

The Green Times

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Southwestern Students Complete Land Reclamation Project

What do an eroding stream, a putting green, a compost bin, and a pile of used building materials have to do with a serene outdoor retreat? Nothing by themselves, but when put together in a cohesive native landscape plan, an eyesore is transformed into a relaxing break area with the added benefit of testing the concepts of sustainable golf course greens and natural water filtration.



design phase and selection of native plants to securing donated materials and taking part in the actual construction.

Harris says he takes satisfaction in knowing "that I am leaving something at Southwestern that will, hopefully, last longer than myself, but also make the campus more aesthetic and recreationally appealing."

Last spring, Southwestern University was awarded three grants from the Campus as a Lab for Sustainability Alliance of the Associated Colleges of the South (ACS). The grants provided funds to develop a native plant nursery, experiment with alternatives to herbicides and complete a land reclamation project. A significant portion of the funds was set aside for student internships.



The land reclamation project is located on the east side of Southwestern's Physical Plant, near the Fountainwood Observatory.

Southwestern University is a national liberal arts college with an enrollment of 1,250 students. The first institution of higher learning in Texas, Southwestern was chartered in 1840 and consists of The Brown College of Arts and



Sciences and The Sarofim School of Fine Arts. Southwestern is a member of ACS, the Council of Independent Colleges and the Annapolis Group, a consortium of the nation's leading liberal arts institutions.

With assistance from Southwestern's Physical Plant staff, senior Justin Harris and sophomore Jenni Anderson (shown in photos) played crucial roles in helping make the recently completed project a success, from the



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Content is provided by Student Interns, Faculty and Facilities Fellows, and the ACS staff. Direct comments, information, or corrections to: Deeanne Daly, Wiseman 101, Centre College, Danville, KY 40422, 859-238-6224, ddaly@colleges.org

WELCOME TO THE ACS ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS!

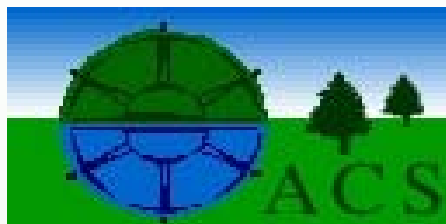
Dear new and continuing ACS Environmental Team members,

Welcome! I hope your semester is off to a good start, and you are all looking forward to this year's challenges and rewards. Many thanks to those of you who sent "bios"! We are devoting this issue and the next to highlighting our wonderful team.

A special welcome to those of you who are new to the program! In your honor, I would like to take a moment to re-cap some of the highlights of 2001-2003, which were extremely productive for the ACS Environmental Initiative (ACSEI).

During those years, we added 30 Faculty Fellows, 15 Facilities Fellows, 97 Student Interns, and 70 alliance members to our team; awarded 129 grants for a total of \$267,486.00; and hosted or supported 15 workshops with a total of approximately 500 participants. We estimate that at least 5000 ACS faculty, students, and staff, and several hundred members of the surrounding communities, were affected by the many projects and activities ACSEI sponsored or supported between September of 2001 and August of 2003.

As these numbers suggest, YOU, our team members, have been very busy increasing the visibility of environmental issues on your campuses, significantly



deepening the commitment to environmental citizenship. You have stimulated and empowered individual students, faculty and staff, and collectively, the 16 institutions, to take action for sustainable development in myriad ways. In addition, you substantially increased available resources at each campus through individual and institutional fund raising. In short, ACSEI team members have already begun to dramatically raise the environmental consciousness of our institutional communities.

As we enter ACSEI Phase III, recent events such as the oil crisis in Iraq; devastating heat waves in France; huge energy blackouts in eastern North America, Britain, northern Europe, and now southern Europe; and other shocking environmental developments make it good to know we have such a solid team "fighting the good fight" to improve environmental citizenship on our ACS campuses, and in our region. Together, we can change the world!

