Winter 2005

Huxley Horizon, 2005, Winter

Huxley College of the Environment, Western Washington University

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Dean Smith Joins Governor Locke in Signing of Executive Order

SEATTLE - October 20, 2004 - Governor Gary Locke signed the Executive Order directing state agencies to adopt more environmentally friendly practices and called for more aggressive actions to combat global warming.

The Executive Order states that all new state buildings be built to green building standards and that those over 25,000 square feet be certified to a Silver Rating in the rating system established by the U.S. Green Building Council. It also directs agencies to reduce petroleum use throughout state fleets by 20 percent in five years and directs an additional 10 percent reduction of energy use by state facilities on top of the 10 percent ordered in 2001 by Locke. Additionally, it orders a 30 percent reduction in paper use and an increase in purchases of paper with higher recycled content.

"State government must continue to ensure that our investments in government facilities and operations provide long-term social, economic and environmental benefit," Locke said. "These actions will help both the environment and taxpayers."

Governor Locke also called for more action in the state to combat global warming. Locke has joined with Governor Kulongoski of Oregon and Governor Schwarzenegger of California in the West Coast Governors' Global Warming Initiative. The three governors are currently reviewing the staff report prepared on the initiative.

Panel Members (l to r): Steve Nicholas, Director, Mayor's Office of Sustainability (Seattle); Governor Gary Locke; Andrea Ramage, CH2M HILL (and Huxley Associate Board member); Huxley Dean Brad Smith.

Western Foundation will be conducting its annual Huxley Phonathon on February 1. Donations derived through the Phonathon are a great way for Alumni to support Huxley's good work.
Message from the Dean ... Brad Smith

One thing is a given for those of us who work in the environmental arena and that is -- it is an ever-changing arena. A continuing challenge for the faculty and staff at Huxley is the question of how well we are preparing our graduates for the environmental workforce. In order to help address that challenge this year, Huxley established the Huxley College Associates Board (HCAB). While the final makeup of the HCAB is still to be determined, we are extremely pleased that eight professionals have volunteered their time and talent in order to serve Huxley. The current HCAB is listed below. It is our goal to complete the membership to twelve members this year. The diversity of the HCAB is an important aspect of its organization. Not only do we want cultural and ethnic diversity, we are also seeking professional diversity. Alumni surveys of Huxley graduates show that they are employed in virtually all sectors of the economy. It is therefore important to have multiple sectors represented on the board. In addition, we are seeking a blend of Huxley alumni and those with other higher education backgrounds.

While the HCAB will help in preparing students for the broad environmental workforce, we are also looking forward to other benefits to the college ranging from internship opportunities, networking, and assistance in fund raising. I want to personally thank those who have joined the HCAB and are taking the time from their busy schedules to help ensure that Huxley College graduates continue to be leaders in their fields. Beginning in this edition of the Huxley Horizon we will profile a member of the HCAB each year. We begin with a profile of board member Lincoln Rutter. As always I welcome your comments and suggestions. Please give me a call at 360-650-3521 or drop me a note at brad.smith@wwu.edu.

Huxley College Associates Board (HCAB) Membership
Molly Adolfsen, President, Adolfsen Associates, Inc. (alumni)
Jim Darling, Executive Director, Port of Bellingham
Brenna Davis, Environmental Specialist, Tesoro Petroleum Refining & Marketing (alumni)
Steve Hulbert, Owner, Hulbert Auto Park
Mike McDowell, Director, Natural Resource Services, MCS Environmental, Inc. (alumni)
Andrea Ramage, CH2MHILL
Lincoln Rutter, Investor
Sandra Davis, Managing Partner, ECO Resource Group (alumni)

Huxley College Associates Board Member ~ Lincoln Rutter

I had an interest in a small airline that did privately for banks what FedEx does for the general public. Our company was very much a “niche” player specializing in the field of transporting canceled bank checks very rapidly using Lear Jets. We built a dominant national position and ultimately went public becoming one of the smallest firms ever listed on the New York Stock Exchange. I retired to pursue other interests in 1997, and found Semiahmoo to be the most spectacularly beautiful place we might have found to live.

