Dear Students, Faculty, Staff, Alumni and Friends of the Environmental Studies Program,

Greetings from Snow Hall! I hope this year’s newsletter finds you well and that it gives you a sense of the immense energy and excitement there is surrounding the work we are doing at KU to be the leader in interdisciplinary environmental work. I invite you to read on about how new faculty, courses, graduate programs, and conferences are helping us now and in the coming years to reach an entirely new range of students and others through environmental studies.

Our alumni are keeping in touch with us in greater numbers each year, and the news items they share are models of the way forward for our students who are actively envisioning their own environmental careers. We have redesigned our internship program to encourage deeper levels of learning among our students, and both students and supervisors are already enjoying a streamlined online application and reporting process. Our program welcomes back one group of students from their study abroad in Freiburg, Germany and prepares to send off another group this summer to India. Finally, it’s a major goal of ours to ensure that our students continue to have the kind of learning experiences that help them graduate as leaders in the environmental arena. An important way to reach that goal is to contribute in any way you can to the “Far Above” KU Capital Campaign, officially kicked off this year. I want you to take a look inside at the giving opportunities we have identified in our program that we know will make a difference in the lives of our students. It takes teamwork to solve the pressing environmental challenges of our time, and we are delighted to have you on our team.

Chris Brown, Director
Environmental Studies Leads New Year-Long Course on the Global Environment

Beginning this fall, our undergraduate students are required to take the program’s new year-long freshman course on the Global Environment. The course series is unique in a number of ways. First of all, it responds to a challenge we face as educators in an interdisciplinary program like ours: how do you help students build a foundation in a program that spans the humanities, social sciences, and natural/physical sciences? Since the program was founded in the 1970s, students have simply taken a wide variety of courses on the environment. Students were pretty much left to figure out on their own how their environmental history class fit with what was going on in law and policy. No class in the curriculum explicitly explored the big environmental picture and how the parts fit together, a major challenge for educating students about sustainability. Johannes Feddema, Greg Cushman, and Chris Brown spearheaded an effort to address these concerns two years ago in an experiment. They had three classes that they taught separately for years meet at the same time, and they carried it on for two semesters. The three courses were Scientific Principles of Environmental Studies (148), Environment and History (103), and Environment, Culture, and Society (150). These courses have now been combined officially into a 10-credit two-semester sequence, and beginning in fall 2013, it is hoped the course sequence will fulfill entire Goal #3 of the new University Core Curriculum (fundamental knowledge across the humanities, social sciences, and sciences). Global Environment I (The Discovery of Environmental Change) mainly covers the scientific fundamentals of environmental studies along with how scientists have done science throughout history and how they have come to understand environmental change. Global Environment II (The Ecology of Human Civilization) mainly covers the history of human engagement and impact on the environment, with attention to humanistic and social science approaches to understanding current environmental problems. Each semester is accompanied with a 2-credit hour lab section in which students explore hands on ways of studying the environment. This is a true team-taught course, with three professors from very different backgrounds (and GTAs from different fields as well) in the classroom every day. By engaging each other during the lecture, the professors model what productive interdisciplinary dialogue and study looks like. In this way, we hope that students will better understand what subject areas of environmental studies engages them most and what areas deserve further study as they specialize towards the end of their time at KU. Also, as a yearlong course with the same professors and GTAs throughout, we hope it gives students the time to get to know their cohort, professors, and GTAs better.
Students Earning Certificate in Permaculture Design

Our senior surveys show how much students enjoy the fact that our major gets them outdoors and into the environment, especially with our Field Ecology course. This fall the Program kicked up the outdoor opportunities a notch by offering a course in permaculture design. Twenty students this semester are earning 6 credits of electives in this intensive course that combines lecture with outdoor, hands-on learning. When complete, the students will be eligible to earn the International Certification in Permaculture Design (PDC).

The course may be repeated in the future, so keep an eye out for it next fall. More on the course follows: The course is taught by Steve Moring, from Kaw Permaculture and the Kansas Permaculture Institute. The course is designed to "reskill" for the future with permaculture, covering elements of ethics, principles, and design. "As a community we are entering a period of energy and resource depletion, and an inevitable decline in our global economy. This course will demonstrate how the sustainability movement known as permaculture promises to create an ecologically sound and economically viable system which neither pollutes nor exploits our planet," instructor Steve Moring says.