Best wishes to you for a productive year,
Elizabeth MacNabb, Director

DENMARK INTERNATIONAL STUDIES PROGRAM

Millsaps Professors Stan Galicki and Lee Lewis attended a workshop sponsored by the Denmark International Studies Program (DIS) from March 23rd through March 30th, 2003. The objectives were to experience and make an evaluation of the DIS program and report to the Associated Colleges of the South (ACS) and Millsaps College, and also gauge the potential for collaborations between DIS and ACS faculty on environmental research. The workshop was attended by 57 faculty, administrators, or international studies coordinators.

The DIS program was founded in 1959 and has grown to accommodate over 300 junior and senior students per semester. The DIS curriculum currently offers 60 courses taught in English in the areas of Humanities and Social Science (including optional Danish language classes), International Business, Nursing (summers only), Child Development, Pre-Med, Marine Biology and Ecology, and Pre-Architecture. There are currently over 108 public and private colleges and universities nationwide that are coordinating institutions with DIS. Presently Furman University, the University of Richmond, and Washington and Lee University are the only ACS collaborators with DIS. Any institution can send students to DIS; additional ACS schools that have sent students are Davidson College, Morehouse College, Rhodes College, Rollins College,

Southwestern University, and Trinity University. The web site for DIS is www.disp.dk.

A casual survey by Lewis and Galicki of participating students resulted in a favorable impression of the DIS program. The professors found the Humanities and Social Science, Pre-Architecture, and International Business programs most impressive. In addition, they noted the Marine Biology and Ecology Program is expanding rapidly after its relocation to Roskilde University, which is approximately 45 minutes from Copenhagen.

Lewis and Galicki add that the transportation system was very impressive; most people use public transportation or ride bicycles! (Of course a 130% tax on automobiles helps.) The people are very friendly and most speak English, which is a great help to visitors. In spite of a diet consisting of primarily meat, fish, and potatoes, the general population appears to be very healthy. Galicki and Lewis stayed in an area near the Queen's palace and walked approximately 3 kilometers per day to the DIS headquarters for activities. Copenhagen was remarkably clean considering it has a population of 1.5 million. The Danes are the leading exporters of technology and equipment used in the generation of electricity by wind; most of the large generators in the U.S are Danish designed.

Spelman Junior Named One of Glamour's Top Ten College Women

Spelman College student Shamim Okolloh, 22, from Kenya, Africa, has been named one of the Top Ten College Women in the October issue of GLAMOUR magazine. An



environmental science major, she was given the impressive title, "The Environmentalist", due to her interest in and commitment to the environment. the Future," held at Heifer Ranch in Arkansas this past March. She is also involved in Women in Leadership and Environmental Task Force.

Shamim states "This is a personal achievement, but it also gives me hope that environmental science is being recognized for its role in world change."

Kudos on your accomplishment and commitment to the environment, Shamim!

Shamim participated in the 2nd Annual ACS Environmental Leadership Conference, "Engaging Campus Leaders in a Vision for

Kudos on your accomplishment and commitment to the environment, Shamim!

**International Conference
on Safe Water**

The International Conference on Safe Water will be held in Atlanta on October 31st and November 1st, 2003.

The Conference Chair is Spelman Professor of Environmental Science, Victor Ibeanusi. Participating as a member of the International Organizing Committee is Dr. Fatemah Shafiei, the Spelman College ACS Environmental Faculty Fellow. Spelman senior Shamim Okolloh is the Chair of the International Student Forum.

For more information on this conference, please see the following url:

<http://www.boreholes.org/safewater.pdf>



2003-2004 ENVIRONMENTAL FACILITIES FELLOWS

David Holthouser is the Environmental Program Facilities Fellow representing **Davidson College** in Davidson, North Carolina.



David graduated from N. Carolina State University in 1992 with a BS degree in Mechanical Engineering. After holding the positions of Maintenance Director and Capital Construction Engineer, David was named Director of Facilities and Engineering at Davidson College in 2000.

Environmental projects David has been involved with include the Stone Fund grant for experimentation with Biodiesel in the grounds equipment, which was modeled after the University of Richmond's successful program.

