

ES Newsletter, Week of September 22, 2008

ON CAMPUS EVENTS

Film Screening: *Narmada: A Valley Rises*

Manufactured Landscapes

Thursday, September 25 7:30 p.m.

Smith Auditorium, Sills Hall

Narmada: A Valley Rises is beautifully photographed, inspiring film. It documents a 200 kilometer non-violent Gandhian march involving 6000 participants. The film offers a compelling and intimate portrait of a unique movement while raising critical and universal issues of human-rights, social justice, and development within a democracy.

Introduction by Ashish Kothari, Mellon Global Scholar in the Environmental Studies Program, Fall 2008. Ashish Kothari is the Coordinator of the Conservation and Livelihoods Program for Kalpavriksh Environmental Action Group and was involved in organizing opposition to the Narmada dam project.

Cosponsored by the McKeen Center for the Common Good and the Environmental Studies Program. Supported by the Mellon Foundation

(Re) Visions of Industrial Spaces

Drawings and Photography from Eastern Europe/ Watson Fellowship

Cotton Estes '07

Opening Sat. 9/27 5-7 PM

Exhibit in the VAC 9/29-10/11

OFF CAMPUS EVENTS

Maine League of Conservation Voters

6th Annual Evening for the Environment

October 2, 2008 at 5pm

Abromson Center, Portland

University of Southern Maine

Featuring speaker **Gary Hirshberg**, Chairman, President and CEO of Stonyfield Farm and author of "Stirring it Up: How to Make Money and Save the World"

Student Rate \$20 (for a reduced rate, contact Tracy at the e-mail address, or phone number provided below) OR Sign up to volunteer (and have your ticket fee waived)

To receive the student rate or to volunteer - contact Tracy (tracy@mlcv.org or 620-8811)

For more information, please visit: <http://www.mlcv.org/indextest.asp?pset=6&Cid=695>

Making Maine's environment a political priority!

Daren Wendell - The Earth Expedition, "A Walk Around The World"

Tuesday, Sept. 30 7:00 pm

Frontier Café Cinema & Gallery, 14 Maine St. Fort Andross

Mix 11 languages, 18,000 miles, 7 years, 3 continents, 17 time zones, 14 countries, 36 million steps, 1 man, a backpack and a dream and you get The Earth Expedition - a man's dream to walk to the world's continents on nothing but two feet. Since 2006 Daren Wendell has been planning, saving, reading, researching, and training for *The Earth Expedition*. On his travels, he is also raising awareness for **Blood:Water Mission**, an organization committed to clean blood and clean water to fight the HIV/AIDS pandemic in Africa.

For more information, call 725- 5222, or check the website: www.explorefrontier.com

Patagonia Presents the Wild & Scenic Environmental Film Festival On Tour

Friends of Casco Bay is thrilled to host "Patagonia Presents the Wild & Scenic Environmental Film Festival On Tour", Saturday, October 4th. We hope you will join us for an evening of inspiring, thought-provoking, and entertaining films.

Tickets are now on sale at the following locations:

- Whole Foods Market, Portland
- Cycle Mania, Portland
- Patagonia Outlet, Freeport
- Bull Moose Music, all locations
- [or buy tickets online at Brown Paper Tickets](#)

Climate Change 21 -- Choices for the 21st Century (CC21)

October 23 & 24, 2008

All undergraduate and graduate students from Maine's colleges and universities are invited to submit abstracts describing posters or presentations they would like to display at CC21 in October 2008.

There will be five categories of student work at CC21:

- Undergraduate student posters -- research on climate change causes, effects, and choices
- Graduate student posters -- research on climate change causes, effects, and choices
- Arts and humanities presentations related to climate change (performance, fine arts, etc.)
- Public education posters on climate change causes, effects, and choices
- Student team report posters on campus initiatives related to climate change

In each category there will be a cash prize of \$500 and recognition at the conference session during Day 2 for the best poster or presentation. In addition there will be up to ten honorable mention awards drawn from any of the five categories.

The competition judging team will be led by internationally-recognized climate scientist Dr. Paul Mayewski, Director, Climate Change Institute, The University of Maine. Honorary Judge and awards presenter will be Scott Pelley of "60 Minutes" -- CBS News.

