

## **ACS Environmental Interns End-of-Year Reports 2005-2006**

### **Birmingham-Southern College**

#### *EarthFest*

This year the celebration had a Captain Planet theme, with t-shirts funded by Student Government Association. Three students (including the intern) gave reports on sustainable travel and ecotourism, with a guest speaker on fair trade issues, Josh Kelly, head roaster at Higher Grounds fair trade coffee company in Birmingham.

#### *Mass Transit*

The intern mounted a campaign encouraging students to use city buses to get from campus for various outings.

#### *Recyclemania*

The Conservancy, BSC's Environmental Advocacy group participated in recyclemania, a competition among university recycling programs in the United States that provides students with a fun, proactive contest for waste reduction. For more information, see the national website at [www.recyclemaniacs.org](http://www.recyclemaniacs.org).

### **Centenary College**

#### *Enviro Club*

The Centenary Environmental Association was chartered by the student government and held its first meeting.

#### *Recycling*

Student interns successfully worked with a local waste management and recycling company in Shreveport to install a successful satellite recycling center on campus that recycles mixed paper, aluminum, and newspaper. Interns obtained 130 mini recycling bins for students to use in their rooms on campus and set up recycling pickup teams to collect the recyclables in each building.

### **Centre College**

#### *Community Outreach*

Professors Mike Barton and Rob Ziembra participated along with five Centre Students participated in the Danville Kids University program on oceans and coral reefs. This program involved a strong emphasis on environmental problems in these ecosystems. Rose-Marie Roessler has hosted several meetings of Clarks Run Educational and Environmental Corporation (CREEC) at Centre College. Some of the CREEC events this year included tree plantings and creek walks and involved Centre Students as well as local school children and other citizens. (~50 participants)

#### *Enviro Conference*

Centre co-sponsored a multi-college conference entitled "Campus-Community

Partnerships for Sustainability,” April 21-23<sup>rd</sup>, 2006. The conference took place at Berea College (Kentucky). Further information is available online at <http://www.berea.edu/sens/ccp/default.asp>. Workshop themes included local food systems, transportation, energy, green buildings and green landscapes, and campus-community curricula, among others; the conference will bring together college students, faculty and staff, and townspeople from throughout Kentucky and neighboring states. Theme of the conference: colleges and towns can work together in the face of global challenges to create sustainable local and regional economies and communities. While Centre was the only ACS institution to co-sponsor, the conference should have a significant impact upon Kentucky and its neighboring states, encouraging numerous campus-community partnerships for sustainability. This influence will eventually be felt by other ACS institutions. Co-sponsors included Bluegrass Community & Technical College, Southeastern Community & Technical College, Eastern Kentucky University, Hazard Community & Technical College, University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Berea Outpost, Kentuckians for the Commonwealth, Louisville Peak Oil Group, Partners for Family Farms, Mountain Association for Community Economic Development, and Community Farm Alliance.

#### *Environmental Convocation*

CentrePeace (student peace and justice group) and ECCO (student environmental group) sponsored a convocation on peak oil and the energy crisis in the United States, showing the video *End of Suburbia* to at least 100 students, staff and faculty.

#### *Local Foods*

The Farm-to-cafeteria committee is trying to get local foods served in the campus cafeteria. It comprises faculty members, administration, students, staff, food service representatives, state agency representatives, and non-profit representatives (11 members). Interns Ethan Link and Kerri Howard have been in contact with the Sierra Club regarding farm-to-cafeteria and other sustainability issues.

#### *Green Renovations/Buildings*

Centre College completed some “green” renovations on Crouse library and Sutcliff athletic building in the fall, and is currently investigating the pros and cons of using LEED standards to build its new dormitory, to be named Pearl Hall. Interns Ethan Link, Kerri Howard, and Charlie Boyd have been active in advocating the green construction of Pearl Hall and LEED certification for the project. These activities have included attending meetings, lobbying administration officials and students, coordinating a letter-writing campaign to the president of the college, and writing editorials in the student newspaper.

#### *Kentucky River Watershed Watch*

Faculty Fellow Rob Ziemba and visiting prof. Rose-Marie Roessler hosted a volunteer training workshop for this group at Centre College (10 participants). Rob Ziemba was a trainer at four watershed watch workshops in 2005 (~30 participants).

## **Davidson College**

#### *Campus Coalitions/Collaborations*

Five members of the EAC executive board (including both interns) graduated this year or will study abroad in fall. In order to avoid a large drop in student involvement, interns teamed up with two major student organizations on campus, the Student Government Association (SGA) and the Union Board, to organize Earth Day. Interns also developed new environmental projects around campus with SGA, such as a new

recycling program during orientation for first-year students.