I was drawn to the Huxley Associates Board because I am convinced that only the young can save America from what we are becoming. I believe that idealism is the natural province of youth. I was thoroughly impressed by Lynn Robbins’ class and the Environmental Impact Analysis that they did of the Semiahmoo Spit real estate development plan. I hope that Brad Smith and I might lead a few more students off the campus and into the community to help cities like Blaine and Birch Bay realize that what is really important in life is its sustainability. I still remember the 60’s when college kids really marched in the streets and I frankly cannot understand why the $450 billion dollar Federal budget deficit, which amounts to an overt theft of the younger generation’s future, did not bring more students out to the polls recently. I sincerely hope that many Huxley students will take the opportunity to come out and harvest oysters on the Drayton Harbor tideflats with Geoff Menzie and me so we can talk about politics, economics, and the need for sustainable agriculture.
WWU Student Technology Fees Provide Upgrades to Huxley’s Map Library and Spatial Analysis Lab

Students at colleges and universities in the State of Washington pay a Student Technology Fee each quarter. At WWU, this fee is supplemented annually by $150,000 from the University and on a project-by-project basis. Western students vote on both the amount of the fees as well as how those fees are used.

Improvements in Spatial Analysis Lab

The funding allocated to upgrade the computers in the Spatial Analysis Lab in Arntzen Hall 16 included 23 new PCs (with increased memory, higher speed, and flat screen monitors), upgrades to eight of the older PCs (more memory and new flat screen monitors), and additional software (including the Adobe Suite).

Huxley faculty member Michael Medler and staff members Gene Hoerauf and Stefan Freelan took full advantage of the changes brought about by this funding to implement several other improvements. Huxley now has a second lab used for smaller classes and overflow when the main lab is full; in addition, the Planning Studio has additional workstations.

The Huxley Map Library is a recipient of a 2004-05 Student Technology Fee award. In combination with Huxley supplemental funds, the Map Library has received approval for $46,000 in funding for purchase of a 54” wide-format scanner, 42” wide-format printer, slide scanner, 11x17 color laser jet printer, and five new top-of-the line computers. Huxley’s Map Library remains a facility that serves both the campus and community.

Huxley Map Library Endowment

Map Librarian Janet Collins would like to express her appreciation to all who donated funds to the recently created Huxley Map Library Endowment. Once funds reach $20,000, the account will become self-sustaining and provide $1,000 per year for Map Library expenditures. Janet Collins notes, “The best part of this process has been receiving letters from you and catching up on ‘years gone by,’ whether several years or twenty-five!” She expresses her thanks and best wishes to each of you.

For those of you who might be interested in donating, please make your check payable to the Western Washington University Foundation, include “Huxley Map Library Endowment” in the memo line on the check, and send it to Western Washington University Foundation, Attention: Amanda Haralson, Director, MS 9034, Bellingham, WA 98225-9034. If you want to include a pledge, please let Amanda know. You may also contribute online at http://www.applyweb.com/public/contribute?wfwwu. Be sure to indicate that the gift is for the Huxley Map Library Endowment Fund. Thanks!
L.E.A.D.
Learning Environment Action Discovery

The joint efforts of Huxley College of the Environment and Woodring College of Education in supporting the student-directed L.E.A.D. program provide many hours of volunteer labor to local communities. More than 1,500 volunteer hours were donated in the 2003-04 academic year.

The program links Western Washington University, Whatcom County schools, environmental organizations and government agencies to encourage community based environmental restoration, education and service learning for the benefit of our community.

The vision of the L.E.A.D. program is to create community environmental service learning projects through partnerships between the Bellingham community, Western Washington University students, and the Bellingham School District.

Students who coordinate the program see themselves as the liaison between Huxley students who want to get involved and the community agencies who need volunteers to work at environmental tasks such as removing invading species, planting native species, and trash removal.

Huxley Faculty

Huxley faculty continue to be diverse in their interests and research, prolific in their publications, and involved with their community and students. Visit http://www.ac.wwu.edu/~huxley/facstaffdirectory.html for more information about our Faculty as well as a listing of Adjunct and Affiliated Faculty.