To register your poster or presentation, please send the following by Tuesday, September 30 to Mark W. Anderson, Coordinator, Ecology & Environmental Sciences Program, 5782 Winslow Hall, University of Maine, Orono, Maine 04469-5782. Inquiries to: mark.anderson@umit.maine.edu

Name:
Email address:
Institution:
Title:
Abstract: (no more than 100 words)

Rare Mud Plant Walk

Merrymeeting Bay Wildlife Management Area, Bowdoinham
12-2 PM. Sunday, September 7th, 2008
Contact: Andy Cutko, FOMB, 666-3162

Join trip leader Andy Cutko of Friends of Merrymeeting Bay [FOMB] and the Maine Natural Areas Program as he leads a rare plant walk through the intertidal zone of the Cathance River from the Merrymeeting Bay Wildlife management Area in Bowdoinham. The tidal shores of Merrymeeting Bay are home to nearly a dozen types of rare and endangered plants --one of the largest concentrations of rare plants anywhere in Maine. Some of these species grow in only a few places in the world, and Merrymeeting Bay has healthy populations of many of them. Learn about the importance of this habitat and how to identify some of these elusive "muddy cruddlies" at one of the Bay's most scenic spots. Cutko is a botanist, ecologist and forester and a former FOMB Steering Committee member. Participants must pre-register with Cutko at 666-3162.

Merrymeeting Bay Wildlife Management Area near the mouth of the Cathance River, offers a spectacular view of Merrymeeting Bay including the mouths of the Muddy and Androscoggin rivers as well as the Cathance. The over 300 acres of fields and forest are owned by the state and managed by the Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife [IF&W]. Participants should be prepared to walk about ¾ mile to the water.

The last FOMB Outing of the season on Saturday September 13th from 11-1pm will be a Paddle to Bird Island led by Anne Hammond departing from Butler Cove in North Bath.

Merrymeeting Bay, at the junction of 6 rivers drains nearly 40% of Maine and is recognized as an internationally significant resource for its migratory waterfowl, anadromous fish populations including sturgeon and salmon, as well as its bald eagles and rare plants. Friends of Merrymeeting Bay works to protect and improve the Bay through land protection, education, research and advocacy. For more information on FOMB programs, contact Executive Coordinator Misty Gorski at 582-5608 or fomb@gwi.net . The complete Outside schedule and lots more, may be seen at www.friendsofmerrymeetingbay.org

2008 Senator George J. Mitchell Lecture on the Environment

Thursday, September 18th at 1pm
Hauck Auditorium, University of Maine, Orono

The 2008 Mitchell Lecture on the Environment is entitled "The Environmental Crisis as a Moral and Spiritual Challenge". The lecture will be delivered by Mary Evelyn Tucker, a senior lecturer at Yale University. Ms. Tucker is one of the world's leading experts on the role of religion and

religious movements in confronting the growing environmental crisis. Senator Mitchell will provide remarks.

This event is free and open to the public. Tickets are required and can be reserved by calling 207/581-3244.

A reception with refreshments will follow and all are welcome to attend.

Additional information is available at:

<http://www.umaine.edu/waterresearch/>

INTERNSHIPS/RESEARCH

NSF research—Climate change impacts on Arctic ecosystems

Phil Camill, ES Director (Environmental Studies and Biology) is currently funded by the National Science Foundation to examine the effects of climate change on Arctic ecosystems in Canada. He is in the process of examining wetland sediments to measure carbon accumulation rates and reconstruct past fire dynamics in high-latitude ecosystems over the past 8,000 years to see how these processes change with past climate change. If you are interested in working in Phil's lab this year (and possibly beyond) as an independent study or honors student, feel free to contact him. Students will learn research techniques and will have the opportunity to coauthor presentations at national meetings and papers in scientific journals. During the summer of 2009, Phil will return to the Canadian Arctic for three weeks of research, and there will be an opportunity for a student to travel on this program. Any questions? Please contact Phil at pcamill@bowdoin.edu.

Energy Internships – Maine Department of Environmental Protection

The Maine Green Schools –is a program to bring greater awareness to Maine schools and communities around the topics of climate change and clean air. DEP will be hiring 2-3 interns whose role will be to build the capacity of the participating organizations and schools by connecting the schools to resources to meet community needs. The projects will address air quality/energy efficiency related issues of concern and actually engages school administrators, building managers, teachers and students in doing Basic Energy Assessments at their schools and in selected homes. The Interns will be asked to facilitate school and community awareness as well as service learning projects with local school teams.

