

ALTERNATIVE ENERGY DAY AT ROLLINS

In conjunction with other campus groups, including the "Eco-Rollins" environmental club, the Rollins Interns hosted an Alternative Energy day on October 23. This was designed to raise campus awareness of the exciting realities of alternative energy sources, especially solar power in a location such as Florida. Activities and exhibits included:

- "Rolling Sunlight," the solar power generating bio-diesel Greenpeace bus that powered the public address system and music for the day;
- a presentation by an alumnus who has converted his house completely to solar power;
- a demonstration on solar vehicles and watering systems designed by a gentleman who brought his solar-powered boat for display;
- a guest speaker from the Florida Hydrogen Council providing information on fuel cells and hydrogen power;
- an information exchange with people from the Florida West Technical College regarding their success in acquiring a federal grant to purchase and install solar panels on their campus;
- and several hybrid vehicles, manufactured by Honda and Toyota, that students could test drive.



The Rollins Gang (l to r) - Barry Allen, Mandy Freeman, Peter Sullivan, Lee Lines, Melissa Bray, Devin Champman

ASSESSMENTS AND EVALUATIONS

The 2002-2003 academic year brought with it a new challenge for ACS environmental interns and fellows of every campus: external evaluation and assessment, conducted by staff from University Leaders for a Sustainable Future (ULSF). This evaluation will be used by our funders to determine whether ACS should receive monetary support from 2003 through 2005. If the evaluation is not favorable, ACS environmental programs will no longer exist!

Thus far Southwestern, Birmingham-Southern, Centre, Hendrix, Spelman, Morehouse, Washington and Lee, and Richmond have completed their campus' External Evaluation. Reports from the aforementioned schools indicate that completion of the pre-requisite Institutional Assessment Questionnaire and the site visit by ULSF members has been quite time-consuming. However, some positive outcomes have been observed. For example, at the University of the South the Assessment endeavor has been used as an opportunity to bring together the previously loosely connected environmental entities on campus. This has resulted in a re-energization of EcoDomain, the student/faculty group for environmental initiatives. At Centre College teamwork answering the Assessment Questionnaire proved an educational and inspirational activity. Interns from several campuses have reported that the Faculty Fellows have done an amazing job in completing

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REDUCE, RECYCLE, REUSE

Recycling is a focus issue for a majority of our interns this year. Here's the latest news from various campuses:

BSC: A recycling program has begun on BSC's Fraternity Row. Leading by example is Thomas Wells at the Kappa Alpha fraternity house. The initial response has been positive. Publicity is

being generated through an article that is to appear in "The Hilltop News," BSC's newspaper. Efforts are underway to procure large recycling bins for placement in the new Fraternity Row area.

Centenary: In response to the growing need to begin a recycling program within the "Greek" community, talks have begun with the Inter-Fraternity and Pan-Hellenic counsels regarding a can collection system. Interns have worked with their Facilities Fellow, David Martin, to determine that the existing recycling program at Centenary is still in working order (despite rumors to the contrary). Work is just beginning toward the objective of implementing two-sided printers in the library.

Centre: One hundred recycling containers have been purchased for placement on campus and in the community. Lobbying continues for a college funded recycling coordinator.

Davidson: A "sidewalk chalk" campaign is underway with the objective of reducing the use of paper flyers on campus. Interns are investigating and evaluating recycling practices to date at Davidson. The need for more recycling bins has already been identified but grant funds have not been awarded for their purchase (due to concerns about inadvertently encouraging alcohol consumption).

Millsaps: Interns have set about distributing more boxes in dorm hallways for paper and can recycling. Grant money will be used to purchase more recycling bins, with one dorm selected to serve as a model. An effort to make bins across campus uniform in appearance should help them be easily identified.

Morehouse: A recycling inventory has been completed and a grant application will be submitted for procuring new bins. Signs are being placed over each bin designating its use. To reduce the "wanton use of paper flyers" common on campus, arrangements have been made with the school's Information Technology department to advertise events online starting next semester.

Rhodes: Attention is on increasing student awareness of the struggling recycling program. Volunteers have been recruited and put to work. A collaboration is underway with Residence Life to find students willing to commit to recycling and to increase awareness in dorms (where bins have been generally underutilized).

Richmond: The Sierra Club held a recycling competition for the on-campus apartments. The top prize (and a \$100 gift certificate) went to an apartment having 1,427 pieces of recyclable material. Advertising for this competition included the use of door hangers, chosen because they're hard to overlook. Also, the dining hall is running a test on using washable rather than styrofoam bowls for ice cream. Students have been encouraging the administration to purchase recycled paper.

