

A Review of ACS Accomplishments
A Result of: The Sustainable Campus Development Clinic

1. **Davidson College** established a free bike program in order to encourage biking rather than driving around campus/town. Davidson Outdoors acquired a dozen bicycles that were abandoned by students and painted them bright red.

Davidson has begun to place a tremendous importance on energy conservation, and is in the process of upgrading energy and lighting fixtures in various campus buildings.

This year students, staff, and faculty have been working together to develop a comprehensive and convenient campus-wide recycling program. Office paper is once again being recycled, and the fraternities and women's eating houses are now required to recycle aluminum. The Residence Life Office has also agreed to outfit the dorms with up-to-date and suitable recycling bins.

2. **Furman University** has created the Center for Habitat Earth, a component of which is the proposed "environmental house". Furman has identified two 8 person stand alone residence buildings, one that will serve as the environmental house, the other which will be the control. Each residence receives similar sunlight and weather exposure. A portion of an ACS energy grant to FLI will be used to help retrofit the residence this summer.

Furman also received an ACS energy grant, which has allowed an academic building to be retrofitted for water conservation. Furman has also hired an outside green consultant from Southface of Atlanta to assist with the planning and construction of Furman's newest academic building. Bill Ranson, coenvironmental fellow was invited to serve as faculty observer on the grounds and building committee of the Furman board of trustees. Bill Ranson represents the first formal faculty involvement with the significant decision making body that shapes the future of Furman's physical presence.

Furman's Environmental Action Group, EAG, has recently acquired several bicycles and will place them on campus for general use in order to encourage biking rather than driving around campus.

The institutionalized recycling program is in high gear. A dozen beautiful brick and Trex (plastic wood) structures house recycling containers and our campus drop-off center. Phil Lewis, Custodial supervisor and recycling coordinator, facilities services is a recent recipient of the SC Governor's award for recycling.

3. Last spring, **Millsaps College** team members developed a three-part proposal for their campus involving energy management, landscaping, and transportation. The initial proposal included:
 - Promoting energy efficiency by tying first the Olin Hall of Sciences, and eventually all buildings on campus to a computerized energy monitoring and control system.

- A comprehensive landscaping plan for the north end of campus utilizing environmentally sound design principles- This will include developing a wetlands study area around naturally occurring springs; developing a scenic fitness trail with native plantings around newly constructed playing fields and physical activity center; adopting erosion control measures.
- Establishing a shuttle service as an alternative to driving personal vehicles across campus.

They continued developing the proposal and presented it to the Vice President of Business Affairs and to the Director of Campus Safety, with plans to present it to additional members of the administration. The administration was impressed and organized a meeting with the architect to develop a comprehensive landscaping plan. The team showed how a comprehensive landscaping plan is needed to avoid piecemeal solutions to various problems:

- Newly constructed buildings and playing fields require additional landscaping, walkways, and restroom facilities
- Invasive plants around springs and streams, and an eroding hillside are problems for grounds maintenance
- A safe, scenic area for walking and running is needed in this urban setting
- He came back with some preliminary plans that took what the Millsaps team had developed, one step further and Millsaps is now waiting for project funding.

Components of Landscape Plan included:

- Fitness Trail
 - coordinated with access to playing fields and wetland/botanical study sites
- Comprehensive landscaping
 - wetlands restoration and streamside landscaping
 - native trees and shrubs screening highway
 - terracing for erosion control
- Education and Research
 - wetlands study site
 - native plants, botanical study area
 - phytoremediation technology in restrooms

The current status of the project:

- Architects have completed preliminary design
- Display is planned for Earth Fest, April 16, 2000 to seek additional input and support from students, faculty and staff
- Proposal will be presented to the new College President and Vice President for Development
- Next step- finding funding!

Dr. Andrew Royappa and his students have identified the major forms of paper use and paper waste on the Millsaps campus in an ACS-funded project "Systematic Analysis and Reduction of Costs Associated with Campus Paper Usage".

Millsaps' paper recycling program, which currently includes academic and office buildings, is expanding to include the residence halls. This is possible due to two new developments. First, Physical Plant Director Richard Gell has negotiated an arrangement with Recycling USA, which will require less labor on the part of Physical Plant staff. Second, Environmental Interns Jane Buck and Vaughan Jinks are developing an environmental component for the orientation program for new students, and are organizing a network of volunteer environmental coordinators for each residence hall who will help promote the new recycling program.

4. **Rhodes College** has since formed a committee known as the "Rhodes Planning Cooperative." The group has expanded to 11 members (3 administration, 3 faculty, and 5 students) and meets approximately every two weeks to identify areas of campus operation where energy and resource consumption can be reduced for cost savings to the college. Initiatives that have been expanded include Preventative Maintenance program, Energy audit, addition of emergency generators, low flow showers heads, and numerous energy saving measures for A/C for example, variable frequency pumps, speed drives, fans, motors pumps, and replacement of several chillers. The Superintendent of Engineering has also given a presentation in a class to acquaint students with many of the energy saving practices at the college.