Department of Environmental Sciences

Brian L. Bingham, Associate Professor
Marine science courses and a graduate course in experimental design; administers National Science Foundation-funded Minorities in Marine Science Undergraduate Program (MIMSUP)

Leo Bodensteiner, Associate Professor
Lecture, lab, and field courses in ecology, including fundamentals, limnology, stream habitat assessment, and fisheries management, the Huxley core course, and environmental impact assessment

Devon Cancilla, Associate Professor in Huxley and Director, Scientific Technical Services, College of Science and Technology
Environmental toxicology, environmental chemistry, and environmental disturbances

John T. (Jack) Hardy, Professor, Retired
Oceans, aquatic toxicology, global environmental/climate change, effects of human-induced disturbances

Department of Environmental Studies

Andrew Bach, Associate Professor
Geography courses, including map reading and climatology

Gigi Berardi, Department Chair and Professor
Human ecology, research and writing methods in geography, natural resources management, and agroecology and sustainable development

Andrew Bodman, Provost and V.P. for Academic Affairs, and Professor of Geography

Patrick Buckley, Associate Professor
Human geography, natural resources management, geographic information systems, planning process, transportation planning, third world, and world affairs

Rabel J. Burdge, Visiting Professor, Department of Sociology and Huxley College. Professor Emeritus from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Environmental sociology and social impact assessment
Huxley Faculty - continued

Department of Environmental Sciences (continued)

on marine and freshwater environments; assessing
the health of coral reefs using remote sensing; sea­
surface microlayer contamination and toxicity; and
greenhouse warming

Ruth M. Harper-Arabie, Assistant Professor
Environmental toxicology and environmental
chemistry, contaminant movement in the environment

Peter Homann, Associate Professor
Terrestrial biogeochemistry, environmental systems,
water quality, and biostatistical analysis

Wayne G. Landis, Department Chair, Professor, and
Director, Institute of Environmental Toxicology
& Chemistry
Environmental toxicology and risk assessment

Robin Matthews, Professor and Director of Institute
for Watershed Studies
Stream ecology, environmental pollution, aquatic
toxicology, and statistical ecology

John McLaughlin, Associate Professor
Fundamentals of ecology, population biology,
conservation of biological diversity, field methods in
vertebrate ecology, and biostatistical analysis

John Rybczyk, Assistant Professor
Wetlands ecology, estuarine ecology, and the core
course

David Harris Shull, Assistant Professor
Explorations in environmental studies, oceanography

David Wallin, Associate Professor
Fundamentals of ecology, terrestrial ecology, landscape
ecology, and use of remote sensing in ecology

Dr. Pongsak Noophan is a visiting faculty scholar
at Huxley College. He is an assistant professor in the
Department of Environmental Science at Silpakorn
University in Nakorn Pathom, Thailand, with
expertise in water pollution control and technology. At
Huxley College, Dr. Noophan is working collaboratively with
Dr. Ruth Harper-Arabie to assess the
toxicity of a new type of proposed wastewater
treatment.

Department of Environmental Studies (continued)

Michael Johns Medler, Assistant Professor
GIS, analysis of spatial data, cartography, graduate
coloum

Jean Melious, Associate Professor
Land use law, environmental law, dispute resolution, and
various environmental policy courses

Gene Myers, Associate Professor
Environmental education, community-based
environmental education, conservation psychology,
graduate environmental education courses, and offerings
in the core, including social science and humanities
perspectives

John Miles, Professor
Environmental history, ethics, nature writing, and
environmental education

Debnath Mookherjee, Professor
Systematic and regional fields of geography including
urban and economic geography, regional development,
spatial analysis of environmental problems, the
developing world, and Asian geography

Lynn Robbins, Professor
Environmental impact assessment, U.S. environmental
policy, U.S. & WA reg, human ecology

Brad Smith, Dean and Professor, Natural Resources
Management

Tom Terich, Professor
Physical and human geography along with natural
hazards, geomorphology, and geography of the U.S.

Wendy Walker, Visiting Assistant Professor
Environmental education, interpretation, curriculum and
outdoor education

Grace Wang, Assistant Professor
Core, natural resource policy, public land policy

Nicholas Zaferatos, Assistant Professor
Urban and environmental planning; sustainable
community development; planning theory, history, and
methods; planning studio classes; and Native American
community development

Huxley College is hosting Visiting
Scholar Dr. Masato Kameda from
Japan during Fall and Winter Quarters
2004-05. His family has joined him in
Bellingham.
Graduate Student Steve Rybolt Applies Knowledge to Real-World Projects

After receiving a degree in Economics with a combined major in Environmental Studies/Economics at Western Washington University, Steve Rybolt is now in his second year of graduate school at Huxley. His studies for the MS degree in Geography focus on resource management and environmental policy. Steve is currently working as a Huxley Research Assistant with the North Sound Connecting Communities Project (NSCCP), focusing on cross-county commute patterns in the North Puget Sound. This research will be presented to the state legislature later this year as a funding proposal to institute an inter-county transit system for the North Puget Sound. Steve’s primary research focus is on transboundary air quality management, specifically the relationship between Canada and the United States; he also works with the Northwest Clean Air Agency. Steve is a member of the Air and Waste Management Association, an international environmental organization, and is forming a student chapter at Western Washington University. He also won first place for his presentation at the recent PNWIS Conference in Portland, Oregon (see related article, page 13).

