

The Fierce Green Fire

A Newsletter of the Wofford College Environmental Studies Program

Some of our ENVS seniors along with Dr. Telligman, Dr. Brewitt, and Prof. Lane joined Drs. George and Anne Tyson at their longleaf pine plantation over the weekend.

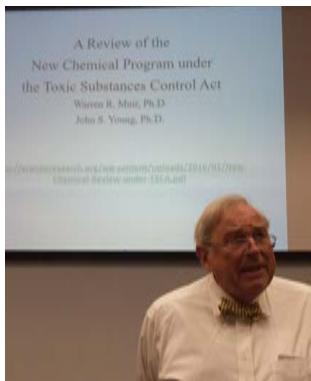


Volume 7, Issue 20

Visit to Tysons' Blackwater Pines Plantation by Porter Crockard



Professor Lane takes notes as Garrett Closs and Sarah Madden measure the plot of land that will be used to observe future changes in the long leaf ecosystem at Blackwater Pines Plantation in Dillon, SC.



Dr. Warren Muir spoke with the ENVS and Chemistry departments about the Toxic Substances Control Act on Tuesday, March 28.

Early Saturday morning, some of our ENVS Senior Seminar class, taught by Professor Lane, loaded up the van and hit the road to Dillon County, South Carolina to meet Dr. George Tyson, '72 at his long leaf pine plantation. Dr. Tyson has graciously invited students to his residence along the Little Pee Dee River each spring following the Tyson Family Lecture Series for a weekend retreat of hands-on learning in the field.

After a presentation on the history of long leaf pine management in the South, we toured different tracts of the 1600-acre property and observed stands of pine that ranged from newly planted seedlings to mature, 35-year-old trees. Remaining loyal to our beloved "three legged stool" model, our discussion not only focused on the science behind long leaf forests and prescribed burns, but also circled back to the economics of tree farming. Professor Lane even discovered his inner John Denver while writing his own folk rendition called "Dillon County High."

In the afternoon, we moved to a tract that had recently been clear-cut and poisoned and got to work on our primary objective for the trip. With the help of Dr. Tyson and our professors, we measured

and marked a plot measuring 125 x 88 meters. Once the plot was established, we noted and photographed the plant species found along two parallel transects. Classes will continue to use this plot, and another that we marked the next morning, to observe changes in a long leaf ecosystem after a disturbance. Continuing to study the transects will be important in the years to come, and the two plots will serve as an outdoor classroom for new studies and ideas to be explored.

After our day in the field, the Tysons welcomed us into their home with a truly generous display of hospitality. We gobbled down delicious, homemade gumbo as we watched the sun dip behind the cypress trees of the Little Pee Dee River. Our department and students are immensely fortunate to have the Tysons actively involved and engaged in our program, selflessly sharing both their resources and time. As a graduating senior, I look forward to following the studies that will take place on the two plots in the future and have little doubt that the Tysons will continue to play a pivotal role in the academic careers of environmental studies majors.

Congratulations to our ENVS students honored as winners in the Helmust Writing & Photography Contest! Poetry - 3rd place winner: Riley Garrison; Photography - 1st place winner: Porter Crockard.



Upcoming Events and Opportunities

April 3rd-7th

Happy Spring Break!

April 10th

Application Deadline for Land Trust of Central North Carolina Summer Internship: NC residents are encouraged to apply for this 11-week paid internship (no housing included) that runs mid-May to mid-August. Send cover letter and resume to Wofford alum Sam Parrott '15, sam@landtrustnc.org and see link <http://landtrustnc.org/about-us/job-opportunities/> for more information.

April 22nd

9:00am

Spartanburg March for Science: Starts at Bethel United Methodist Church (245 Church St - parking in Henry St. lot). The march will follow sidewalks on Henry Street to the Spartanburg Earth Day Festival at the Unitarian Universalist Church.



April 22nd

10:00am-4:00pm

Spartanburg Earth Day Festival and Spartanburg Soaring: The Unitarian Universalist Church and Chapman Cultural Center will host these two events on Earth Day 2017. The Earth Day Festival will have vendors, informative booths, music, and family-friendly activities (210 Henry Place). A walkable scavenger hunt will connect this event with the Chapman Cultural Center's International Kite Festival happening blocks away.



April 22nd

10:00am-3:00pm

Discover Your Watershed at Lyman Lake Lodge: Paddle, play, and learn about the Tyger River Watershed. This family event is designed to raise awareness about the importance of safeguarding our water resources for future generations. Register and receive a free lunch: http://www.uscupstate.edu/academics/arts_sciences/wec/Default.aspx?id=47067

PROFILE OF THE WEEK:

Bard College – Bard Center for Environmental Policy

Bard College, a private liberal arts college, is located on the shore of the Hudson River, which is just north of New York City. The Bard Center for Environmental Policy (Bard CEP) was founded in 1999 and the graduate program was launched in 2001.

Today, Bard CEP offers a MS in Environmental Policy and a MS in Climate Science and Policy.

The Peace Corps Master's International Program also provides the opportunity to incorporate the Peace Corps service with a master's degree.

A joint program with Pace Law School, one of the nation's top five environmental law programs, provides a MS degree, in environmental policy or climate science and policy, and a JD with a certificate in environmental law. Two other dual degrees are offered. The MS/MAT is for students seeking advanced knowledge in environmental policy and certification in secondary education and the MS/MBA is for students developing careers that combine the skills needed in both policy and business. <http://www.bard.edu/cep/>