### *Earth Month*

To plan for Earth Month, throughout the month of March, interns attended executive board meetings and general meetings for the Environmental Action Coalition (EAC), as well as regularly meeting with Faculty Fellow Chris Paradise. Earth Month activities were held in April at the lake campus, wherein local environmental organizations shared information about activities and recruited student involvement. A “Green Ball” –with contra dancing, silent auction, dessert, and bar– was held again this year. Funds from ticket sales and auction went to the Davidson Lands Conservancy. A series of professors addressed topics such as “Economic Valuation of Ecosystem Services” and “Atmospheric Chemistry and Ecosystem Vitality.”

### *Waste Audit*

Interns hosted the biannual waste audit on April 6<sup>th</sup> to continue assessment of the recycling program at Davidson and the EAC’s Cat CUPPS (Can’t Use Paper, Plastic, or Styrofoam) program.

## **Furman University**

### *Alternative Energy*

As a follow-up, student Colin Hagan and the Environmental Action Group (EAG) also began plans to launch "The Year of Alternative Energy" with hopes of restarting a campaign to convince Furman to purchase Wind Energy Credits. EAG continues to maintain the student-run biodiesel facility on campus, with great success, supplying campus landscape staff with biodiesel to run lawnmowers and tractors.

### *Earth Month*

In honor of Earth Month, the Environmental Sustainability Committee (ESC) worked with Facilities Services to install green screens on the lights surrounding the bell tower. Hence, the bell tower had a green glow all during April.

The intern organized Furman’s first ever Environmental Film festival in April, screening films such as *The Day After Tomorrow*, *Princess Mononoke*, and *Affluenza*. Professors hosted a brief question-answer period afterwards. Each event counted as a CLP (Cultural Life Program) credit for students, and at least 30-40 people attended every film. Many people from the community attended the showing of *Affluenza*. Also, by coincidence, a woman who works with director of the film (John Degraff), happened to be in town from Seattle and was in attendance. Finally, a streaming videocast of *The Man who Planted Trees* was logged on Furman's website for Arbor Day.

#### EAG organized events for Earth Month

- Fossil Fools Day --Oil Addicts Anonymous
- National Outdoor Leadership School Activity
- "Power of Words" - Environmentally themed event in which faculty, staff, & students read passages from books/articles that related to the environment or nature in general.
- Ecological Footprint information day
- Man in his Environment : KOYAANISQATSI, film

#### ESC organized events for Earth Month

- "Friends of Paris Mountain Day" out at the park, with music, events, and free park admission

- “SC Native Plant Sale” day
- A Panel Discussion series featuring professors from various academic disciplines (ie: Economics, Sociology, Biology, Political Science, Religion, Environmental Science, Philosophy, etc.) discussed various environmental hot topics with question/answer periods from the audience. Topics included 1) Global Warming & The Fresh Water Shortage, 2) Population & Consumption, including garbage, recycling, and foods (i.e. organic vs. GM), and 3) Energy and the End Of Oil.

### *Eco-Cottage*

The Eco-cottage will have female residents next year for the first time in 4 years.

### *Enviro Academic Programs*

Individually Composed Programs (ICP)- Students wishing to design their own major must submit a proposal (essay, recommendations, courses) to be included in the newly designed program to a committee that decides on the validity of the major. Three students thus far have created environmentally focused, interdisciplinary majors to meet their needs. These majors (2 approved and 1 pending) include: Ecology & Sustainable Development, Environmental Science-Physics track (Environmental Engineering), and Religion and the Environment, respectively.

### *Enviro Conference*

During the fall, Furman very generously hosted the ACS Student Leadership workshop on Environmental Residents (ERs), picking up the tab for two sumptuous catered meals for all participants, and refusing to charge the group for use of its facilities. Also at that time, Scott Derrick, Furman’s sustainability coordinator, hired six students to act as ERs for the six dorm areas on campus. These six are working to create a viable recycling program for the campus. More recently, Derrick hired a student to work in his office and run the ER program.

### *Environmental Education*

ESC has been trying to increase general environmental awareness by creating a source for environmental facts on Furman’s main website. Ideas include a stock market scrolling ticker that would be displayed in the student commons, or a rotating post on the FU webpage that refreshes itself after each time you return to the web page. Facts might include how much energy Furman is consuming at that particular point in time, or what the costs of energy are, etc.

### *Green Renovations/Buildings*

Furman is currently preparing to renovate its science building, a process that will be LEED certified. This will make Furman’s 5<sup>th</sup> LEED certified building. Adam Joseph Lewis, an Ohio philanthropist whose name adorns Oberlin College’s environmental science building, recently donated \$1.5 million to Furman to assist in the process.

