

EnviroNews

Newsletter of the Santa Clara University Environmental Studies Institute

Volume XXII

Fall 2004

New Director at ESI

We are happy to announce that a new executive director has been named for the Environmental Studies Institute. On October 1, Dr. Michelle Marvier, an assistant professor of Biology, began her new leadership role. Founding director, Dr. Amy Shachter, is excited and pleased to have Michelle bring new vision and energy to the Institute.

Michelle received her Ph.D. in Biology from the University of California, Santa Cruz in 1996 and was a NSF postdoctoral fellow at the University of Washington in 1997-98. Her research focuses on two issues: 1) ecological risk assessment applied to genetically engineered crops and 2) the conservation of biological diversity. Michelle's current projects include field studies of an endangered parasitic plant and a meta-analysis of risk assessment studies for genetically engineered crops. In addition, she is co-authoring a new book entitled, *Finding a Conservation Future*. Michelle teaches a variety of courses in Biology and Environmental Studies, including Conservation Biology, General Ecology, and Biostatistics. Dr. Marvier's office is in Alumni Science 258. She can be reached at 551-7189 or mmarvier@scu.edu.

All of the members of the Environmental Studies Institute would like to express our profound gratitude for the extraordinary efforts of outgoing director, Dr. Amy Shachter. Dr. Shachter's commitment to environmental education at SCU for the past 11 years has resulted in numerous milestones for the ESI. Under her direction, the Environmental Studies major, Environmental Science major and Environmental Science minor became a reality in 2000. Today there are 30 declared majors and minors, and 60 alumni. Dr. Shachter also provided the inspiration and founding leadership for SCU's environmental Residential Learning Community, known as Education for a Sustainable Future (ESF). Her enthusiasm and hard work have inspired scores of undergraduates to pursue careers that will make a difference for the environment. FROM EVERYONE AT ESI, THANK YOU AMY!

Pizza & Advising

Thursday, Nov. 4th
5:00-6:00 PM
Alumni Science 246
(Bolton Room)

Find out more about our
classes and programs!

What's Inside...

New Winter Courses	2
ESI Seminar Series	2
Faith, Ethics & Vocation	3
Campus Programs	4
Special Announcements.....	5
Colloquia Opportunities	6

New Winter Courses

ENVS 198C: Environmental Vocation Internship

See description on page 3.

CENG 160: GIS in water resources

This new class will be open to juniors and seniors interested in learning the fundamentals of Geographic Information System (GIS) technology with applications in watershed analysis and hydrology. Skills to be developed include obtaining, processing, and displaying digital information for watersheds, producing river networks from digital elevation models, mapping the spatial variability of precipitation, and preparing input data for hydrology models. Students will pursue a class project of their own design. ArcGIS software will be used for all exercises. No previous experience with GIS is expected, though basic computer familiarity (with Excel and Word for example), an understanding of the hydrologic cycle and an interest in watersheds would be helpful. The instructor, Ed Maurer (Civil Engineering) encourages both civil engineers and students from other disciplines to join us in exploring possibilities for using GIS in water-related studies. Contact Ed Maurer (emaurer@engr.scu.edu; 554-2178) for more information to discuss any questions.

ENVS 145: Environmental Technology

Learn where you live! The objective of this distance-learning course is to explore a variety of environmentally conscious technologies. The course will address "bleeding edge" as well as more traditional technologies that enhance the quality of life in both the developed and developing countries. The course will concentrate on Environmentally Conscious Technologies used in the following general areas: Air quality, Biotic systems, Climate, Energy, Land, Population, Transportation, Waste, and Water. This course fulfills the University Technology Requirement, and will be taught remotely by Dr. Neil Quinn, Jr.

Also this Winter:

ENVS 1 Intro Environmental Science
ENVS 99 RLC Seminar Course
ENVS 101 Capstone
ENVS 120 Intro to Environmental Law & Regulation
ENVS 163 Faith, Ethics & Biodiversity (fulfills the third Religious Studies requirement)

ESI Fall Seminar Series

The ESI Seminar Series features speakers from local universities and organizations discussing a wide variety of environmental topics and research. The series is intended to stimulate and support cross-disciplinary inquiry. Attendance at these seminars can be used for ES colloquia credit.

The seminars take place every other Friday from 12:00 noon – 1:00 pm. Refreshments are served starting at 11:45 am.

Here is the schedule for Fall Quarter 2004:

Oct 8 Dr. Ed Maurer, Department of Civil Engineering, Santa Clara University
Projecting Hydrologic Impacts of Climate Change on California
Location: Benson 21

Oct 22 Dr. Sherry Booth, Department of English, Santa Clara University
Transfiguring Landscape and Place in Women's Contemporary Fiction
Location: Benson 21

Nov 5 Dr. Jorge E. Gonzalez, Department of Mechanical Engineering, Santa Clara University
Urban Heat Island (UHI), Preventing Thermal Pollution in Urban Centers
Location: Benson 21

Nov 19 Dr. Keith Warner, OFM, Director of the Faith, Ethics and Vocation
Agroecology in Action: How the Science of Alternative Agriculture Circulates through Social Networks
Location: Wiegand Room

Contact the ESI office at (408) 551-7086 if you have any questions or if you have a disability and require a reasonable accommodation.