The first part of this course consists of 48 hours of lecture, video and field work covering topics including food security, permaculture ethics, ecological principles, system design, sustainable soils, food production, earth works and construction of human habitats. The second part of the course consists of four, 6 hour practicum sessions that emphasize hands-on experience in land assessment, planning, and system design and includes developing skills in agroforestry management, creating plant guilds, using design charrettes, constructing earthworks and using sustainable building technology.
Every few years we survey our seniors on a range of issues to help us know how well we are serving students in the program and to help us identify areas for improvement. We have heard a lot about the need for more options in electives at the junior-senior level. “The courses students could take are out there,” says Chris Brown, Director of Environmental Studies. “What we can do as a program is to make these more visible to students,” and the best way to do that is to cross-list courses with other units across campus. Not only is this helping students find new courses to complete their degrees and develop specialization. It is also helping professors develop their courses in ways that benefit everyone. Two professors, Rick Devlin from Geology and Keith Diaz-Moore from Architecture have cross-listed courses, and they commented to us how much they appreciate having Environmental Studies majors in their classes. We asked them why, and here is what they said...

“Three things jump to mind immediately. First, the course deals with content at multiple levels of analysis and Environmental Studies students serve as useful "ambassadors" to the other students in the discussion class as to how one moves fluidly between levels. Especially early on it really helps keep the seminar discussion moving. Second, and related, is their familiarity with ecological models. The class takes a socio-ecological approach toward understanding the health impacts of environment and therefore it is also useful that some students are familiar with that perspective. Third, they are keenly aware of the ethical dimensions to the issues with which we wrestle, and they are quite willing to address what are often the most uncomfortable questions the class can raise.”

Keith Diaz Moore, Architecture

“I am an enthusiastic proponent of involving ES students in my classes. Specifically, I have found they bring the following benefits: first, the students I have encountered have been genuinely interested in the science and have shown a strong willingness to work toward a mastery of the course materials; second, ES students bring experiences into the classroom that are different from the students in the Geology program. This contributes to better classroom discussions and a broader appreciation of the course relevance; third, with ES students in the class I design my lectures to be more comprehensive, which benefits the entire class; finally, although is sounds trivial, ES students are enablers merely by their presence. They make it possible to offer specialty courses that might otherwise go untaught, to the detriment of all.”

Rick Devlin, Geology

Guiding Students to New Courses

Environmental Studies students get their hands dirty preparing a garden bed in one of our new courses, Permaculture Design. More on the next page!
Environmental Security Conference

In April 2012, the University of Kansas sponsored a conference, “Environmental Security: Academic and Military Perspectives”. Prof. Shannon O’Lear was a key organizer. The objective was to foster conversations between academic researchers and military experts on the multidimensional and escalating issue of environmental security. The topic is of concern both to academics and to military groups, but rarely is there a concentrated effort to engage in conversation between these groups to focus the energies of their different perspectives. The conference schedule included a panel of environmental specialists from regional U.S. Combatant Commands who provided a “boots on the ground” perspective of environmental issues and challenges in their areas, a panel of international military and environmental experts who provided non-US views on environmental security, and a panel of experts who discussed definitions of security and risk from academic and policy perspectives. There were also several paper sessions in which researchers from physical, technical and social science presented their work. One issue that the conference participants agree on is that there is no single, overarching definition of environmental security that may be used to guide military action or prioritize academic research. Instead, it was recognized that environmental security encompasses a broad range of issues at multiple, simultaneous, and overlapping spatial scales.

A recurring topic throughout the conference was water. Concerns about water capture “hard” security and human security issues ranging from water scarcity, shared transboundary resource flows, sanitation and health, agricultural productivity and food supply, economic productivity and energy development, and vulnerability in the face of floods, droughts, and increasingly unpredictable weather and climate patterns. These conversations bode well for continued communication among conference participants and their organizations. If funding is secured, a follow-up conference is anticipated so that the momentum and conversations may be continued. A central objective of planning a second (or annual) conference is to generate specific academic research projects that could be applied to address particular needs in the military field. Simultaneously, academic researchers can help military organizations in their thinking about water, their ability to work with uncertainty, and shape improved military policies and implementation practices.
Faculty and Leadership Changes in the Environmental Studies Program

Stacey White, Associate Professor of Urban Planning, stepped down in 2012 as the Program's Associate Director in order to take a much-earned sabbatical and to take the position of Chair of Urban Planning in January. We thank Stacey for her dedication and service to the program over the years, and we look forward to continuing to work with her in this new role leading Urban Planning.