### *Guest Speakers*

In fall, the Environmental Action Group (EAG) brought a speaker to campus, Harvard Ayers, noted anthropologist from Appalachian State University. Ayers gave a presentation on the National Arctic Wildlife Refuge. As a representative of the group Arctic Voices, he urged the large student turnout to take action and contact senators and representatives to vote to remove the proposition to drill in "ANWR" as it is stated in the current proposed energy bill.

### *Local Foods*

ESC met with board members from CISCO corporation and Aramark Corporation to

discuss the possibilities of having more locally or organic foods on campus. Aramark has started getting supplies for the dining hall from a company that is in the recycled materials business. Also, the ESC is planning an outing to a local farm to discuss the future of local foods on campus.

### *Recycling*

In collaboration with the Greenville Recycle program, students organized "Furman gets Trashed," a three day event in front of the Library (collection of one day's trash from all the university housing, to be later sorted by students.) EAG and members of various fraternities and sororities separated the garbage from the recyclable materials. This activity revealed that a little over 50 % of student trash could have been recycled. The bags of trash and sorted materials--the before and after-- were on display in front of the library. Greenville Recycle provided displays and useful information to pass out to students and passers by.

### *Udall Fellowship*

Like last year, another ACS environmental intern (Kartikeya Singh) was awarded the national Morris K. Udall fellowship for students interested in environmental public policy (<http://www.udall.gov/scholarship/default.asp>).

## **Hendrix College**

### *Earth Week*

Interns worked with the Conway Earth Day Foundation and the Hendrix Environmental Concerns Committee, planning Earth Week activities for April. On the first day, the student body was asked to fill out Earth Day Pledges, which simply stated "I will ...". The student filled in the blank with something they could change or do more of that would be more environmentally-friendly, such as "I will recycle more, or drive less, or not litter." Interns displayed the pledges in the shape of a tree in the student center for the remainder of the week. Also, to get the students to think about the environment, interns screened *Fern Gully: The Last Rainforest* in the student center, chosen because it was a childhood favorite. The movie addresses such topics as animal testing, deforestation, the importance of preserving habitats, and the inspiration to do so. It drew a huge turnout -- every seat was filled.

An all-day Earth Day Celebration was held in Conway at the Conway Fairgrounds, with bands, food, demonstrations, and many booths sponsored by environmental organizations and vendors. Interns helped with the set-up and/or take-down of the event, and intern Jillian Gilbert helped organize sponsors for the booths. The Earth Day event was a success, drawing people of all ages.

### *Ecohouse*

The Ecohouse began producing recycled paper to sell as a fundraiser, and was recently featured in an article in the local paper.

### *Environmental Policy*

Hendrix is about to begin construction on many new buildings. Interns researched and wrote a document which explained why using green building methods is beneficial and called for the college to use as many sustainable methods/materials as possible for the buildings. They also surveyed the student body and found a high percentage of those surveyed in agreement with the process. The letter was approved by the Student Senate and is set to be brought to the Faculty Board and the Board of Trustees in the fall.

### *Newspaper Articles*

Throughout the year, three interns rotated to write environmental articles in the bimonthly school newspaper *The Profile*. The majority of the articles gave the students tips on ways that they can help preserve the Earth by saving energy, fuel, water and other resources.

### *Recycling*

Because Conway, and thus Hendrix, does not accept glass for recycling, interns organized glass collection and transport for recycling to Maumelle, a town about 20 minutes drive away. Volunteers from each dormitory and school apartment complex were given a bin for the purpose, and brought glass to the Eco House. Eco House residents, including intern Marion Field, then took the glass to Maumelle. This program was quite successful and will continue next year.

### *Re-usable Dish Program*

Interns continued a re-usable dish program started last year, taking re-usable plates, cups, bowls, and silverware to different events around campus, with the purpose of reducing waste accumulated from disposable items. After the dishes were used, interns washed them in the school cafeteria and stored them in an office until the next event was held. Many campus-wide events used the dishes, and campus organizations used the dishes weekly.

## **Millsaps College**

### *Campus Clean Up*

A campus clean up was sponsored by the Student Affiliates of the American Chemical Society.

### *Earth Week*

EARTH fest was celebrated in April, with many environmental booths to educate the students about recycling, endangered species, etc.

### *Environmental Residents*

Interns and Fellow have been working on getting an Environmental Residents Program started, using volunteers in each dorm, rather than stipended positions. Budgetary issues have forced them to rethink their plans and possibly modify the program to a pilot study in one dorm. They hope to see it go into effect in the next two years.

### *Move-Out Recycle*

The annual pack rat project, in which three dorm rooms were set aside for students to give and take things during move out at the end of the year, was again successful. All the items left at the end of the year were donated to Stew Pot, a local organization for the homeless.

