

The Fierce Green Fire

A Newsletter of the Wofford College Environmental Studies Program

Students in ENVS 332, Hydrology & Water Resources, visited the Lockhart Power Plant for lab last week. The mechanism shown on the left collects debris and keeps it from entering the turbines.



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Living-Learning Community Students Visit Earthaven



LLC students gathered in front of Earthaven Council Hall, the community's main meeting area, which features a green roof.

This weekend Dr. Amy Telligman's LLC class (ENVS 150) traveled to Earthaven Ecovillage, located on 329 acres of forested land just outside of Black Mountain, North Carolina. The community was founded in 1994 with the goal of developing a human-scale settlement in which human activities are harmlessly integrated into the natural world. Today the community is home to about 150 individuals on 56 different home sites.

The following are excerpts from the students' reflections on their experiences at Earthaven:

~Our trip to Earthaven Ecolodge was a totally unique experience. The way the members of the community came together for a common goal – sustainability – was inspiring.

~Through solar and hydroelectric power, these people live completely off the grid. The neighborhoods in

the community were carefully planned with all of the houses situated to capture solar energy. The housing also incorporated other passive solar design principles including thoughtful positioning and sizing of windows and the use of concrete floors and countertops inside homes to absorb and slowly release heat.

~Other innovative ideas we experienced included the use of an intercommunity currency called "Leaps" used for volunteer hours. For every hour an individual volunteers in the community, they receive one Leap which is the equivalent of \$10.

~It was completely different from our lives on campus, while we simply stay informed about our practices, the Earthaven community members actually draw the line and make sacrifices to ensure their community's and the Earth's well-being.



LLC students observing passive solar design in practice.

Upcoming Events and Opportunities

- October 13th** *Application Deadline:* One Heart Source is currently accepting applications for our 2018 Experiential Learning Programs in Cape Town, South Africa for 2-week and 4-week volunteer programs and internships next summer. See Dr. Savage if you are interested in learning more. www.oneheartsource.org
- October 24th**
9:00am
Anna Todd Wofford Room
Opening Session for Wofford Culture of Sustainability Symposium: Join us for a discussion of the state of sustainability at Wofford.
- October 24th**
11:00am
Anna Todd Wofford Room
“What Can a Culture of Sustainability Look Like on a Small Liberal Arts College Campus?” Talks from 11 – 12 will be followed by lunch discussion, facilitated by speakers Jack Byrne, director of the sustainability integration office at Middlebury College, and Wes Dripps, director of the Shi Center and associate professor of earth and environmental sciences at Furman University. RSVP to Dr. Savage to be included for a catered lunch.
- October 24th**
4:00pm
Snyder House 1st floor
conference room (Annex)
Presentations by First Year LLC Students: Join us for Dr. Telligman’s Living-Learning Community as they present topics related to sustainability.
- October 25th**
11:00am-12:30pm
Anna Todd Wofford Room
Wofford Culture of Sustainability for faculty and staff: A listening and ideas session. Drop-in for a few minutes or stay the whole time and have a sandwich.
- October 25th**
2:00pm
Anna Todd Wofford Room
Wofford Culture of Sustainability for students: A listening and ideas session will be hosted for students to share their ideas about sustainability. Snacks provided.
- October 25th**
7:00pm
Olin 101
Milliken Sustainability and Public Health Lecture: Dr. Juan Declet-Barreto is a geographer specializing in vulnerability and human health outcomes of environmental hazards aggravated by climate change. He will speak on *Environmental and Social Science at the Policy-Research Interface*.
- October 30th**
7:00pm
Leonard Auditorium
Wofford Culture of Sustainability Symposium: Nathaniel Smith is director of partnerships of equitable development at Emory University’s Center for Community Partnerships and the founder of Partnership for Southern Equity. He will be here to speak on community sustainability.

PROFILE OF THE WEEK:

Ecosa Institute – Certificate & Semester Programs in Sustainable Design

Ecosa Institute in Prescott, Arizona offers a certificate program in Regenerative Ecological Design (RE-Design). These semester-long immersion programs are a break from the traditional design schools that offer the traditional design education. Their mission is “to restore health to the natural environment, and thus the human environment, through education in design.”

Students with design or non-design based undergraduate degrees are encouraged to apply. “Students who participate in our program are pioneers searching for significant learning and novel

ways of thinking.” This is a hands-on program that tackles real world issues and students produce sustainable design work in real life settings.

Ecosa Institute’s sustainable design semester programs can help to enhance design portfolios for applications to bachelors and master’s programs in architecture, urban planning, landscape architecture, and interior design.

If you are interested in learning more about these sustainable design programs, see the posted information on the ENVS bulletin board or visit www.ecosa.org.