Needs and Opportunities

The group identified the following as areas where there may be opportunity for state-university partnerships to build:

- Toxicity testing
  - Especially for untested pharmaceuticals and personal care products (PPCPs)
- Developing new methods for chemical identification (testing classes of compounds)
- Connecting specific compounds to their ecological effects

Resources

- Lab space & testing capabilities
  - Water Works Park @ Wayne State University (daphnia and zebra fish lab)
  - U-M Cooperative Institute for Limnology and Ecosystems Research (CILER) – 9 institution consortium with 25 affiliate institutions
    - PIs could take on environmental contaminant projects
  - Other University Laboratories – Use the Water Collaboration Tool to search for MI institutional lab and testing capabilities. Institutions could be encouraged to expand their listings of laboratories to include those that could provide testing.
- Office of the Great Lakes Lake-wide Management Plans
  - Issued every five years for each of the Great Lakes connected to Michigan
  - Environmental contaminant research needs could be highlighted in these plans to include material/chemical contaminates of concern across the basin.
- Undergraduate/Grad students
  - Institutions of Higher Education need student project themes. State agency personnel could reach out to the University community by posting their needs to the Water Collaboration Tool. Eastern Michigan University was raised as an example of where this might work.
  - CILER PIs
    - CILER issues graduate student stipends
  - DEQ staff could co-advising on research projects

Idea

Create a listserv (working group/area of interest blog) as a part of the Michigan Water Collaboration Virtual Network for state agencies to issue notices when gaps/needs related to environmental contaminants emerge. Consider expanding the capabilities of the Water Collaboration Tool to include research needs statements posting board or resources related to specific new or emerging contaminants.
Attendees

- Steven Francoeur, Eastern Michigan University
- Dawn Roush, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
- Sarah Bowman, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
- Lara Treemore-Spears, Wayne State University-Healthy Urban Waters
- Aubrey Lashaway, University of Michigan – Cooperative Institute for Limnology and Ecosystems Research
- Katerina Crowley, Michigan Office of the Great Lakes
- Beth Hoy, Michigan Technological University-Great Lakes Research Center
- Dieter Bouma, University of Michigan-Water Center