### *Recycling*

SBA and Earth Club provided funding for new recycling bins, so interns acquired 24 bins for the freshman side of campus to recycle aluminum in a pilot project. Next year, plans have been made to recycle plastic as well on the freshman side, and both aluminum and plastic on the upper classman side. Millsaps was able to begin recycling cardboard from the cafeteria. A container, and removal services, was provided by Recycle America free of cost. Recycle America also takes, free of charge, all the office and newsprint Millsaps can recycle. Millsaps was able to retain its paid student Environmental Coordinator position again this year, which provides an important link

between the wants and needs of the recycling program, and the housekeeping staff. Fellow and interns anticipate hosting a recycling information session at new student orientation next year, but they have experienced setbacks in recent years due to continuous revision of the orientation process as well as personnel that oversee it.

## **Rhodes College**

### *Environmental Planning Cooperative (EPC)*

The EPC is the faculty, staff, and student organization which organized the following activities/events:

#### *Desk recycling bin gifts*

EPC put together recycling bins for all new faculty and filled them with an assortment of recycled and environmentally-friendly goodies, including legal pads, Post-Its, file folders, clipboards (yes, you can buy a recycled clipboard), paper clips, fair trade coffee, and a reusable mug. Also included was information about recycling at Rhodes, a list of green items available from our office supply vendor, and a flyer about who and what the EPC is.

#### *Earth Day*

The EPC sponsored a "Think Green, Wear Green Day" in conjunction with Earth Justice to commemorate Earth Day, whereby campus community members received a raffle ticket for wearing green on that day. Grand prize was an Apple iPod, in addition to dozens of other prizes, so needless to say, participation was good!

#### *Enviro Work-Study*

The work-study position of environmental coordinator was upgraded to a Rhodes Student Associate Program position, or RSAP. This resulted in the student being able to work 15 hours per week, for an increased rate of pay. Expectations were raised accordingly, as the RSAP positions are reserved for meaningful work and self-direction. The new RSAP student, Michelle Green, rose to the occasion, and she was essential in pushing through several significant projects (most of which are mentioned here).

#### *Energy Conservation*

Rhodes Physical Plant is currently in the process of switching lights above dorm room sinks from incandescent to compact fluorescent bulbs, thanks to Tracy Adkisson, Associate Director of Physical Plant, who is also the director of the EPC. Motion sensors for lights were installed in all dorm laundry rooms so that these lights do not burn 24/7.

#### *Green Bikes*

A grant for a bike program at Rhodes was received last year and the program was launched this spring. Campus community members can check out one of 15 bikes, along with helmets, lights, and a lock. All the bikes were loaned out within the first week; therefore intern and fellows will try to increase the number of bikes available to 20 for next fall. The Rhodes College Environmental Planning Cooperative (EPC) has been selected as winner of the 2006 Governor's Environmental Stewardship Award in the Green Schools Higher Education Category, for the Rhodes College Bike Program (<http://www.rhodes.edu/studentorgs/RBCBP/>).

#### *Recycling*

A dorm-wide disposable battery recycling program is ready for implementation in the fall of 2006, with 5-gallon buckets painted to look like batteries stationed throughout the halls. Procedures for cardboard recycling (which is performed by the Physical Plant) were greatly improved by incorporating stops at the bookstore and the library and also with the addition of a compactor for storage until it is hauled away for recycling. Student recycling coordinators now pick up cardboard on their weekly recycling run, in

addition to white paper and aluminum, so that, in addition to high-volume producers on campus, students, faculty, and staff have the opportunity to recycle cardboard as well.

#### *Website*

The EPC launched its new web site ([www.rhodes.edu/studentorgs/EPC/](http://www.rhodes.edu/studentorgs/EPC/)) which has information about the EPC, recycling at Rhodes, the bike program, current environmental projects underway on campus, recognition of recycling reps, links to environmental audits, and contact info for all things environmental. The site is updated monthly so that information is always current and timely.

#### *Environmental Residents*

Leslie Samuelson, the environmental intern, has begun the implementation of the ER program, securing partial funding through Earth Justice. They are working on securing more funding. Meeting with members of Residence Life, the Orientation Committee, and Forrest Stuart, Director of Financial Aid, on various occasions, the intern and her team convinced Residence Life to agree to allow our Environmental Residents to move in early so that they may participate in orientation. The Orientation Committee agreed to allow ERs to participate fully in their program, including a paint-your-box event specifically geared for the family of the new students. Intern also hopes to host a Tire Pressure Event for the parents before they begin their return trips home. Forest Stuart has informed the intern that they have a very good chance of receiving a work-study position for one ER, most likely the assistant head ER. Intern and Fellows solicited student applications for the ER program and currently have 12 ERs for next year. On April 21<sup>st</sup>, they had the first training session for 2006-2007 ERs. This included an overview of the program and responsibilities, a get-to-know-each-other session, and a role-playing exercise with various scenarios concerning environmental sustainability, recycling, and environmental responsibility. On April 28<sup>th</sup>, Leslie Samuelson gave a presentation entitled "Environmental Residents: Integrating Environmental Awareness and Programming with Student Residential Life" at URCAS, the Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity Symposium. Leslie also presented the ER Program during an evening event during Earth Week.