David Fowle, Associate Professor of Geology, is the Program's new Associate Director. David has been a governance faculty member in the Program for the last several years, and we are delighted to have him in this new leadership position!

Environmental Studies Office Staff

Anna Pierce
Anna is the Advising Specialist for the Environmental Studies Program. This is her second year with the office of Student Academic Services in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. After receiving her M. Ed in Higher Education Leadership at the University of Arkansas, Anna is returning to KU where she studied History with a minor in Women, Gender & Sexuality Studies as an undergraduate. Congratulations to Anna on her recent engagement!

Anna Archer
Anna is the new Administrative Associate Sr. for the program. She began working in the office as the Internship Coordinator in 2011 when she was a senior in the Environmental Studies Program. Anna is excited about the opportunity to continue her work at KU with the Environmental Studies Program. She enjoys working with the faculty and students in the program and is looking forward to helping the program meet its goals and continue to expand.

Andrew Michael
Andrew is the student office assistant for the Environmental Studies Program. Currently a Senior in Environmental Studies, Andrew is also majoring in Economics and will be graduating this upcoming May with both degrees. He works closely with Anna Archer to complete various projects around the office and assist students with their many needs. Excited for the next few months, he is looking forward to graduation and his continued work with the program.
“Nature’s Historians” Honors the Career of Hall Distinguished Professor of American History Emeritus, Donald Worster

Professor Donald Worster taught his last official class lecture in the Spring 2012 Global Environment II course, The Ecology of Human Civilization. Faculty from the History Department filed into the classroom in Strong Hall on the last day of class to wish him well as he moves on to the next stage of his career, part of which is helping to establish a Center for Ecological History at Renmin University of China in Beijing. We wanted to remind our readers of some of his accomplishments and add our own wishes for continued success. Prof. Worster came to KU in 1989 from Brandeis University in Massachusetts. He also taught at Yale University and the University of Hawaii and has held fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation, the Australian National University, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Mellon Foundation, and the American Council of Learned Societies. His most recent book, *A Passion for Nature: The Life of John Muir*, was published by Oxford in 2008 and was named the best work of non-fiction by the Scottish Arts Council and won the Ambassador Award for Biography from the English Speaking Union. Earlier books include *A River Running West* (2002), *The Wealth of Nature* (1994), *Rivers of Empire* (1985), *Dust Bowl* (1979), and *Nature’s Economy* (1977), which together have won more than a dozen book prizes. He is former president of the American Society for Environmental History and a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. Over the past two decades he has lectured extensively in Europe, Africa, Asia, and Central America, as well as throughout North America, and his writings have been translated into six languages. Professor Worster is primarily interested in the emerging field of environmental history-the changing perception of nature, the rise of conservation and environmentalism, and the impact of the natural world on human society. Professor Worster’s graduate students returned to KU this fall to participate in an Environmental History conference in his honor. The conference, “Nature’s Historians”, was held at the Hall Center for the Humanities, featuring a daylong series of presentations from the many outstanding scholars Professor Worster has helped to produce over his time at KU. Labeled “Worstock” by some, the occasion celebrated his extraordinary career at KU and sent him off on his next adventure. Don, from all of us in Environmental Studies, thank you for your service to our program and our students, and good luck!

