



ENVIRONMENTAL INTERN NEWSLETTER

December 2001/January 2002

UPDATE FROM ACS INTERN COORDINATOR

Greetings Fellow Environmentalists!!!

I can't begin to tell you how wonderful it is to hear about all of the great projects on which you are working. You are truly making an impact where it counts the most.

In addition to giving you an electronic "pat on the back," I wanted to share some news with you. First of all, I would like to extend a warm welcome to the faculty and students from Spelman College who have joined our program. They include Dr. Victor Ibeanusi, Dr. Bretta King (Faculty Fellow), Dr. Fatemah Shafiei (Alliance Director), and interns Nia Harris, Milan Griffin, Tiana Blount, and Amira Beaird.

Also, congratulations to Hendrix intern, Jamie Koonce (Co-chair of the Environmental Concerns Committee) and the other environmentally-concerned students and staff on campus for receiving the "Arkansas College Recycler of the Year" Award.

Keep up the good work everyone!

Sincerely,

Angelle

MONTHLY REPORTS

Birmingham-Southern

Birmingham-Southern interns, Jennifer Compton and Susan Geist, have been busy planning for Earth Week (April 15th-19th). In addition to Earth Week, BSC will host the “Governor’s Conference on Smart Growth and Brownfield Redevelopment.” (For more information, go to <http://region2020.org>.)

The two interns are also putting the finishing touches on the BSC Environmental website which is scheduled to be up in the next few weeks. The website will include a “Green Computing Guide” that was compiled by faculty fellow, Roald Hazelhoff, and the Director of Academic Computing.

Compton and Geist are continuing their efforts to make the campus cafeteria selections more vegan-friendly. They held a “Vegan Day” on which only vegan lunch entrees were served.

Finally, they are compiling information in hopes of implementing an environmental studies major at BSC.

Centenary College

--NO REPORT THIS MONTH--

Centre College

Samantha White may be the only ACS intern at Centre College, but you can’t tell that from her accomplishments! With the help of ECCO, the Environmentally Conscious Centre Organization, she has distributed flyers around campus promoting recycling, initiated plans for beautifying the campus, and spoken with various campus leaders about environmental issues.

Last month, White and ECCO held a grant writing session to help fund a fraternity/sorority recycling competition and to purchase more recycling bins. A convocation about the dangers of nuclear weapons plants is also in the works.

Last, but not least, White met with the “Roots and Shoots” Program (an animal/environment program originally developed by Jane Goodall) of a local high school about instituting a recycling program. The idea grew into a tri-level school project when a middle school was brought on board. The alliance hopes to encourage local elementary schools to join the program as well.

Davidson College

Intern J.D. Willson and new intern, Kevin James, have continued to focus their attention on the Davidson College Ecological Preserve (DCEP). Their main goal was to increase awareness about the Preserve by developing a website and informational signage. They have also scheduled a series of weekend workshops that will be taught by faculty from the Biology Department. The workshops, which will include topics such as bird watching, wildflower and tree identification, and insect walks, will be available to students and the community at large.

In addition, the Environmental Action Coalition, will host a panel discussion on alternative spiritualities and the environment featuring prominent environmental speaker, Julia Butterfly Hill. The event will include a formal presentation and book signing. For more information, contact Coalition President, Kevin James, at [kejames@davidson.edu](mailto:kejames@ davidson.edu).

Furman University

Interns Sarah Scott and Logan Park have been hard at work laying the groundwork for a full month of environmental activities in April. They spent most of January soliciting various student groups to participate in the “Earth Month” event. They have received positive feedback from a variety of campus groups, and hope to sign several more up for the highly-anticipated event.

Scott and Park are also investigating the possibility of introducing composting as an alternative for those who live in on-campus housing. They hope to have the plan fully operational by the time Furman enforces its four year on-campus housing policy. Currently, the interns are working with facility services staff to design a pilot study involving a few apartment buildings.

The duo also polled campus groups in order to identify areas that need environmental improvements. Next, they will develop initiatives that will address these problems.

Hendrix College

Hendrix interns, Emily Holland, Angela Potochnik, and Jamie Koonce, have continued their efforts to build coalitions and share information with various campus departments. They also continue to increase environmental awareness on campus through their bi-weekly contributions to the Hendrix newspaper.

Another area in which they have seen favorable results is their dorm recycling program. With the support of the President and other administrators, the ACS team has initiated a pilot study designed to investigate whether recycling efforts will increase if students have access to individual bin in their dormitory rooms. The study will continue through the spring term. If successful, money for the purchase of more bins for additional residence halls will be added to next year's budget.

Holland, Potochnik, and Koonce also investigated the possibility of installing more motion-sensor lights in academic buildings and residence halls. So far, they have not found much support for this idea. However, they plan to continue to research the possibilities.

Millsaps College

As part of their efforts to incorporate an environmental component into freshman orientation, Millsaps interns Leta Negandhi and Callie Poole have designed a powerpoint presentation that highlights their ideas. The presentation includes potential service learning projects, information on local environmentally-conscious businesses and organizations, facts on campus

waste and waste reduction tips, and suggestions on how to get involved in environmental projects on campus.

Millsaps' student environmental group has organized a food waste salvage program. With the help of other student organizations, they package wasted food and deliver it to a local food distribution shelter.

Morehouse College

In an effort to assist physical plant staff with the overwhelming tasks associated with Morehouse's recycling program, interns Bryan Dewsberry, Brandon Mason, and Tyree Patterson have initiated a labeling and inventory project. The three interns hope that the project will help determine the effectiveness of the recycling bins in their current locations.