#### *Guest Speakers*

Intern hosted a lecture on Oct 3, 2005 by Nick Algee from the Southern Alliance for Clean Energy.

#### *Newspaper Articles*

The intern implemented a weekly environmental tip in the Rhodes College newspaper, the *Sou'wester*, included in the newspapers in the fall term only due to changes in the *Sou'wester's* policy, which excluded tips from the spring 2006 editions.

#### *Tire Pressure Events*

In conjunction with Earth Justice, the student environmental organization, the intern implemented three Tire Pressure Events (Oct 20<sup>th</sup>, Dec 1<sup>st</sup>, and March 22<sup>nd</sup>). This included checking the air pressure on cars of faculty, staff, and students and, if necessary, filling them to their correct pressure. The objective was to inform the Rhodes community about the benefits of maintaining correct tire pressure (use less gas, reduce emissions, prevent excessive wear on tires). The project serviced over 250 cars on these three events.

## **Rollins College**

### *Alternative Energy*

An Alternative Energy Day event was held in October to highlight the new student initiative to bring solar power to campus and announce student commitment to the Campus Climate Challenge ([www.campusclimatechallenge.org](http://www.campusclimatechallenge.org)). The event provided free energy saving light bulbs to reduce energy uses on campus. In another attempt to educate the campus about energy demands, interns tied interesting facts about the environment to many of the big oaks on campus to capture casual attention.

### *Campus Clean Up*

In fall, interns led 30 Rollins students to the lake beach to collect trash, collecting over a dozen large garbage-sized bags in less than an hour. They then celebrated with a BBQ while enjoying the outdoors.

### *Earth Day*

Earth Day events were a big success— hundreds of students, faculty, and staff came out to enjoy the events, making it one of the largest and most well-attended Earth Days in several years. A variety of activities were offered, including a band, tie-dying, a dunk tank, organizations from around the community, and snow cones. With the snow cones, interns gave out free re-useable plastic cups with "Eco-Rollins" and a picture of a manatee on them. Soliciting donations for Save The Manatees Club, interns raised enough to adopt a couple of manatees and also contribute money to buy organic food for the Environmental Studies Department end-of-year party. Several organizations from Rollins and from the community came out to sit at tables with information, including Rollins Democrats, Amnesty International, the Florida DEP, Animal Rights Foundation of Florida, and others. Interns created a display to inform students about the upcoming solar project. Michael Brown attended and hooked up a large fan to a photovoltaic array, to show students how it works.

### *Native Plants*

For Valentine's Day, Eco members sold native flowers outside the campus center with environmental stickers on the pots for students to buy for themselves or for each other, and also delivered these to various faculty members.

### *Recycling*

Interns ran an ongoing educational program on recycling for other students through weekly "Helpful Hints" emails and informational articles in the school newspaper. Vice President and Treasurer George Herbst met with interns about the Recycling Program, pledging his support. Interns got financing to purchase 100 new co-mingled and paper bins, and plan to distribute them across campus, especially in the residential buildings. They are also working on getting permanent bins installed along Winter Park's main street, because currently there is very little recycling available outside campus. For America Recycles Day, interns promoted recycling tattoos, goodwill donation, petitions for outdoor recycling bins, tree signs. They also helped Dr. Bruce Stevenson plant trees at Genius Reserve. In February interns conducted walk-throughs of all the dorm buildings to check on the state of recycling in each building. New, larger posters to put in the areas where the bins are kept, with more pictures and less words, were the result. Also, interns discovered the need for more bins, so they ordered 100 of each type (both co-mingled and paper) to put in dorms and academic buildings early in the fall.

### *Solar Power*

Interns continue to work with a contractor from Florida Solar Energy Center, and have applied for a grant through the company in an effort to get a 2kw system of photovoltaic panels installed on the Bush Science Center. Spring semester began with a meeting with Michael Brown, the solar engineer who will most likely be the contractor used for Rollins's solar project. He discussed the basic engineering behind solar, the feasibility of

it at Rollins and generated excitement in Eco members about the project. In early April interns met with Scott Bitikofer, head of Facilities, and their primary partner in the solar project. He expressed much enthusiasm and support for the project. They discussed permits needed by the city, as well as Bitikofer's vision for the project, and various options for photovoltaic models. It was announced on Earth Day that the Rollins Facilities department approved the project, and Bitikofer assured interns the project will be financed even if Rollins doesn't receive its grant.