Steve Rybolt traveled to Shanghai and Beijing, China, in 2004 as part of class trip with Dean Brad Smith.

New Course in Transportation & Sustainability:
Policy, Planning & Cultural Considerations - Fall 2004

Various modes of transportation are often taken for granted in everyday life. Yet all methods of transportation have impacts upon our daily lives, and on the environment. This course examines transportation in the context of environmental sustainability. A comparative perspective is presented contrasting transportation planning, policy, and performance in the U.S. with Canada and others. Current issues ranging from climate change to the relationship between fitness, health, and transportation will also be explored.

The Class Instructor is Dr. Preston Schiller, who has a background in social sciences and public health and an interest in environmental dimensions of transportation and urban planning. Dr. Schiller holds a doctorate in Sociology from Washington University (St. Louis) and has taught and conducted research at the School of Public Health of the University of North Carolina, among others. He has been involved in State advisory, planning, and regulatory boards, as well as advocacy with the 1990 Clean Air Act Amendments and the Federal transportation bills of 1991 and 1998. Receptions on transportation issues with community members have been held at the Whatcom Museum of Art.

WWU FOUNDATION

Huxley College benefits from its association with the WWU Foundation. Director of Development for Huxley College Amanda Haralson works closely with Huxley Dean Brad Smith and College members to build relationships with alumni and with businesses and agencies that employ Huxley graduates. Amanda Haralson can be reached by phone at 360-650-6542, by email at Amanda.Haralson@wwu.edu, or by mail at the Western Washington University Foundation, 516 High Street, MS 9034, Bellingham, WA 98225-9034.
Agroecology and Sustainable Agriculture Course Fits Huxley Sustainability Initiatives

Agroecology and Sustainable Agriculture is a popular elective serving Huxley, biology/botany, and Fairhaven students. The course illustrates the multi-faceted aspects of the science of agroecology and sustainable development. Students are excited about the combination of both classroom and fieldwork experience gained in this course.

Professor Gigi Berardi, who began her studies in agronomy and agroecology as a graduate student at Cornell University, is planning several initiatives in agroforestry and agroecology that involve students and staff. Her articles in agroecology have appeared in BioScience, Biological Agriculture and Horticulture, Agriculture, Ecosystems and Environment, and Agro-Ecosystems. She has been on the editorial board of Biological Agriculture and Horticulture since the journal’s inception 20 years ago. What does she enjoy most about teaching agriculture in the Pacific Northwest? Says Berardi: “The different physical environments are challenging for students trying to design sustainable living situations – agroecology is thus a great learning tool for resource management and stewardship.”

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<th>Huxley Student Enrollment: Comparisons</th>
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<td>Fall 2004</td>
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<td>Fall 2003</td>
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Studies Offered in Greece: Sustainable Community Development

A unique program, sponsored by Huxley College, Western Washington University, in cooperation with AHA International, an Academic Program of the University of Oregon, will offer studies on the Ionian Island of Kefalonia, Greece, for Fall and Spring Quarters, 2005-06.

This multi-disciplinary, applied-studies curriculum targets upper division undergraduate and graduate students in the fields of sustainable design and urban planning, environmental studies, landscape design and architecture, natural resources management, community development, social anthropology, and sustainable economic development.

The program emphasizes applied studies, and students work in a local community of Blue Village to develop sustainable redevelopment plans for the reconstruction of this village that fell during the 1953 earthquake. Students will work on the reconstruction of this idyllic village by developing plans for redevelopment that are sustainable in applying best management practices and energy systems while preserving the historic design and customary uses of this historic community.
Huxley student Colin Shanley has his sights on a Bachelor of Science degree at Huxley, which he expects to receive in March 2005. Following graduation, he assures his parents he’ll “figure out one way or another” how to combine his passion for the wilderness, exploration of fine arts, and his upcoming Bachelor of Science degree.