Announcing the Faith, Ethics & Vocation Project

The Faith, Ethics & Vocation (FEV) Project fosters the Jesuit tradition of integrated education for students interested in environmental leadership. The FEV project consists of: environmental studies courses that fulfill the university's religious studies requirement; the Environmental Vocation Internship which offers students the opportunity to conduct environmental education among regional faith communities, collaborating with SCU's Centers of Distinction to create interdisciplinary learning modules for students and local communities; and immersion /participatory action research programs providing experiential learning opportunities. Students pursuing careers in the environmental professions or sciences can find in the FEV project a host of activities to foster vocational discernment. Keith Douglass Warner, OFM, serves as project director, teaches the four project courses, supervises the Environmental Vocation Internship, and is the new faculty in residence in the Education for a Sustainable Future RLC.

The Environmental Vocation Internship

The Environmental Vocation Internship offers undergraduate students at Santa Clara University the opportunity to develop environmental leadership skills through participatory action research and education, combined with faith formation and personal mentoring. It combines campus-based education for undergraduates with community-based environmental education in local faith communities (parishes, congregations).

Students should enroll in two concurrent courses, "Faith, Ethics, and the Biodiversity Crisis" and "Environmental Justice Practicum," while simultaneously conducting environmental education among local faith communities. The internship will consist of a two quarter sequence. Interns will conduct their work in the Central Valley (Stockton) or the Central Coast (Monterey) region. The internship will orient students to a theologically-grounded vision of stewardship that embraces social justice work as well as advocacy for the intrinsic value of Creation and biodiversity. In 2004-5, the internship will operate Winter and Spring quarter, January through June, with an anticipated ten students. This internship will operate at least three years, with up to eighteen students annually.

Students will receive a thorough orientation including immersion trips before the internship; vocational mentoring, theological reflection, and retreats during it; and a retreat to conclude the experience. Interns will likely emphasize either environmental justice (Stockton) or biodiversity conservation ethics (Monterey) depending on their placement, but they will conduct all their educational efforts from an integral perspective. These internships will reach out to new environmental constituencies while providing concrete leadership development experiences for SCU students.

About the Director

Keith is a Franciscan Friar, and the Faith, Ethics & Vocation Project Director in the Environmental Studies Institute at Santa Clara University. He will provide the academic supervision for the students in designing theologically-based environmental educational projects. He has an MA in Theology and a PhD in Environmental Studies from UC Santa Cruz. His work integrates political ecology with human and religious values. His dissertation, *Agroecology in Action: How the Science of Alternative Agriculture Circulates Through Social Networks*, analyzed the extension of agroecological knowledge into conventional agriculture in California. From 1996-9, he co-directed a popular education campaign about economic justice at St. Anthony Foundation in San Francisco. His research interests include ecological agriculture, environmental justice, and the interface between religious and environmental values. He likes to garden with native plants, grow his own food, and play, sing and dance. With John E. Carroll he is editor of *Ecology and Religion: Scientists Speak* (Franciscan Press: Quincy, 1998). He is a Regent at the Franciscan School of Theology in Berkeley.



Campus Programs

ESF News

Education for a Sustainable Future is the Environmental Studies RLC located in the first four floors of Swig. Here's an update of what's happening this quarter:

- ESF seminar about **Seafood Watch**, Tuesday, Oct. 26, 2004 at 3:40 pm
Serena Ping from the Monterey Bay Aquarium is the Seafood Watch Coordinator and will speak to ESF students. All are welcome to attend and attendance can be used for ES colloquia credit.
- **Enviro Film Nights** will be held at 7:00 pm on the Swig 11th floor Skyroom on:
 - Tuesday, Oct. 12th – Erin Brokovich
 - Thursday, Nov. 4th – Grapes of Wrath
 - Thursday, Nov. 18th – A Civil ActionA discussion will follow each film.
- **The San Francisco Green Festival**, Nov. 6-7, 2004
Join the ESF RLC on a trip to SF for this year's GREEN FESTIVAL. We will be taking CalTrain to minimize traffic and air pollution. For more information, contact Shana at sweber@scu.edu or check the website at www.greenfestivals.com.

Environmental SCCAP

We are very excited to announce that all of the environmental programs at Santa Clara University have been brought together under the direction of a single organization, Environmental SCCAP (or E-SCCAP for short). We will be continuing the organic garden (Kate Tyron, ktyron@scu.edu) and environmental awareness (Margaret Spicer, mspicer@scu.edu) with many fresh new ideas, so keep your eyes and ears open for announcements. We also have two new programs this year. First, we have Sarah Friend (sfriend@scu.edu) starting a program at a local animal shelter. And second, Tierra Wilson (twilson@scu.edu) is running a program in which volunteers will learn about Koko, the signing gorilla, and then give presentations to local schools. In addition to these great programs the GREEN! Club is still running. We will be regularly going out to Ulistac, the last 41 acres of open space in Santa Clara City. We will also be hosting fun events throughout the year so watch out for these! If you have any questions and/or would like to help out please contact Sarah Tarpley at starpley@scu.edu.

