

The Fierce Green Fire

A Newsletter of the Wofford College Environmental Studies Program

ENVS Alumni Chris Underwood '15, Savannah Paige Murray '15, Sarah Madden '17, Ben Thomas '16, and Madison Guyton '18 joined the 2019 ENVS seniors at the Goodall Center.



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ENVS Alums Give Post-Graduation Advice to Seniors

The ENVS450 Senior Seminar class enjoyed hearing from some of our recent graduates on Thursday afternoon at the Goodall Center. The alumni panel, representing different career paths in GIS/planning, the solar industry, graduate and law school, and public relations/equestrian sports marketing, answered questions and offered advice to students about setting career goals. They also talked about how they use their background in environmental studies in their work after college. Each continues to apply lessons from the ENVS's 3-legged stool (humanities, science, social science) in their day-to-day work. The 3-legged

stool principle of ENVS has ultimately prepared them for their career paths by helping them navigate complex problems, work with a variety of people and perspectives, and practice sustainability principles.

Students reflect on how the alumni perspectives will help them prepare for graduation:

I enjoyed learning about the wide-range of career paths that the alumni have taken since graduating from Wofford with an Environmental Studies degree. ~Jordan Lawson

My greatest take away was that it's ok not to know what I'm doing immediately after graduation. Everything will work itself out with time. ~Eli Stilwell



Students in ENVS151 suit up to conduct a campus waste audit. They collected and sorted the waste and recycling from Great Oaks Hall and other campus locations in order to estimate rates of contamination of recyclables with regular trash.



ENVS Alumni panel (l to r): Chris Underwood, solar industry sales/SURVIVOR contestant; Ben Thomas, GIS/planning; Sarah Madden, PR/equestrian sports marketing; Madison Guyton, USC Law School; and Savannah Paige Murray, PhD student in Rhetoric and Writing at Virginia Tech.

Upcoming Events and Opportunities

**These count toward your two required extracurricular events for the semester.*

March 20th
7:00pm
Olin 101

GC Waldrep – Wofford Writers Series*: Poet, historian, [Bucknell Professor of English](#), Acting Director of the Stadler Center for Poetry & Literary Arts, and Editor of West Branch, will visit Wofford for a public reading. He will also be visiting classes and staying at the TLAR house in Glendale and reflecting on the landscape while he is there.

March 21st
7:00pm
Rosalind S Richardson
Center for the Arts

Gallery Talk by Dawn Williams Boyd*: Join us for a talk by the artists on her quilt exhibition, *Scraps from My Mother's Table*. Reception to follow.

March 23rd
9:00am-2:00pm
Spartanburg County Admin
Building, 366 N. Church Street

11th Annual Spartanburg County Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day: Recycle Spartanburg will host a hazardous waste collection day for all Spartanburg County residents. Please visit [Recycle Spartanburg](#) for a list of acceptable and unacceptable items. Rain barrels available for purchase too.

April 15th
Application Deadline

Summer 2019 Research Experience for Undergraduates: The University of Iowa will host a [National Science Foundation Research Experience for Undergraduates](#) (NSF-REU) in Geography and Spatial Sciences. A 10-week summer program (May20-July26) will explore human-environment interactions. Participants will receive a stipend and housing in UI residence halls.

April 20th
9:00am-11:00am
Spartan High Tennis
Court parking lot

Spartanburg Area Conservancy Cottonwood Stream Cleanup: Join SPACE for a cleanup day at the Cottonwood Trail. [Sign up here](#) and wear closed-toe shoes, gloves, and clothes that can get wet.

April 30th
Application Deadline

The Goat Island Boat Club Merit Scholarship Program: The one-year scholarship will be awarded in the amount of \$2000. Eligible student must be from South Carolina enrolled in an institution of higher learning in the state of South Carolina studying marine biology, forestry, fisheries, wildlife management, or other related field focused on environmental protection of the Santee Cooper lakes and river systems. Stop by Wofford Office of Financial Aid to pick up an application.

Ongoing

Shoals Marine Laboratory – Climate Change and the Gulf of Maine: [One-week summer course](#) (June24-July1) is hands-on field research examining alterations to marine environment due to global climatic changes. Financial aid is available.

PROFILE OF THE WEEK:

Goddard College – MA in Social Innovation and Sustainability

Goddard College in Plainfield, Vermont offers a [MA in Social Innovation and Sustainability](#) that is a self-designed, interdisciplinary degree focusing on innovation and sustainability at the community level. The 48-credit Master of Arts program gives students a choice to focus on social innovation or sustainability or a combination of the two “to explore innovations that specifically contribute to promoting and advancing more sustainable and viable ways of living.”

The campus is committed to sustainable practices and in 2007 signed the *American Colleges and University Presidents' Climate Commitment* to be carbon neutral by 2020. Their efforts include reducing campus energy costs with solar energy, using food grown in the campus garden and locally, reducing waste by composting and recycling, and creating ride-share programs and providing campus bikes for student and employees.