Rollins: Based on a successful trial run of placing recycling bins in students' rooms in two sorority houses, plans are being drawn up for placement of bins in each and every dorm room. Permanent metal recycling bins have been ordered for placement in front of the library and campus center and additional bins have been purchased for dorms, administrative buildings, and classrooms.

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INTERN REPORTING

There's been some confusion about status reporting requirements within the ACS Environmental Programs area. Points of clarification:

- All environmental interns are required to submit a monthly status report.
- Reports should be submitted by interns to their Faculty Fellow(s).
- Reports must be submitted to the ACS Environmental Programs Director's Office. Send them to the attention of Rebecca Adams (adamsr@colleges.org).
- Even though the newsletter is published bi-monthly, status reports are on a monthly cycle, with a final due date of seven calendar days after the end of each month.

Status reports need to provide continuity over time, tracking progress from month to month. Addressing these key areas in the report will help the reader understand what's happened and what to anticipate next:

- Accomplishments
- Planned items that were not accomplished, what kept them from being accomplished, and if/when they will be accomplished
- Items planned for accomplishment in the future, projected milestone dates, and means for determining the success of each item
- Lessons learned (What worked? What didn't? What would you do differently next time?)
- Concerns /risks and the steps being taken to mitigate them

Along with your reports, please send pictures, links to websites, and/or anything else that will add to the reader's understanding of and appreciation for the work you're doing!

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the assessments and preparing for the evaluation, as well as providing ongoing support. On behalf of the interns a special thanks goes to: Patrick Kagan-Moore, Gayle Kaufman, David Redburn, Barry Allen, Lee Lines, and Sid Brown.

Editor's Note: Thanks to all who have welcomed me into the ACS Environmental Programs community. I'm happy to be here and to support the important work you are doing. Best wishes for easy finals, merry holidays, and a bright new year.

Rebecca

GARDENING NEWS

Working with other campus environmental groups, the Millsaps interns have been planning for an organic garden. Expectations are that produce harvested from the [Millsaps](#) garden will be sold at a local farmer's market. The [Trinity](#) organic garden is getting established and is expected to be up and running in the spring.

The community garden program shared by [Morehouse](#) and the neighboring Ashview Heights community has enjoyed continued success.



At [Birmingham-Southern](#)

the fall garden and strawberries were planted. A toolshed, compost bin, lattice fencing, and three benches were added to the Ecoscape.

At [Spelman](#) a committee has been formed to begin an organic garden on campus. Interns, students, and faculty are involved, space has been reserved, and decisions are being made about what to grow. The benefit of composting has been recognized and plans are being drafted accordingly. Interns at [Richmond](#) are researching the possibility of on-campus composting too.

The [Southwestern](#) Garden Club has been quite busy. A listserv has been created for the club, cooperation has begun with the county health department to work on the Heritage Community Garden, a flower bed has been planted by a residence hall, the West Side Garden is looking great, some aesthetic planting is to be done next semester around the new greenhouse on campus, and plans for the spring include tending the plants in the native plants landscaping nursery.

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Sewanee: EnviroServ, an environmental email listserv to which students, faculty, and staff can subscribe, is now implemented. This has already proven to be a good, *paperless* way to disseminate information and generate support. The admissions officer has suggested allowing prospective students to subscribe too!

Southwestern: Now in its second year as an ACS-funded program, recycling at Southwestern has evolved from that of "rag-tag volunteers... to a coordinated program that involves paid student interns, with faculty and staff cooperation, as well as supplemental labor assistance from the Southwestern Environmental Awareness Klub (SEAK). ACS interns check 17 dorm recycling stations each week and ensure that paper is emptied into a central campus recycling dumpster. Working with SEAK, other recyclables are collected door-to-door and taken to a local recycling center.

Spelman: The existing recycling program is undergoing upgrading through the colorization of the recycling bins to make them more visible and draw attention to recycling.

Trinity: Work is underway to de-mystify and expand the current recycling program. Placement of a sufficient number of bins in appropriate places is a high priority. Making them noticeable will be critical to success. An awareness campaign will be undertaken in the spring advising students of the option to recycle and encouraging them to do so. Campus publications and possibly a competition between dorms will be used to advertise. Long-term plans are to incorporate glass recycling too.

Washington and Lee: Surveys were mailed to all W & L fraternities asking questions about their recycling and reusable dishware habits. Responses received thus far indicate that fraternities generally do not use disposable dishware and that they do have some interest in recycling. Although grant money was not awarded for an initial plan to initiate recycling among the "Greeks," alternatives are being considered and the placemant of one or more recycling bins for the fra-



Samantha White and recycling bins at Centre College

Prayers and Sayings of the Mad Farmer

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Sowing the seed,
my hand is one with the earth.