Environmental Voices Radio - KSCU 103.3 FM

Airing Sundays 7:00-7:15 p.m. Produced by ESI and members of ESF and Delphi Residential Learning Communities in Swig Hall.

Content includes environmental news headlines compiled from reputable national and international sources; *The Community Voice*, a perspective written by promising young writers living within Santa Clara University's Education for a Sustainable Future Residential Learning Community; *BioSphere*, an essay addressing a wide range of technological, environmental, and consumer issues; and *Here On Earth*, an opinion piece that focuses on pressing environmental issues in the context of politics and government. Tune in each Sunday evening at KSCU 103.3 FM!



Faculty News

Dr. Nancy Unger has just released two new publications:

Book Chapter: "Women, Sexuality, and Environmental Justice in American History," *New Perspectives on Environmental Justice: Gender, Sexuality, and Activism*. Introduction by Winona La Duke, edited by Rachel Stein. Rutgers University Press, 2004, pp. 45-60.

Book Chapter: with Marie Bolton, "The Case for Cautious Optimism: California Environmental Propositions in the Late Twentieth Century," *La Californie: Périphérie ou laboratoire?*, Annick Foucrier and Antoine Coppolani, eds. Paris: L'Harmattan, 2004, pp. 81-102.

Dr. Janice Edgerly-Rooks was recently a science advisor for a new David Attenborough BBC special which will include a large segment on her study organisms, the webspinners (Embioptera) of Trinidad. Over the summer, she had an opportunity to visit the School for Field Studies Kenya site. If any students are interested in doing Environmental Studies Abroad, Dr. Edgerly-Rooks will share her experiences.

Dr. Lisa Kealhofer is the editor of a publication that is currently in press:

The Archaeology of Midas and the Phrygians. University of Pennsylvania Museum Press, Philadelphia.

This is a seventeen chapter edited volume on recent (last decade) contributions to the archaeology and conservation of the Iron Age site of Gordion, in central Turkey.

Dr. Michelle Marvier was awarded a \$188,000 grant from the US Environmental Protection Agency to conduct a meta-analysis of risk assessment studies examining the safety of genetically modified crops.



Ulistac Natural Area Restoration Work Days

Work Sessions during the Fall Quarter are from 9:00am - 1:00pm

October

Saturday, October 2nd
Sunday, October 17th

November

Saturday, November 6th
Sunday, November 21st

December

Saturday, December 4th
Sunday, December 19th

Work sessions include planting, mulching, and weeding. As always, dress appropriately for the weather. Fall work days often find us working in the rain and only a heavy downpour will send us home. Bring plenty of water, sturdy shoes, and long pants.

Come out and enjoy the last 41 acres of open space in Santa Clara!

Ulistac Outreach Center is located in Swig 103, Phone (408) 554-5419.

The Ulistac Natural Area is the only 41 acres of habitat in the entire of City of Santa Clara. When restoration of the park is complete, it will contain seven California native habitats, including a Bird and Butterfly Garden, oak woodlands and wetlands. Directions to Ulistac are on the Restoration Project's website: www.scu.edu/envs/ulistac.

STUDENTS WANTED: Jobs Available on Campus

➤ Sustainability on campus

There is an unpaid internship available through the ESI office. The job involves gathering information about sustainability at SCU. The information will be used on various communication vehicles from the ESI office to the campus and community at large, such as the website, newsletter, bulletin boards, etc. This internship can be completed for credit and can be used to fulfill the ES internship requirement. If you are interested, please contact Dr. Michelle Marvier at 551-7189 or email her at mmarvier@scu.edu.

➤ Recycling on campus

The Recycling department is in search of a student interested in various recycling-related projects. This position requires 20 hrs a week, which includes working 2-4 hours on Saturday. Hours are flexible anytime during the day until 5:00 pm. Contact Lucky at 554-4750 for information. The job has also been posted with Career Services.

Colloquia Opportunities

Wildlife Conservation Expo

We have an offer of up to 50 free tickets on Saturday and Sunday, October 16 & 17 in Los Altos (check it out at <http://www.wildnet.org/expo2004.htm>).

Please email Jeannette Sacman (jmsacman@scu.edu) no later than Friday, October 8th, indicating the number of tickets you want. Tickets are normally \$40 each.

15th Annual Creeks, Wetlands and Watersheds Conference

This Fall the Watershed Project will hold its Fifteenth Annual Creeks, Wetlands and Watersheds Conference. The conference is open to educators and the general public. Academic credit is available.

When and Where: Saturdays or Sundays
October 2 - November 14, 2004
Various locations throughout the Bay Area

For additional information and to register, check out their website:
<http://www.thewatershedproject.org/conference/conference.html>

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