Colin began his academic studies by receiving a Multicultural Scholarship from WWU. “As much as I loved the arts,” Colin says, “I wanted to know more facts, and I wanted my voice to be clearer, so I took some classes in science and journalism.” Colin’s work with Western’s Outdoor Center led him to environmental education, which he now believes “is the answer to solving most of the world’s problems.”

During Colin’s academic studies, his writing and photography earned him several awards: the Mary Davis Gilles Johnston Endowment for Art Scholarship for independent studies in outdoor photography, the Gary Gray Memorial Scholarship for Environmental Photojournalism for three consecutive years, and the Outdoor Writers Association of America Bodie McDowell Scholarship for outstanding talent. Colin’s work has included an Alaska Conservation Foundation grant to work with the Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies as a Naturalist and Field Assistant intern in Homer, Alaska. While there, his major responsibility was teaching; he also helped conduct a den survey of the Giant Pacific Octopus, illustrated a wild edible berries brochure, and wrote a story for the local radio station! Colin spent last summer as a Field Technician on a Cascade Mountain Goat research project, headed by WWU and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Thanks to the more than 240 Huxley alumni who contributed over $15,000 in 2003-04.

It’s time again for the 2004-05 Huxley Phonathon. This year we hope to raise $17,000 through our phonathon to provide even more opportunities for students and faculty in the classroom and field, and to fund additional scholarships for our talented students. In the coming weeks, a friendly Western student will call to ask you to join other Huxley College alumni in support of Western. We hope you’ll take a moment to listen to their important message and make a pledge. Your gift will provide resources and opportunities for students that truly enhance their Western experience. Dean Brad Smith has identified several key funding priorities for this year’s phonathon:

**Funding Priorities**

1. Graduate assistantships to attract and retain the best and the brightest graduate students
2. Huxley students to study internationally, as well as to assist foreign students in attending Huxley College
3. Undergraduate scholarships for outstanding undergraduate students
4. Assistance for college publications, such as the national award winning Huxley publication, *The Planet*

In addition to supporting these important programs, the phonathon is our most effective way to keep in touch with you to let you know about upcoming campus events. Thank you for taking a few moments to speak with the student who calls you.


**Huxley Staff**

Nancy Bonnickson, Scientific Instructional Technician Supervisor
Janet Collins, Map Librarian
Marilyn Desmul, Grants Administrator
Sally Elmore, Graduate Advisor
Stefan Freelan, GIS Specialist
Mike Hilles, Research Associate
Gene Hoerauf, GIS/Cartographer
Beverly Cruea, Chair’s Assistant
Kathy Johnson, Undergraduate Advisor
Teresa LaFreniere, Assistant to the Dean/Director of Special Programs
April Markiewicz, Assistant Director
Mary Moores, Huxley Registrar
Dorene Gould, Director’s Assistant
Joan Vandersypen, Lab Supervisor

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**New Assistant to the Chair in Environmental Studies**

*Beverly Cruea* began working at Huxley College in March 2004 after more than 19 years at Bellevue Community College. Two years ago, Bev and her husband built a home in Everson and enjoy gardening, keeping chickens and bees, and their rural life.

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**IETC Hires Secretary**

Prior to joining the staff of Huxley College in February 2004, *Dorene Gould* was employed as a member of the U.S. Senate staff, a residential real estate broker, a business paralegal, and in academic publishing. Dorene has a B.A. in Psychology and has always liked working with the public. She especially appreciates being part of Huxley’s friendly staff and seeing the energy and achievements of the first-rate students of Huxley College. Dorene spends vacation time sailing and motor boating in Washington and British Columbia, exploring the marine environment of our beautiful coastline, observing the wildlife, and making new friends along the way. Dorene, her husband, and the ship’s cat enjoy living aboard their 36 foot trawler at Squalicum Harbor in Bellingham.

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**Award Winning Huxley Students: 2003-04**

Outstanding Graduating Student awards were presented to *Alicia Marrs* (Environmental Studies) and *John Barone* (Environmental Sciences). The Presidential Scholar Award went to *Jayme Rios* (Environmental Education and Anthropology). *Christopher Moran* (Environmental Science) received the Dean’s Distinguished Student Award. Congratulations to all award recipients!