Towards the end of the semester interns gathered a group of about 40 students to walk to the President's office to show student support for the solar project. President Duncan met students outside and talked with them about the project, then everyone went to the Bush Science Building roof where the array will be placed. There, facilities director Bitikofer had set up two wooden "solar panel" displays to demonstrate the approximate size and location of the real array, and also spoke on behalf of the project. Installation of basic parts will begin over the summer, and it is hoped that the rest will be assembled by students in Fall 2006.

## **Southwestern University**

### *Earth Day*

Interns purchased fluorescent light bulbs to give to students to use in their dorm rooms, following up with personal surveys to the students, to discover whether they have used the light bulb and were able to install it, etc. Earth Day was planned by SEAK (Students for Environmental Activism and Knowledge) as an outdoor event with a live band. Different organizations were invited to attend; booths and tables were set up for clothes exchanges. Latinos Unidos hosted a table promoting free trade coffee with samples, etc.

### *Energy Conservation*

The physical plant at Southwestern had started a "Conserve" campaign on campus last year, placing stickers on all light switches reminding students and faculty to switch off lights as they left a room or classroom. The intern created a project designed to build on this campaign. While traveling in Switzerland, one intern experienced small, everyday conservation efforts that are effective in directly reducing energy, specifically motion and sound sensitive light fixtures, so that the lights never remain on unless the room is in use. Assuming this would be easy to integrate at Southwestern, interns identified different buildings as well as specific rooms on campus that were rarely used but always lighted. (For example, parts of the science and library buildings, staff and student lounges, faculty copy rooms, and student laundry rooms.) Interns researched and found a lighting device that was easy to install and to use. They calculate that such light fittings could be paid for within a month due to electricity savings.

### *Environmental Art*

Three seniors majoring in fine arts pooled their resources and put together an exhibit featuring artwork with environmental themes; the reception and exhibit were very well received by the community.

### *Environmental Clubs*

Students for Environmental Activism and Knowledge (SEAK) held two Earth Days (fall and spring). These events were open to the campus, occurred during our highly visible lunch hour at the Commons, and featured lots of environmental information. The featured event was the distribution of free compact fluorescent light bulbs. Other activities included Env. Studies capstone students presenting posters of their research projects, raising money for the Food Bank by selling hand-crafted ceramic bowls, and a

used clothing exchange and donation to the local aid agency. SEAK also organized "Waste Week," in which food waste from the cafeteria was collected, weighed, and reported on a highly visible display in the cafeteria. This project had a very nice effect because the amount of food wasted was lowered by nearly 50% by the end of the week. The long-term effects are unknown.

#### *Environmental Zone*

Southwestern University has designated a portion of its non-developed land as an environmental zone. This designation has been in place for more than a year, and we are moving forward slowly on deciding what should be done with this zone. This year, we held focus groups to determine what the options are.

#### *Guest Speakers*

The Brown Symposium is one of our two major, highly publicized University-wide events. The topic this year was "GNP or National Well-Being?" Four world-class researchers were invited to discuss the relationship between monetary wealth and personal well-being, and nearly every speaker explicitly mentioned how our current lifestyle is non-sustainable.

### **Spelman College**

#### *Guest Speakers*

The intern attended The Wilderness Society's annual Keeping It Wild Gala which featured Georgia Congressman John Lewis as the keynote speaker. This event began the Spelman College Keeping It Wild event series to heighten public awareness about the Southeast and the importance of this region's wilderness. At the event, the intern networked for events she planned to host over the year, including one featuring Dr. Paul Mohai, Professor of Natural Resources and Environment at University of Michigan, who later spoke at Spelman College. His topic for discussion is "Dispelling Old Myths: African Americans Concern for the Environment". Other planned panel events included topics such as water/air quality and the prevalence of asthma in African American communities, relationship between environmental degradation and Sudanese genocide, and the massive deforestation in Haiti and the tragic mudslides that were the result in 2004. The intern also planned collaboration with Spelman's Environmental Task Force, African Students Association, Wilderness Society, Caribbean American Student Alliance (CASA), Amnesty International (Spelman Chapter), and Career/Job Placement Office.

### **Trinity University**

#### *Enviro Academic Programs*

In the course, Making a Difference for a Livable Planet, twelve students volunteered at the San Antonio Botanical Garden for a variety of projects, including helping in the children's garden, helping establish a composting operation, and working in the native or endangered plant areas. Unfortunately, with the arrival of a new director at the gardens, all projects but the children's garden were put on hold. Several final projects for the class included an action plan for establishing a campus composting operation, an action plan for establishing a campus recycling project, a video modeling ways students can be more environmentally responsible, and in inquiry into ways that Trinity's buildings might be less resource-intensive in the future.