The interns have also completed their first issue of *GREEN*, a campus publication designed to promote environmental awareness on campus and publicize the goals of Morehouse's Environmental Club.

The Club was recently awarded \$1,013 to begin a campus energy audit. Members are also continuing their work with the surrounding neighborhood on its community garden.

Rhodes College

Neal McGough and Tim Moreland are determined that the new library building on Rhodes' campus is a green one. Towards this end, Moreland has met with the building's architects and contacted physical plant staff.

McGough also met with the campus energy management engineer to discuss the use of automatic lighting in low traffic areas. The plan is scheduled to go into affect within the next two months.

Rollins College

Melissa Bray, a freshman chemistry major, has joined the intern team at Rollins. She will be working with ACS interns Sara Deon and Levi Hobson on dorm recycling, lake clean-ups, and other projects.

All three interns traveled to Dominica with Alliance Director, Dr. Barry Allen, geologist, Dr. Lee Lines, and other students to study the cultural and environmental impacts of tourism. The nine-day trip took place at the end of a semester-long sustainable development class about the island.

On the home front, Deon and Hobson continue to help resurrect Eco-Rollins, a campus environmental group that has lost momentum over the years. They have received positive feedback from both old and new members and hope to see the organization reinstated sometime next month.

The two interns have also started an environmental education program which they plan to present in local elementary schools beginning in March. The program will focus on environmental issues that are important to central Florida.

Southwestern University

Zac Martin, Janel Owens, and Jenny Carlson have made headway on several fronts on the Southwestern campus. They have furthered their endeavors to institutionalize plastic recycling and will soon pilot a unique trial program that requires some role reversal. Starting with one dorm, staff and students will switch roles – students will be responsible for their own trash and housekeeping staff will take care of the recycling. Our ACS interns hope that this process will encourage dorm residents to recycle more, pay closer attention to what they throw away, and gain a new found respect for staff.

The trio continue to make strides in the area of cafeteria reform as well. Thanks to their efforts, more vegetarian dishes are offered. Also, cafeteria staff are much more open to new ideas.

In addition to these accomplishments, Jenny Carlson is working with Southwestern's Environmental Action Committee on a proposed environmental center. Plans for the project not only include xeriscaping and nature trails, but also proposals to make the adjoining campus golf course more ecologically sustainable.

Trinity University

Trinity interns, Andi McDaniel, David Allen, Annie Blackwell, and Alice Yates have initiated a unique recycling program on their campus. During finals week, they collected old notes and notebooks from students and used them to make recycled notebooks with cereal box covers. They are also seeking funding to expand their plastic recycling program to academic buildings and dining halls.

In an effort to establish a permanent environmental committee at Trinity, the interns met with a group of faculty. Reactions were cautious, but encouraging.

University of Richmond

Over the last two months, intern Allyson Ladley has successfully distributed divided recycling bins to dorm rooms at an entire women's residence hall. A men's residence hall will soon join the program.

Ladley and fellow intern, Randy Adler, also submitted a request to include an environmental component in the University's student orientation program. They are awaiting a decision from the administrative committee.

Finally, both interns served as masters of ceremony for the environmental speakers series webcast. For more information, go to <http://www.richmond.edu/academics/a&s/urban/sustainability/webcast.html>

University of the South

As members of the student group, Waste Not, interns Lanier Brandau, Mason Herring, and Emily Wright-Timko helped develop environmentally-related service opportunities for Sewanee's "Community Service Challenge Weeks." They are working on plans to make the campus Earth Day or Earth Week celebration more service oriented as well.

In an effort to raise student awareness and increase student involvement, the group is also starting a "Green Pledge" program. The details of the program are still being developed.

Washington and Lee University

Helen Downes and Catarina Passidomo, interns at Washington and Lee University, are working with faculty fellow, Teresa Hanlon, to create an environmental component for the school's freshman orientation program. Insulated mugs, magnets promoting the campus recycling program, and information packets are just a few of the items that freshman would receive upon their arrival.

The interns are also working with a local garden to extend "campus-community partnerships" through garden teaching/learning projects, sustainability seminars, and freshman orientation tours.

In addition, the expanded recycling program is now in full swing. Both Downes and Passidomo report a major increase in participation.

Name the Newsletter Contest Results!

Thanks to those of you who submitted entries for our "Name the Newsletter Contest." ACS staff have narrowed the entries down to the four they liked the best. Now, it's your turn to choose the winning name. **All votes must be received by Friday, March 8th – only one vote per intern, please!!!!**

Should the intern e-newsletter be named:

- 1) Green Gazette
- 2) Intern Insights
- 3) Intern Inroads
- 4) Green Minutes

A Picture is Worth A Thousand Words...

Unfortunately, we didn't receive any entries for our photo contest. We thought this would be a fun way for us to obtain pictures highlighting your events/projects, but the bottom line is.....we need visuals of your work. So, we are extending the photo contest through April to give you an opportunity to capture activities during Earth Month. If you can't send your entries electronically photos via mail will be accepted (Please send duplicates as they will not be returned.) All entries must be submitted by May 6th. Remember to include the name of the event/activity, date, and participants, as well as your name, address, and e-mail info. The intern who submits the winning entry will receive a \$50 gift certificate to amazon.com.

Reminder: February reports are due no later than
March 8th!!!