and engineers who understand the environment.

Where are these multifaceted leaders being trained? At Duke.

As executive director for 1000 Friends of Oregon, Jason Miner MEM/JD’98, applies his background in land use law and planning and natural resource stewardship to lead one of the nation’s preeminent land use organizations. The nonprofit’s goal is to help the state build a sustainable economy that provides jobs, creates more livable communities and protects the landscape.

The Nicholas School of the Environment, with our colleagues across Duke’s other professional schools, is preparing students to excel in this new paradigm: hybrid environmental professionals who understand and can apply their expertise in both the environment and the traditional professions.

Completing two rigorous and highly competitive advanced degree programs simultaneously is expensive – for both the student and the School. That’s where you come in.
SPANNING THE DIVIDE BETWEEN THE ENVIRONMENT AND TRADITIONAL PROFESSIONS

To foster this intellectual cross-pollination, Duke University has developed dual degree programs between the Nicholas School and its other professional schools:

For example, students enrolled in the MBA+MEM program receive a Master of Environmental Management from the Nicholas School and an MBA from Duke’s Fuqua School of Business in three years instead of the requisite four years.

To attract and retain high quality students, the Nicholas School works with the other professional schools to simplify and streamline the application process, provide a one-stop shop for student advisement, and proactively recruit students.

Our goal is to strengthen these dual degree programs in order to make Duke University the institution for producing well-rounded, hybrid environmental professionals capable of bridging disciplines. To achieve this goal, we need your help.

Peter Dahling MEM/MPP ’94 is coordinator for energy, climate and transportation fuels issues at Chevron, where he manages U.S. legislative and regulatory issues related to transportation fuels and climate change and analyzes impacts of proposed legislation and regulation on the company and its clients.

Alexandra Michalko MEM/MBA ’10 is a corporate social responsibility analyst for the outdoor recreational cooperative REI, where she is using her background in corporate environmental strategy and land conservation to help embed environmental stewardship into the decisions and actions of every REI employee.

Help us prepare leaders skilled in multiple disciplines.

• For $50,000 per year (for 3-4 years), you can provide an annual scholarship for a dual degree student
• For $250,000, you can create a named scholarship, expendable over several years
• For $2,500,000, you can endow a named environmental professional program

For more information – or to contribute – contact Nicholas School of the Environment, Office of External Affairs, at (919) 613-8003 or visit nicholas.duke.edu/giving.