Possible duties include: Making presentations on the Carbon Footprint 2% Solution to challenge students to take certain actions to reduce carbon emissions by 2 percent annually. The presentation is followed with the introduction of the audit kit tools; Working with teacher to support students investigations and facilitating students' efforts to engage the community in awareness and action by documenting their findings/experiences and then create an information campaign for a target audience in the community

This is a one-two semester time commitment of a minimum of 50 hours of service to be paid a \$500 scholarship cash stipend at end of service terms along with any approved travel expenditures for required trips >25 miles. The Intern(s) will be assigned a list of tasks and deliverables to be completed over the duration of the service term. Many of the tasks will be independently scheduled while work assisting a teacher or school or community team will need to be coordinated to meet the needs of the partners the Intern is assigned to assist. This should average about 3 hours of service per week over the course of a semester.

For more information or to apply, contact Eileen Johnson at ejohnson@bowdoin.edu

Internship – Alternative Energy project

Midnight Oil Company is a privately held Fuel Distribution and Service Company located in Newcastle Maine. Beginning in the spring of 2008 we have begun to market Geothermal and solar solutions to our customers as a reasonable alternative to using fossil fuels. We also have built a working “lab” of Geothermal systems that encompass many variables including “open” and “closed” loop wells, and various heat distribution methods (Air, radiant heat). We are considering further advancements in the lab including DX wells. All of this technology is working and in fact heats and cools our facility.

Our objective this winter is to meter our various permutations of Geothermal solutions to demonstrate costs of operation vs. heat production to make a case for our customers to invest in this new technology. To do this we intend to develop scenarios over time and capture kilowatts used vs. heat output, degree days and various other factors. We have made a preliminary selection of a software/hardware tool which we would acquire that would capture and model this data.

Our secondary objective will be to use this data to support financial models to demonstrate the advantage of capital investment (Geothermal Home System) vs. consumption of a post tax commodity (Fossil Fuel).

The appropriate student would have an interest in alternative energy, and a desire to measure practical application of Geothermal Energy in our lab. The student would be expected to build and execute a project plan that includes the following milestones:

1. Select the tools (software and hardware) from a short list and install or assist in the installation of the same.
2. Establish test cases and work with our technicians to set the equipment to run as desired (e.g. A home running radiant heat for 1 month using a heat pump on an “open loop” well).
3. Collect and incorporate other data points (e.g. degree days).
4. Model, test, and report the output.

This program could begin in early September and continue through the winter. Compensation would be negotiated. Hours are flexible so long as they are incorporated into a working project plan.

Contact: Eileen Johnson at ejohnson@bowdoin.edu

Conservation Finance Forum

The Conservation Finance Forum is pleased to announce the Conservation Capital in the Americas Conference and Student Competition. This is a great opportunity to participate in an international conference. Funds are available for a Bowdoin student to attend this conference in Chile.

The Conservation Capital in the Americas Conference will be held January 17 through 19, 2009, in Valdivia, Chile, and will explore some of the most effective practices and promising innovations in the field of conservation finance. Approximately 100 invited conservation

practitioners, educators and students from North, Central, and South America will participate. The conference includes a student competition to identify, assemble, and support emerging leaders in conservation finance. Students selected on the basis of essays on conservation finance will be awarded the funded opportunity to attend the conference.

To access the competition application information, please visit the Forum website: `

<http://www.conservationfinanceforum.org/competition.html>

Applications will be accepted September 2 through October 20, 2008. For further inquiries please contact:

- Jim Levitt at James_Levitt@harvard.edu
- Elizabeth Reardon at studentcompetition@conservationfinanceforum.org

Climate change and the future of the Northern Forest

Northern Forest Alliance 2008 Climate Change Conference

November 1 and 2, 2008; day long events

Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire

Note: Registration and lodging are at no cost to Bowdoin students

Who should attend this conference?

- Undergraduate students concerned about the impacts of climate change on the Northern Forest.

Why should you attend?

- Learn from experts in the field
- Develop the best emission reduction options for your campus
- Take action to enhance the future of the Northern Forest
- Contact Shelly Martin to register at smartin@nfainfo.org or at 802.253.8227 ext. 13

Visit the website at www.northernforestalliance.org).

Maine Environmental News Volunteer opportunity

Maine Environmental News is looking for student volunteers to help update this webpage by posting articles in the area of contemporary environmental issues.

If you would like to find out more and become involved, contact Eileen Johnson at ejohnson@bowdoin.edu.

Link for Maine Environmental News: www.maineenvironews.com

***For Previous Newsletters, Please Visit** <http://www.bowdoin.edu/environmental-studies/resources/newsletter.shtml>