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**Spring Celebration of Huxley Graduates**

At the June 2004 Celebration of Huxley Graduates, Keynote Speaker Washington State Attorney General Christine Gregoire spoke about the important role of Huxley graduates in the State’s future. This annual celebration honors recent and prospective Huxley College graduates.
Alumni News

This alumni information was gathered from your Alumni Reply Forms and other correspondence with Huxley College; and includes only “news,” rather than a complete listing. If you have news you would like to share in future issues, please complete the Alumni Reply Form at the end of this newsletter and send it to us, or email us at HuxNews@cc.wwu.edu. We will happily print it in the next newsletter, space permitting.

Thanks,
Huxley Horizon Staff

Greg A. Bawden
Envr. Studies 1984
~ Lieutenant with King County Fire District 45 & member of Eastside Regional Haz Mat Team. Teaches hazardous materials safety classes. Elected to Riverview School Board in November 2003.

Rhonda Benally
Planning & Envr. Policy 1997
~ Community Planner, Department of Defense

Brian P. Bender
Geography 1998
~ Executive Director of the Clinton County, Indiana, Area Planning Commission.

Paul R. Ehnat, Jr.
Geography & Education 1969
M.Ed. Geography 1974
~ Retired high school teacher. Enjoying travel.

Stefan Freelan
MS Geography 2003
BA 1987 “Conscious Living in the Natural and Social Environment”
~ Specialist, Geographic Information Systems, Huxley College, Department of Environmental Studies, Western Washington University

Angela Freudenstein
Geography 1999
~ Washington State Department of Transportation. Environmental Permit Coordinator. Prepare and monitor environmental permit applications required by federal, state and local agencies and act as the primary contact and liaison with those agencies.

Harry Edward Grant
Envr. Policy & Adm. 1979
~ Principal, Riddell Williams (attorney). Environmental and natural resources attorney representing businesses, municipalities, and individuals in environmental projects ranging from toxic cleanups to river and habitat restoration.

Kelley Grier
Geography/Planning 1982
~ Senior Planner, Weber County Planning Commission. General/Master plans; zoning and subdivision ordinances; environmental hazards; planning commission training; public education.

Scholarships for Huxley Students
Aaron Edward Gastellum Memorial Scholarship (joint Honors/Huxley)
American Water Works Association, NW Washington Subsection
Bess Fosse Scholarship in Environmental Studies
Cecil William Westman Memorial Scholarship
Chuckanut District Garden Clubs Scholarship
Congressman Al Swift Scholarship
Cook Textbook Scholarship (Geography Majors Only)
Gary Gray Memorial Scholarship in Environmental Photography
Patrick L. Monahan Memorial Scholarship (Geography Majors Only)
Richard Brian Whitmire Memorial Scholarship
Trans Mountain Oil Pipeline Scholarship
Washington State Federation of Garden Clubs Scholarship

PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN HUXLEY COLLEGE AND BP CHERRY POINT REFINERY PROVIDES STUDENT INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Ryan Vasak graduated with a B.S. in Marine Biology in 1999. Now in graduate school at Huxley, Ryan will be working as an intern at BP Cherry Point Refinery. His work experience includes stream and salmon habitat restoration, wetland restoration, and invasive plant biology/ecology. He also works with the Department of Ecology, Whatcom County Noxious Weed Board, and the Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association.
Alumni News (continued)

Jane O. Howard  
MS Envir. Education/Art  
Education 1976  

Ian Jeffords  
Marine Resource Assessment & Planning 1981  
~ General Manager & Owner, Penn Cove Shellfish. Sustaining water quality for shellfish culture in the Puget Sound, fisheries management in the Methow Valley, maintaining private property water rights in the Methow Valley.

Alyssa Johnson  
Environ. Science 1997

Bob Kelly  
Environ. Education 1974  

Terri Kempton  
Environ. Science 1998  
~ Graduate fellow in the Conservation Biology and Sustainable Development program at the University of Maryland. After living in Nicaragua for two years, his academics are regionally focused: land-use changes in Central America due to the global coffee crisis. Developing conservation biology labs to use next year in an undergraduate class.

Michael Koenen  
Environ. Studies/Environ. Education 2001  
~ Dept. of Ecology, Washington Conservation Corps crew supervisor. Current projects include urban stream restoration in Bellingham, trail work in Glacier Peak Wilderness, and wildland firefighting.

Chuck Lennox  
Environ. Education 1983  
~ Self-employed, interpretive and environmental education with Cascade Interpretive Consulting. After 20 years returned to Huxley College as an instructor for ESTU 479, Methods in Environmental Interpretation.