In addition, he had conducted waste stream audits at Davidson to evaluate programs aimed at reducing waste, increasing recycling and reusing materials.

Davidson is entering their fifteenth year as a Campus arboretum. With David's help an Ecological Preserve was established on undeveloped land for academic use, and a chemical reduction program was initiated for housekeeping materials. To date, \$50,000 per year has been budgeted for tree maintenance and new plantings, along with a recycling education program for incoming freshmen at orientation.

Brian E. Foshee, Director of Physical Plant, joined the **Rhodes College** staff as assistant director in August 1987. At Rhodes (in Memphis, TN), he has been responsible for construction of Buckman Hall, the Bryan Campus Life Center, the Physical Plant Building, East Village Residence Hall and numerous campus renovations. He was named Sustainable Practices Officer for the Rhodes campus in the spring of 2003 and is currently assisting in the construction of the \$40 million Paul Barret, Jr. Library.

Before coming to Rhodes Foshee was a project engineer with the City of Memphis, responsible for planning and managing construction of city properties, including the \$3 million Ramesses Exhibition and the \$7 million John D. Holt Police Training Academy. He is a *cum laude* graduate of Christian Brothers University with a B.S. in business administration.



Pictured (from left to right): Fred Grinder, Vice President, Grinder, Taber and Grinder, Inc., General Contractors; Brian E. Foshee, Director of Physical Plant, Rhodes College; J. Allen Boone, Dean of Administrative Services, Rhodes College, at Barret Library construction site.

2003-2004 ENVIRONMENTAL FACILITIES FELLOWS

Robert D. Mathis is the Associate Vice President for Facilities and Campus Services at **Southwestern University**.

From his high school Environmental Club-sponsored walk in 1970 showing support for the First Earth Day to developing plans for the future of Southwestern, his commitment has always been to look for solutions that preserve and conserve.

As the AVP for Facilities, Robert has a great opportunity to introduce sustainable concepts to the Facilities Master Plan, Physical Plant Maintenance, construction projects, the golf course, grounds care and most importantly to the faculty, staff and students.

With Bob's help, some of the more significant additions to the recent Facilities Master Plan revolve around the environment and sustainability: a 100 acre environmental zone for academic studies; commitment to LEED in new buildings; and the further development of the pedestrian campus are just a few examples.

Most important, Bob feels, are the relationships developed as a result of working on environmental programs: students working with Physical Plant Staff to design and build a land reclamation project with ACS funds; students working hand and hand with the custodial staff to implement a recycling program; and the campus architects working with ACS interns and Physical Plant Staff to LEED certify Southwestern's next building.



Recently, the Physical Plant Supervisors worked on a logo that exemplified their commitment to the University and conservation. According to Bob, the phrase that best fit was "Serving and Conserving" or CONSERVE - serving their most valuable resource, the students, staff and faculty, while conserving SU's important natural resources.



2003-2004 ENVIRONMENTAL FACILITIES FELLOWS

John D. (JD) Thompson is the Director of Maintenance and Special Projects at **Hendrix College** in Conway, Arkansas.

He directs the activities of an in-house crew of 9 technicians and an assortment of contractors performing a wide variety of construction, maintenance and repair projects for the College. These projects represent work in all the construction trades, and range from plumbing and roof leaks to two new \$12.5 million dollar, multi-story Science buildings.

JD is also responsible for the design of renovation and repair projects for existing facilities and design and construction of some new facilities. Working for the Director of the Physical Plant, JD serves the Engineering, Construction Management, and Quality Assurance section of the plant.

JD holds an Associate of Science degree in Industrial Drafting and Design, an Associate of Applied Science in Surveying Technology, and graduated *summa cum laude* from the University of Maryland with a Bachelor of Science degree in

Information Systems Management. He expects to complete his MBA from the University of Phoenix next fall.

Taking personal pride and ownership of the Hendrix campus and facilities, JD is very interested in keeping "his" buildings in good shape and up to the expectations of faculty and students.

