



ENVIRONMENTAL INTERN NEWSLETTER

October/November 2001

WELCOME FROM ACS INTERN COORDINATOR

Greetings Interns! At last, here is your first intern newsletter, hot off the press. I wanted to take this opportunity to re-introduce myself to you and to tell you a little about myself. While I am new to the ACS Environmental Program, I have been involved with environmental issues for quite some time. In fact, my interest in the field started when I was a freshman English major at Spelman College. It was then that I began volunteering at an environmental education center here in Atlanta. I enjoyed my work so much that I decided to do my graduate work in the field. So, upon graduating from Spelman, I headed off to University of Michigan to obtain a master's degree in Environmental Communications. Since graduating from U of M's School of Natural Resources in 1985, I have worked at Southface Energy Institute, Zoo Atlanta, and SciTrek (science museum) in various roles.

I am both happy and excited to add ACS to my resume. I look forward to hearing more about your projects. They all sound wonderful and worthwhile. Please feel free to contact me at acooper@colleges.org if I can assist you in any way.

Happy Holidays!

Angelle F. Cooper
ACS Environmental Intern Coordinator

ACS Environmental Conference 2001

On October 12-14, 2001, ACS interns, faculty fellows, and directors attended the Environmental Programs Conference at the Evergreen Conference Resort in Stone Mountain, Georgia. The event served as a kick-off for campus environmental projects planned for the 2001-2002 school year. It also provided an opportunity for program participants from various campuses to get to know one another and share ideas and opinions. After several brainstorming sessions, conference attendees came up with some dynamic and creative plans for the school year. The group worked hard and played hard as they refined their ideas and decided how to put their plans into action.

One of the highlights of the three-day event was a team building exercise that took place on Stone Mountain itself. While most of the group enjoyed all aspects of the conference, a few participants expressed interest in a more rustic, less elaborate venue for future functions. If you have a suggestion for a future conference destination (preferably near an airport), please e-mail the Director of Environmental Programs, Dr. Elizabeth MacNabb at emacnabb@richmond.edu.

MONTHLY REPORTS

Birmingham-Southern

Birmingham-Southern interns, Jennifer Compton and Susan Geist, recently helped re-establish, the Conservancy, a student-led organization that coordinates green events and strives to make the BSC campus more environmentally friendly. Their first project included several fundraising events that helped pave the way for twelve students to attend EConference in Washington, D.C. The conference, which was held in October at George Washington University, offered workshops, speakers, and networking opportunities for student environmentalists.

Upon returning to BSC, conference participants developed sub-committees to address such issues as establishing a tree-free (recycled paper) campus, developing a more vegan-friendly cafeteria, and advocating renewable energy. Members of the Conservancy also gave a panel presentation during the common hour to introduce their initiatives to fellow students. Plans to host an ES-Fest to familiarize students with the environmental studies minor are underway as well.

In addition to the above accomplishments, Compton and faculty fellow, Roald Hazelhoff, met with the architect and interior designer of the North Dorm Renovation Project to discuss meeting as many LEED requirements as possible during the renovation process.

Centenary College

--NO REPORT THIS MONTH--

Centre College

Intern Samantha White have been leading the war against solid waste on the Centre College campus. She met with campus leaders and the campus recycling organization to discuss the possibility of increasing the number of recycling containers and re-instituting glass recycling on campus. She also teamed up with the campus environmental group to petition the Board of Trustees and President about recycling and other environmental issues.

Davidson College

In October, intern J. D. Willson continued his work with the Davidson Ecological Preserve. The Preserve now has a web site - <http://www.bio.davidson.edu/projects/dcep/ecohome.htm>. Willson also continued work on the Reptiles and Amphibians of North Carolina web site - <http://www.bio.davidson.edu/biology/herpcons/herpcons.html> and the Central Carolina Amphibian and Reptile Initiative (CCARI) at <http://www.ccari.org/>.

In addition, he is organizing a series of workshops and information sessions on the Preserve for students and the community. Willson is also working with the Environmental Action Coalition to plan Earth Week activities and with faculty fellow, Mike Dorcas, and Chris Paradise to revive an environmental studies concentration at Davidson College.

Furman University

Interns Sarah Scott and Logan Park have targeted recycling as part of their fall activities on the Furman University campus. To date, they have laid the foundation for a student run glass recycling program. They are also planning a campus-wide recycling day during Furman's Earth Week festivities. Students will be invited to participate by redeeming their glass recyclables for parking vouchers. Finally, they are working on getting fraternities to recycle after frat parties.

The two interns are also in the process of starting an environmental book club and petitioning the use of styrofoam containers in their dining hall.

Hendrix College

Hendrix interns, Emily Holland, Angela Potochnik, and Jamie Koonce, have initiated two new columns in their campus newspaper, *The Profile*. The first highlights environmental initiatives on campus and the second informs readers about summer environmental study opportunities that are available through the ACS.

The trio also met with the new president, Dr. Cloyd, and the Dean of Students to discuss proposed projects on campus and in the community. Among the many projects discussed were the procurement of a Plant Fellow, increased availability of recycling in dorms, and the introduction of glass recycling to the Conway community.

Thanks to the interns' efforts, headway has already been made in the Hendrix cafeteria where they now have a fourteen-day rotating vegan menu and vegan

desserts containing fructose instead of sugar. Plans are also underway to increase the use of local foods in the cafeteria.

Millsaps College

Leta Negandhi and Callie Poole, interns at Millsaps College, are working with faculty fellow, Stan Galicki, to incorporate an environmental module in the school's freshman orientation program. The interns have also shared their wetlands proposal and ideas for adding a community garden with interested parties.