Wanting the seed to grow,
my mind is one with the light.

Hoeing the crop,
my hands are one with the rain.

Having cared for the plants,
my mind is one with the air.

Hungry and trusting,
my mind is one with the earth.

Eating the fruit,
my body is one with the earth.

Wendell Berry



Bon voyage to Seth Baldy as he completes his ACS Student Internship and goes to study in England!

From the Environmental Programs Director:

Greetings, Student Interns! Only a few short weeks have passed since we dodged raindrops together at Tremont. Yet, judging by your monthly reports, you have made substantial steps towards accomplishing your goals for the semester. Congratulations! We at ACS want you to know how much your efforts mean, not only to us, but to the entire Environmental Programs. We couldn't make it without our interns, who are the heart of every campus! Many thanks to each of you for your hard work! In other news, by now you will have had some interaction with our new Environmental Programs Coordinator, Rebecca Adams. ACS is delighted to be able to bring such a gifted individual on board. The professional new look to our "Green Minutes" newsletter is just one demonstration of Rebecca's many talents. Please join me in welcoming her to our team! --E.

Elizabeth MacNabb, PhD.

SOME ITEMS OF INTEREST:

- ◆ Have you ever visited Birmingham-Southern College's Ecoscape? Take a virtual tour, see pictures from the BSC Outreach Day, and more at the BSC Environmental Studies webpage, www.bsc.edu/programs/env_studies/default.htm. Contact: Cori Jobe (cfjobe@bsc.edu)
- ◆ Research has been conducted at three rivers close to BSC in order to create a teaching tool for Chemistry courses at BSC and local schools. The research focuses on water quality factors such as metals, pH levels, temperatures, and oxygen levels. Contact: Libby Yost (eayost@bsc.edu)
- ◆ Centenary interns are evaluating the food service contractor for their campuses, Sodexo, as an environmentally sustainable company. Plans are to prepare a proposal this spring for Sodexo. Contact: Morgan Elliott (melliott@centenary.edu), or Robert Savage (rsavage@centenary.edu)
- ◆ There's been rapid progress on Sewanee's Environmental Resident (ER) project. The goal is to have an ER in each dorm to organize environmental education and action. ERs will go through an application process in the spring and training in the fall. ERs will receive stipends made available through ACS grant funds and matching funds from the university. Contact: Derek Lemoine (lemoidm0@sewanee.edu)
- ◆ Rhodes interns have been working with members of the administration and architectural firms hired by Rhodes, pushing for more sustainable elements in the design of the new library. Although the interns' original goal of LEED certification for the building will not be realized, the College has released a list of sustainable elements that it is investigating for implementation in the library. Contact: Jennifer Riem (riejg@rhodes.edu)
- ◆ Lobbying for bike lanes in Conway, AR continues through the efforts of Hendrix College interns with support from students, community members, and neighboring college students. A proposed community bike program has been scrapped due to concerns regarding theft, vandalism, injuries, etc. Contact: Seth Baldy (baldysr@mercury.hendrix.edu)
- ◆ Trinity interns are hosting a community market, with vendors selling homemade goods. Plans are also proceeding for an environmental student film festival in the spring. Contact: Rebecca Mateer (mateer@trinity.edu), Jana Perser (jperser@trinity.edu)
- ◆ Millsaps Interns are now writing a Green Column for inclusion in the monthly college newspaper, *The Purple and White*. In addition, the Interns are working with the planning committee responsible for making Spring 2003 the Green Semester at Millsaps. Contact: Adryon Wong (wongam@millsaps.edu)
- ◆ "Trash Theater" continues to increase environmental awareness through performances such as that given during Centre's homecoming festivities. Attendees of the Tremont workshop were given a private performance by this innovative group. Contact: Patrick Kagan-Moore (kaganmoo@centre.edu)
- ◆ Davidson's Faculty Fellow, Gayle Kaufman, spoke on an environmental change panel for the League of Women Voters in Charlotte, NC in November. Contact: Gayle Kaufman (gakaufman@davidson.edu)
- ◆ Like most campuses, Sewanee has its share of parking problems. Student Intern Derek Lemoine is working with Sewanee staff Investigating current parking allotments and usage. This information will then be used to develop an alternate parking plan. Contact: Derek Lemoine (lemoidm0@sewanee.edu)

T R E M O N T W O K S H O P



This year's annual Environmental Programs training workshop was held in the beautiful Smokey Mountains at the Tremont Environmental Education Institute in Maryville, TN. Student Interns, Faculty Fellows, and ACS Environmental Alliance Directors participated. Team-building, exchanging information, creating campus plans, brainstorming, and networking filled the weekend event.