JD is married and has two daughters in college, one at Hendrix and the other attending Vanderbilt Medical School.



*Be like a tree in pursuit of your cause
Stand firm, grip hard, thrust upward, bend to
The winds of heaven, and learn tranquility*

*Dedication to Richard St Barbe Baker,
Father of the Trees*

2003-2004 ENVIRONMENTAL ALLIANCE DIRECTORS

Helen Downes is the Environmental Studies Project Coordinator at Washington and Lee University. She was an ACS Environmental Intern from 2000-2002, and has been the **ACS Student Development and Engagement Alliance Director** since 2002.

Helen has been interested in the environment as long as she can remember, growing up in a family that recycled, composted, and encouraged being outside as much as possible. As a freshman at Washington and Lee, she realized that not everyone was raised in such a wonderful environment!

Helen began what was the focus of her student career, and now is quickly becoming her profession. She helped implement a recycling program on campus that remains successful today, as well as creating an annual community Earth Day celebration. Her passion is educating individuals (young and old) about our environment, and instilling in them a love for conservation and preservation.



Roald Hazelhoff has been the **Campus as a Lab for Sustainability Alliance Co-Director** since 2001. He also serves **Birmingham-Southern College** as Facilities and Faculty Fellow.

Prior to moving to Alabama, he considered himself more of an "armchair" environmentalist. Alabama, as it turns out, ranks only behind California, Florida, and Hawaii, in terms of bio-diversity, yet at the same time has one of the worst environmental records in the country.

Roald initially infused environmental issues into his political science courses at Birmingham-Southern College, and helped create the BSC Conservancy. Student-driven, this organization initiated campus-



wide recycling, landscape improvements on and off campus, and helped create canoe access ramps along the Cahaba River. These activities soon consumed so much of his time that Roald opted in 1993 to exchange his professorial tweed jacket and pipe for the unfunded and unchartered position of "Environmental Coordinator" at BSC.

Fast forward ten years, and Roald is currently Director of the Southern Environmental Center at BSC. Their Interactive Museum and EcoScape Gardens (www.bsc.edu/sec) are toured by 20,000 visitors annually, they host numerous environmental conferences and events on campus, and are actively involved in smart growth issues in their region.

2003-2004 ENVIRONMENTAL ALLIANCE DIRECTORS

Jeanne Jackson has been the **Campus as a Lab for Sustainability Alliance Co-Director** since 2001. She also serves **Birmingham-Southern College** as Faculty Fellow.

Growing up in the beautiful Shenandoah Valley of Virginia nestled between the Blue Ridge Mountains and the Allegheny Mountains, it was impossible for Jeanne not to care about the natural environment.

After graduating from college with a liberal arts major in political science, she found herself investigating oil spills in the northeast for EPA, where she also found herself turning green! Anxious to leave the urban scene of Boston, Jeanne headed to Bignona, Senegal with the Peace Corps to learn about environmental problems in developing countries. It was an idyllic spot near the equator with wonderful people, clearcutting, polluted rivers, and economic stress.

Returning to the states, Jeanne pursued her concern for environmental problems and received her masters in Urban and Environmental Planning from the University of Virginia. Jeanne's first job after graduate school was working on environmental issues for the then Governor of Arkansas. He cared about environmental issues (eventually adding Gore to his Presidential ticket) but not as

much as she did. Educating the public on water issues in Arkansas for the Rockefeller Foundation allowed Jeanne to travel the state and meet people committed to environmental protection. At the same time, she and her husband began



canoeing, birdwatching (including an exotic birding trip to Peru's Explorers Inn), and hiking in Colorado.

Jeanne's favorite aspect of her work at Birmingham-Southern is co-teaching the core environmental studies course with a biologist - great field trips to rivers, wetlands, and mountains. She is also dedicated to making ACS campuses greener models of what a sustainable future should be. In fact, she's working on creating a green roof garden outside of her office...not quite the view of the Blue Ridge Mountains, but a spot of green on her horizon.