Christine Matter  
Environ. Science 1998

April Markiewicz  
~ Assistant Director, Toxicologist II, Institute of Environmental Toxicology, Huxley College, Western Washington University

Vivian R. McNeil  
Geography 2000  
~ Washington state Parks and Recreation Commission, Park Ranger. Hiking, mountain biking, snowboarding, traveling

Lewis McCulloch  
Environ. Science 1998  
~ National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service. Presidential Management Fellow, Management and Program Analyst

Lyn Morgan-Hill  
Environmental Studies/Planning 1998  
~ Whatcom County Planning & Development, Natural Resources Specialist, interested in wetlands
Alumni News (continued)

Mike Poutiatine  
Envr. Education-Outdoor Education 1986  
~ Lecturer in Leadership, Gonzaga University; Ph.D. expected September 2004 in Educational Leadership. Teacher - renewal and development

Renee Ragsdale  
Envr. Science 2001  
~ National Council for Air and Stream Improvement, Research Assistant

Kevin Raymond  
Envr. Studies 1980  
~ Seattle Monorail Project, Government Relations Manager and WWU Board of Trustees member

Amy Roberts  
Envr. Planning & Policy 2001  
~ Nevada Tahoe Conservation District, Assistant Program Manager, Backyard Conservation Program

Robin Schoen-Nessa  
Envr. Health 1987  
~ Stay-at-home mom for two boys. Resigned from WA State Dept. of Agriculture in Fall 2000 as Policy Advisor for Pesticide Management Division on Endangered Species. Enjoying time at the ocean with her sons. Following local policy issues on coastal waterways, forestry, fisheries/wildlife, NOAA's NMFS Project off coast within the sanctuary.

Bich Trinh  
Envr. Education 2001  
~ Peace Corps, Nicaragua

Joan Vandersypen  
MS Envr. Science 1993  
~ Research Technologist Supervisor, Institute of Watershed Studies, Huxley College, Western Washington University

Barbara Voigt  
Envr. Studies 1997  
~ Edmonds School District, 5th Grade Teacher

Steve Wilson  
Envr. Science 1991  

Jeffrie S. Wise  
Urban/Reg. Planning 1988  
~ U.S. Postal Services, Coeur D'Alene, Idaho, Growth Management Manager. Managing all new growth, rural and city for USPS; future subdivision planning/delivery services

Huxley College Commended During Seattle Business Forum, April 2, 2004

Mike McGavik, President of Safeco Corporation (which employs 13,000 and ranks 260th on the Forbes 500 list) was the 2004 Seattle Business Forum Keynote Speaker. In his address, McGavik said, “Because people seek purpose, they know that when they do meaningful things, good things happen to them.... Here I will bow in the direction of Western and that is Huxley College of the Environment. Here in the Northwest we are blessed with a remarkable environment, and not only is it beautiful it’s astonishingly diverse. We can go from rainforest, to marine environments, to alpine environments, to high desert. This is remarkable; it’s rare to see that kind of concentration in one place. But for decades we have been mired in a deadly argument that’s false: people or environment; what nonsense. We know here how important this is and we can be one of the leading contributors to the world to save the world. That seems meaningful.”

McGavik further noted that the “Environment...has been locked in this sterile debate: jobs or a good environment. What gibberish....What we’ve needed to do is get past that argument and recognize that we are as one and we must find room for both....It’s time that debate was ended and we have the power to end it. The research being done at Huxley College is a big part of how we can get that done. It’s noticeable they’re [Huxley] configured to do both fundamental research on the environment and also public policy work. I commend the university for that approach.”
Student Barrett Gifford
Trekking Towards New Understanding

After studying photography at Montana State University, learning Spanish led Barrett Gifford to Latin America, then on to Asia and India, where she volunteered with environmental and social justice projects. Her interests then focused on sustainable development and environmental education issues and she learned about Huxley College. Barrett came to Huxley as a student in September 2003 and is now pursuing a student/faculty-designed degree titled, Sustainable Development and Intercultural Communication.

During her first year at Huxley, Barrett worked for the Whatcom Land Trust (WLT) studying cross cultural land ethics within the immigrant communities of Whatcom County’s agricultural area. The following quarter she went back “to the fields” to research farmer networks and the existing knowledge base regarding the use of genetically engineered crops. Both these experiences fostered a new interest in agriculture and land use issues and their relationship to culture, community, and environmental awareness.