The RPC has also made several suggestions to the administration, architects, and physical plant about environmental alternatives to the proposed plans. Due to the immediate need of a new dorm on Rhodes Campus, plans were finalized without a significant consideration of the Ngreenn suggestions. However, the RPC has already begun research and discourse on the next dorm to be built within the next 5 years. An additional parking lot will be built adjacent to the new dorm; they provided alternatives to the proposed asphalt surface (i.e. porous cement), keeping with Memphis City ordinances. The RPC is also beginning to establish flower gardens throughout campus, with a particular interest in native flowers.

Paper recycling has always been available in the academic buildings, but with the added volume of paper from dorms, Campus Green will be able to benefit financially. Rhodes has also started to offer recycled paper, through the ACS Joint Purchasing program. Aluminum and cardboard recycling continues with vigor. Campus Green is responsible for maintaining the use of 100% chlorine free recycled napkins in our refectory and is now looking to establish plastic recycling.

5. **Trinity University** has an undeveloped 12-acre parcel of land on the northeast corner of campus. Within the last 20 years, a jogging/walking trail has been laid down, tree cover has increased, and wildflowers have been planted to increase the beauty and use of the area. Recently, campus interest in environmental issues has raised awareness of the educational potential of this attractive open space. Over the last six months, a group of faculty, students, and staff at Trinity University have discussed a plan to manage this parcel, so that it would satisfy the university community's need for an outdoor area for

environmental teaching and learning. This informal campus committee produced a vision statement, suggesting that: We would like to see the northeast corner of campus maintained as open space for use by the Trinity community and its neighbors. These uses include formal and informal education in an outdoor setting. During the fall, faculty and students completed a survey of the region, focusing on the existing tree growth. In November, the committee organized a planning charette for the development and management of this campus resource. 65 people participated, including staff, students, faculty, and community members from Trinity and 3 other ACS campuses. Various options were discussed and possibilities suggested. The University is at present considering hiring an architectural firm to produce drawings, elevations, and sight lines of the region.

In addition, Trinity faculty and staff have begun to organize an informal committee to discuss and consider environmental issues on campus. Of particular interest are environmental considerations that affect the health of students, faculty, and staff.

Students at Trinity have also begun a campus-wide assessment of resource use. Students from the campus-based Environmental Action network (ENACT) and the course "Humans and the Environment" have joined forces to analyze the use and disposal of water, energy and solid waste. The goal of this analysis is to measure Trinity's ecological footprint, highlighting both the steps the University has taken to reduce resource waste and areas that increased conservation could benefit the University and its environment. A report is planned on April 15.

6. After the workshop, **University of the South's** team completed their statement of environmental stewardship for their university strategic plan. They also created the Sewanee Campus Sustainability Development Team, which continues to meet semi-regularly. The use of student information (waste stream studies) and efforts in the recycling efforts has created a stronger bond with the Physical Plant staff. Currently, there is some potential that the Regents will donate either a pickup truck or a trailer with dividers for different kinds of recycleables to Waste Not, the student environmental and recycling group. Since last year, Waste Not has significantly increased the volume of its recycling program to include glass, paper, and cardboard. Efforts are now underway to institutionalize recycling. Recycling efforts are scattered across campus and rely on the hard work of a few individuals. A campus-wide recycling program would help us move forward with this important work. Physical plant recently completed an energy and water use audit. As a result University of the South has installed compact fluorescent lighting, low-flow showerheads and other energy- and water-saving technologies.

A recent dorm renovation utilized energy conservation devices i.e. DDC controls on heating and air systems, motion sensors and low flow water fixtures. Consideration was also given to material finishes i.e. low VOC paints and polyurethane and recycled high-density toilet partitions. Incorporating environmental responsibility into the building design process would demonstrate that our values and ideal are not just abstractions, but can be embodied in bricks and mortar. Such a building process would provide prospective donors and students with concrete evidence that Sewanee is a place

where responsibility and innovation thrive. Lastly, Sewanee received a central campus tree-planting and maintenance grant.

7. **Washington and Lee University** established an Environmental Planning and Management Committee, composed of three faculty (one chair), three students, the director of physical plant, the business manager, the outing club director and other staff. This committee is charged with the coordination, planning, management, and implementation of issues related to environmental concerns in the operation of Washington and Lee. The committee is helping to frame action policies for issues such as energy usage, indoor air quality, recycling, transportation, or landscaping. Project guidelines for the University Commons is based on LEED and Energy Star programs and had been included in RFP for architectural services. Categories within the guidelines include siting issues, energy consumption/conservation, materials/resources, and indoor air quality. These programs could potentially become part of specifications for future projects.

Currently the committee is working with the City of Lexington to develop a plan to restore and maintain the health of Woods Creek, a small creek, which flows through the campus. Currently they are monitoring and evaluating water quality, monitoring storm water management efforts, and exploring options to restore native plants.