#### *Green Bikes*

Interns designed a program to encourage alternate transportation methods with a dual benefit of reducing pollution and freeing parking spaces on campus: recycle-a-bike. They hoped to provide gently-used bicycles to students and faculty who would commit to commuting to campus by bike three or more days a week. To initiate this project, interns met with the director of Physical Plant to establish a storage space for the donated bikes. Soon thereafter, interns approached the Department of Campus Safety to ask for their participation and to ask for donations of bicycles confiscated on campus. They also attended a local San Antonio bike exchange to try to acquire low-cost bikes and parts. They then advertised donation drop-off dates and pick up times for a week to foster campus involvement. Despite setting aside a week for donations, however, interns received none. Interns believe there is a general lack of interest in bicycling among both the student body and faculty.

The interns encountered many other obstacles in reaching their goal. They had to be extremely persistent to gain the support of Physical Plant, although this was ultimately achieved and they gained a space to store the bikes. The Department of Campus Safety showed initial interest in the project and would have been a very valuable resource; however, upon further consideration, the supervisors determined donation of confiscated bikes would cause discord among other Trinity groups. Upon reflection, interns decided a bicycle program might not be feasible on a campus such as Trinity for several reasons: 1) the campus layout is not conducive to bicycling on campus and the majority of students live on campus and would not need a bike; 2) Trinity's environmental organizations have recently gone inactive; 3) without the support of the Department of Campus Safety, interns were unable to obtain the used bicycles needed to implement the project.

#### *Guest Speakers*

Through the Lecturer's and Visiting Scholars Committee the Making a Difference instructors brought Dr. David Orr (environmental studies director at Oberlin) to speak. TU Press sponsored a visit by Dr. Carl McDaniel (biology and environmental studies professor at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute). In addition, we had some guest speakers for the class: Skip Richter, organic gardening specialist for the extension service; Brian Montgomery, owner of Texas Farm to Market Cafe, David Langford (member of the governor's Environmental Flows Advisory Committee), Dr. Rich Butler (TU economics professor), and Dr. David Crockett (TU political science professor).

#### *Recycled Notebooks*

Amnesty International continued their Recycled Notebook project, in which notebooks made from recycled materials (paper used on one side with covers made of cereal boxes or other materials) were sold and the proceeds given to Amnesty International. Over 100 notebooks were sold and over \$250.00 was raised. Approximately 20 students were involved.

#### *Recycling*

Trinity University Volunteer Action Committee (TUVAC) continues to run a recycling program for plastic and aluminum bottles in all of the buildings on upper campus. Approximately 15 students are involved in collecting, sorting and delivering the recycling materials during the school year.

## **University of Richmond**

#### *Campus Coalitions/Collaborations*

Interns worked on establishing a connection to Residence Life and are working on programs with them.

### *Paper Use Reduction*

A pilot study called FinePrint, which involves giving 12 administrators and faculty the FinePrint software to make double-sided printing very easy and convenient, has begun to monitor how much ink and paper could be saved by the university.

### *Recyclemania*

Students were involved in a national contest for colleges called recyclemania, a competition among university recycling programs in the United States that provides students with a fun, proactive contest for waste reduction. For more information, see the national website at [www.recyclemaniacs.org](http://www.recyclemaniacs.org)

### *Tree Planting*

Interns helped advertise and participated in tree planting along the stream that leads into Westhampton Lake on two consecutive Saturdays to help protect the local watershed.

### *Waste Audit*

They helped organize a waste audit on the campus's new Forum, to publicly display waste in order to get people thinking about recycling and waste.

## **University of the South, Sewanee**

### *Campus Sustainability Week (Oct'05)*

A sort of Earth Week in Fall (<http://ers.sewanee.edu/sched.Sustainability.html>), this activity featured an environmental fair, a local foods breakfast, a live webcast summarizing five conferences on campus sustainability via the Society for College and University Planning (<http://www.scup.org/csd/3/#conferences>), a documentary on coal and nuclear power

### *Eco-Cup*

An inter-dorm, campus wide competition to reduce consumption and encourage environmental awareness —the Eco-Cup-- was held in February. Conservation efforts and participation by residents was monitored for each dorm throughout the month, and a prize of a foosball table was awarded to winner Tuckaway Hall at a dorm party. Cleveland was a close second, followed by Hunter as a close third. Captain planet tshirts were given to Environmental Residents for free. It was hoped other students would see folks wearing it and want one, then buy one for \$10 (<http://ers.sewanee.edu/EcoCup>)

### *EcoHouse*

The Ecohouse residents run an organic Community Garden and organized a Community potluck picnic