Negandhi and Poole, along with other members of their campus EARTH group, organized a campus clean-up. They also sponsored a food waste elimination survey in the cafeteria.

The diligent duo are trying to convince campus computer labs to start using recycled paper. They are also working with a recycling company to arrange for newspaper pick-up.

Finally, Callie contacted local teachers about implementing environmental education sessions at their schools. These sessions are scheduled to begin sometime in December.

Morehouse College

"Changing the Way We Think" is the slogan that Morehouse College interns, Bryan Dewsberry, Brandon Mason, and Tyree Patterson, created to reflect their environmental mission on campus. Soon, this phrase will be seen on advertising posters throughout campus. In the meantime, the three young men have made improvements in the campus recycling program and the overall look of the campus as well. Among other things, they planted a tree on campus in memory of a fellow student who died earlier this year. They hope to further their goals by collaborating with the school's new landscaping company on future beautification projects.

The students are also hard at work raising funds for their projects. They recently received funding from the Student Government Association and are seeking additional funds from the National Wildlife Federation.

Rhodes College

Neal McGough and Tim Moreland, interns at Rhodes College, spent most of October identifying projects on which they would focus for the remainder of the school year. McGough began to investigate ways in which the college could reduce its electrical waste. Moreland is identifying speakers and workshop leaders on sustainable building principles as part of the planning process for the new library. Both students helped restructure the campus recycling program. They also assisted in establishing an environmental library in the student center.

Rollins College

ACS interns Sara Deon and Levi Hobson have continued their efforts to build strong ties with Eco Rollins, the campus environmental club. They also designed a poster for the Environmental Monitoring Conference in San Antonio and helped maintain the campus recycling program.

Finally, Deon and Hobson joined fellow Rollins students, as well as other ACS interns, at the EConference in Washington, D.C. They found the networking opportunities very rewarding. They also enrolled in several student coalitions.

Southwestern University

All three interns from Southwestern University have been hard at work preparing for Fall Earth Day. The event, which took place on November 29th, included arts and crafts, a recycling drive, live bands, environmental organizations, a market with locally grown produce and opportunities to petition for environmentally-related causes.

Individually, these dedicated interns are making strides as well. Zac Martin is gathering information on local growers and organic farming in hopes of integrating their produce into the campus cafeteria. Janel Owens is researching the attributes of solar-powered water heating in anticipation of seeking funding for such systems to be installed on campus. Jenny Carlson is researching the concept of an Eco-Cottage and the possibility of using land adjacent to Southwestern's campus for a nature preserve or environmental center.

Trinity University

Planning for Texas Recycles Day, a campus-wide event, has kept Trinity interns, Andi McDaniel, David Allen, Annie Blackwell, and Alice Yates busy during the month of October. They have also been hard at work on their individual projects – McDaniel has been organizing speakers for the Spring Environmental Lecture Series; Blackwell has been cultivating and trying to find funding for her organic garden; Allen had collected information on environmental committees at other ACS schools and drafted a proposal for Trinity's Environmental Advisory Committee; and Yates met with physical plant staff to discuss ways to improve the campus recycling process.

University of Richmond

At the University of Richmond, interns Allyson Ladley and Randy Adler are launching a campaign to promote sustainability on campus. Adler's short term goal is to design and distribute an electronic survey on beliefs throughout the campus about sustainability. He also plans to gather the opinions of essential administrative personnel and staff on the subject. Ladley is working on improving campus awareness about the environment and sustainability.

Long-term, both students hope to improve environmental awareness on campus by working with Richmond College and Westhampton College to incorporate an environmental program into student orientation and soliciting additional grant monies for sustainability projects around campus.

University of the South

In an effort to encourage more environmentally and socially conscious gift giving this holiday season, interns Lanier Brandau, Mason Herring, and Emily Wright-Timko assisted faculty fellow, David Haskell with his “More Love, Less Stuff” Campaign. The group has designed and distributed posters around the University of the South campus promoting this theme and offering alternative gift ideas that are environmentally friendly. Next year, they hope to further their cause by collaborating with other ACS institutions.

Brandau, Herring, and Wright-Timko also continued their work coordinating the campus recycling program. They have been lobbying the University for funding so that Physical Plant Services can take over the recycling program. Plans are also in the works to build a shed out of reused construction materials in order to accommodate the large amounts of recyclables generated by the campus coffeehouse.

In addition, the interns are assisting Haskell with the design of his new summer program, “Food for Thought.” The program will explore the fields of ecology and sustainable agriculture through readings, writing assignments, discussions, hands-on activities, field trips, and community service.

Washington and Lee University

Helen Downes and Catarina Passidomo, interns at Washington and Lee University, have initiated several projects to help better their campus environment. Thanks to these environmental enthusiasts, the recycling program has been expanded and a promotional campaign has been launched to educate freshmen about recycling on campus. Passidomo also met with the Inter-Fraternity Council in hopes of persuading them to institute a mandatory recycling program in all fraternities.

Future plans include Earth Month projects, a survey of dorm counselors on environmental awareness in their halls, and a “more love, less stuff” campaign.

Name the Newsletter Contest!

Now that you've read the first edition our new e-newsletter, we hope you will help us name it. We need a name that represents who we are and what we do. Got any ideas? If so, please send them to acooper@colleges.org by January 31st. Prizes will be awarded to the intern (individual or group) who submits the winning entry.

Best Wishes for a Happy and Safe Holiday!!!!