Barrett recently completed an internship in Peru with Crooked Trails, an educational, community-based nonprofit travel organization. She trekked a portion of La Gran Ruta Inca working with indigenous communities as part of a pilot project for developing community-based and low-impact tourism. Barrett is developing a community building and service learning curriculum for a high school international travel program being led by Crooked Trails in the summer of 2005. After graduation, Barrett plans to focus on social and environmental issues related to development and globalization. She wants to apply her skills in advocacy and education both locally and internationally to develop awareness and inspire action for bridging sustainable communities.

Huxley Student Teams Win at PNWIS Conference

Several Huxley College students participated in the “University Student Environmental Challenge” at the Pacific Northwest International Section (PNWIS) of the Air and Waste Management Association Conference, held in Portland, Oregon, November 2004. The Challenge is designed as an interdisciplinary problem-solving competition, and students were required to propose a site design for a building that would house cloning laboratories and residential spaces. As part of the challenge, students had to incorporate air and waste management policy, zoning requirements, historical preservation, environmental remediation, pollution prevention technologies, and LEED design standards.

Huxley students made up two winning teams at the conference and received $1,500. The second place team included Steve Rybolt, Erin Moreland, Orion Polinsky, Patricia Roberts, and Jill Martin. Third place was won by the team of Laura Sellens, Becky Rowland, Chris Warner, and Andrew Saunders. Congratulations to all and a special “thank you” to the Huxley faculty who helped students prepare for this competition.
Huxley Faculty and Alumni Collaborate With Redwood National and State Parks, and Yurok Tribe

Lynn Robbins (Huxley College faculty), and David Sale and Sandra Davis (Huxley alumni and owners of ECO Resource Group; Sandra is also a member of the Associates Board), with support from Grace Wang (Huxley College faculty), are wrapping up a two-year collaboration with Redwood National and State Parks (RNSP) and the Yurok Tribe. Lynn Robbins says, “Our project is wonderful because it contributes to the Tribe’s role in managing landscapes in the Parks as their ancestors did before non-native peoples showed up.”

The project includes two unique components. RNSP is one of very few parks entirely contained within Native American ancestral lands, in this case the Yurok, Hupa, and Tolowa people. The Yurok Tribe, whose ancestral land has the greatest overlap with the Parks, is one of the few U.S. tribes who were never relocated, and thus disenfranchised, from their ancestral territory.

The project has included an ethnographic overview of traditional use of the parklands and in-depth interviews of more than 50 people involved in managing these lands at many levels, and from both cultures. Tribal uses of the lands were defined and an inventory was created of types of resources, the tribes’ cultural and spiritual uses of those resources, and traditional tribal management techniques. The project also included a review of 26 years of consultations between the National Park Service (NPS) and the park-associated Native American community to identify patterns in the issues addressed and to provide recommendations for improving relations between the Parks and the tribes. A major recurrent issue is collaboration regarding resource and land management. It’s important to the tribes to have the ability to fish and gather medicinal plants, roots, berries, basket material, and other resources in quantities sufficient to maintain their cultural continuity, something not currently allowed on NPS lands.

Sandra Davis says she was especially “touched by Lynn’s unique way of seeing what is going on and bringing it to life...having the words that so eloquently described that picture of reality.” In the view of David Sale, Lynn Robbins’ “eloquence is his passion and compassion for the people he is working with.” Both Davis and Sale appreciated Lynn Robbins’ unending curiosity throughout this project.

This project looks at customary and traditional use of the tribal lands, how the two cultures are formulating their relationship with each other, and what common ground can be found to provide the best possible management. The NPS brings a culture of technical and scientific management to the relationship, whereas the tribes’ culture is one of experience informed by science. The Yurok Tribe has a preeminent fisheries program that is at the forefront of Klamath River management.

David Sale says this project “seeks to weave a new common thread of what the NPS and the tribes have in common, and how they can support each other through shared values,” including identifying where the Park Service may have to adapt their policies and where the Tribe may have to shift to accommodate the Park Service.

The project report, nearing completion, will identify thirteen issues identified in the research; review those issues from both tribal and RNSP perspectives; identify the laws, regulations, and policies relating to those issues; and make recommendations on ways the Parks and tribes can effectively communicate and collaboratively manage the land and its cultural and natural resources.
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