### *Earth Week (Apr'06)*

Events included a green fair, a frisbee tournament, an outdoor showing of *The Lorax*, a Green Tea and Poetry event at Stirlings, a fraternity/sorority party on Earth Day itself, informational chalking of the road out to Cheston Hall, a garden work day, and a free outreach activity for airing up tires of passing motorists to let drivers know how their gas mileage would be improved. Interns initiated a "Grounds for the Ground" Campaign for collecting coffee grounds from the cafeteria and taking them to the EcoGarden for composting. Also accomplished this week were the EcoCup – an all campus awareness & energy & waste conservation competition among dorms;

Recruiting & Training of new Env'l Residents for '06-'07; Recycling collection in dorms; Letter writing campaigns to senators & representatives; and Coffee Ground collection ("Grounds for the Ground") from university dining hall

### *Environmental Policy*

Work continues toward convincing the university to adopt of a sustainability proposal for campus (written by former Environmental Residents, Katharine Wilkinson and Lane Shakleton). Two issues (dealt with in that proposal) are felt to be particularly important right now: the dining hall and the "development" of Sewanee.

- McClurg Dining Hall. Efforts continue towards making the campus dining experience more environmentally sensitive as well as to utilize practices there for student education. It is felt the community needs to be able to eat ethically in the dining hall, which means local and organic. Says the Fellow: "There's no reason why, surrounded by farms as we are, we couldn't work out contracts with local farmers that are mutually beneficial. Yes, it's more work than simply doing as we do (ordering from Sysco, a big company), but more work to be ethical is one of the standard challenges of, well, living ethically."
- The "development" of Sewanee. The university's governing bodies (regents & trustees) are exploring various development opportunities -- some for second home residential developments. All environmental groups on campus (Environmental Residents, EcoHouse, Waste Not, Sewanee Preservation Society) are participating in events and educational outreach aimed towards encouraging the exploration of alternative land uses for the biologically diverse and sensitive areas around area lakes. This effort is ongoing.

### *Environmental Residents*

25+ students, 2+ faculty, 3+ staff are all involved in this ongoing program, which has become a model for other ACS campuses.

### *Green Pledge*

The GP is a dinner that invites seniors to sign a pledge that says they'll work to maintain sustainable lifestyles after graduation. Then they get a green ribbon to wear on their gowns during graduation. Dr. Deborah McGrath spoke at the event.

### *Green Renovation/Buildings*

The university science building is scheduled for renovation and expansion beginning Spring 2007. Campus environmental groups continue to hold discussions supporting LEED certification at the highest level possible. This effort is also on-going and clearly time-sensitive.

### *Guest Speakers*

Dr. Richard Olson of Berea College and Eustace Conway were invited to speak about their programs

### *Newspaper Articles*

Interns are working on establishing a green newsletter, hoping to get an issue out before Earth Day.

### *Paper Use Reduction*

Over the holiday break, IT and library staff worked with interns to set the default on the computer lab printers to double-sided. This change is intended to both reduce paper waste and to educate students on the importance of conserving resources.

### *Recycling*

Physical Plant Services worked with interns to collect litter from central campus for 2 weeks, then display the litter in between the science building and the library for one week. Interns also sorted all recyclable materials to show how much of the litter could have been recycled, then used prominent signage to educate and motivate students not to litter and to recycle. In addition, a First Year Recycling orientation program was set up (<http://ers.sewanee.edu/orientation2005>)

### *WasteNot*

Activities sponsored by this group included Hike with a TrashBag Events (for litter collection), a movie series, and Glass Collection to main location for transport to recycling facility

### *Sewanee Preservation Society*

This group organized Protect Lake Dimmick information & protest sessions.

## **Washington & Lee University**

### *Audits*

Two students and one faculty performed a Composting Audit. Four administrative staff conducted an Energy Audit, and an Environmental Audit was conducted by approximately 15 students, faculty, and staff.

### *Campus Sustainability Roundtable*

The Environmental Planning and Management Committee, an ongoing group, meets for brownbag lunches to discuss green progress

### *Environmental Service Learning*

Thirteen students performed environmental service learning at Boxerwood Gardens, a local non-profit arboretum

### *Natural Resources week*

Environmental Studies and the International Student group collaborated on activities for this week, including a

### *Recycling*

Interns have been working with fraternities in an area of campus called Davidson park, meeting with housemothers and cooks to figure out type and location for recycling bins that might be needed. They have also made arrangements with building and grounds staff to get recycling picked up on a semi-regular basis, resulting in the creation of the Nabors Service League Fraternity Recycling Initiative and Sustainability Suite

### *Summer Internships*

1 student, Rockbridge Area Conservation Council, I-81 Rail Solutions Project  
3 students, Henry's Fork Foundation, long term fish population surveys  
1 student, The Nature Conservancy, Flat Ranch, Island Park, ID; stream restoration projects and educational outreach  
1 student, Oregon Natural Desert Association, Bend, OR, wildlands project support