Environmental Studies Welcomes Paul Stock

The Program welcomes Paul Stock as our newest jointly appointed assistant professor. Paul received his PhD from Colorado State University, and he is an environmental and rural sociologist with a primary focus on farmers’ values and practices and alternative agriculture. More specifically, those interests revolve around agriculture, food, the environment and morality, and their intersections. He is an editor on the recent volume *Food Systems Failure* (Routledge, 2011) that uses the most recent international food crisis as an entry to exploring the rhetoric of how to feed the world compared with the reality of global hunger and large scale agriculture. Prior to KU, Paul worked at the University of Otago (Dunedin, New Zealand) at the Centre for Sustainability (csafe.org.nz) researching family farmers relationships to international agriculture including some comparative work with Switzerland. He also continues to write about the communal agricultural projects of the Catholic Worker movement founded by Dorothy Day and Peter Maurin in 1933. Paul is currently teaching in our Global Environment I and II course series and EVRN/SOC 385, Environmental Sociology. Welcome, Paul!
This last June, 15 students from 3 different universities joined Professors Stacey White and Dietrich Earnhart on a study abroad adventure to Freiburg, Germany. While there, everyone fell in love with the city, which is widely considered to be one of the most environmentally progressive cities in Europe, if not the world. Students on the trip took two courses:
EVRN 420- Environmental Sustainability of Europe
AND
EVRN 550- Environmental Economics

In addition to their two courses, students toured eco-neighborhoods, an organic winery, and the city’s recycling facility. Students also had their weekends free which allowed them to do everything from take hikes through the Black Forest to traveling to neighboring countries, including The Netherlands, France, Switzerland, and even Ireland! The trip was sponsored in part by IES Abroad, who worked tirelessly with instructors and students to provide a quality educational environment and help students with all questions they may have had. Both instructors and students will never forget their time in Freiburg and can’t wait to go back!
"My time in India can be described as nothing short of amazing. I am extremely honored and feel privileged to have had the opportunity to study abroad with that wonderful group of people in such a remarkable setting. The biodiversity of the area was unmatched from anywhere I have been, and the efforts to keep that biodiversity impressed me. The people of India were so welcoming, accepting, and humble. Even our resource people, who guided and taught us along the way, were incredible."

- Andrew Pierce, Summer 2010

During Summer 2013, Environmental Studies, along with the Office of Study Abroad, will be hosting the second edition of Environmental Studies of India!

About the Program: The entire study abroad program is conducted in the state of Karnataka. Most of the travel will be around the city of Bangalore and Mysore and in the ecosystems of the Western Ghats.

This entire region has a cooler climate in the months of June and July, because of the higher elevation and milder monsoons, relative to the plains of northern and central India. In addition there are many excellent research and conservation non-governmental organizations in that region.

The Western Ghats offers numerous ecosystem types from high altitude grasslands interspersed with dense evergreen forest patches called shola, to moist deciduous and dry deciduous forests. By the end of the program, students will be able to understand: how forest dwelling populations live a subsistence life in these forests; human-wildlife conflict; and sustainable harvest of forest products. The Western Ghats (mountains) are brimming with large wild animals such as elephants, wild dogs, gaur, tigers, leopards, several deer species and students are likely to see several species while visiting protected areas.

Bob Hagen (our Program's Field Studies Coordinator) joins Geeta Tiwari as the instructors of this year's study abroad. Students will earn six credits total for EVRN 460 (Field Ecology) and EVRN 420 (Environmental Issues of India).

Next Offering Summer 2013
Updates from the Internship Program

Revisions to the internship course brings students together to compare environmental internship experiences.

Participating in an internship offers many benefits to students. Internships provide students with the opportunity to get hands-on experience, apply classroom knowledge in real life settings, and build professional networks. Students in the Environmental Studies Program can also receive academic credit for their internship experiences. Students can enroll in EVRN 490, Environmental Internship Experience, while they simultaneously complete their internship. The course is completed online so students have the option of participating in internships anywhere in the world! Last summer, the program had a wide range of participants, including a student working with the US Forest Service in Hungry Horse, Montana. The students in the class are all included in the same online forum and therefore they get to read about each others' experiences and respond to the challenges and rewards they face.

In spring 2012, the class was modified to reflect the requirements set by the University Career Center. Students must intern approximately 40 hours to receive one academic credit. The internships are approved by the director and program internship coordinator. An agreement is reached between the intern and supervisor to establish appropriate work hours. Towards the end of the internship, students start working on a final report that is a summation of their internship experience. These reports demonstrate the students' achievements throughout their internship, provide a record of skills that the intern developed, and allows the program to archive these opportunities for future students.

What some of our past students are saying about the program:

"Through this experience I refined my skills and have a better understanding of how to utilize them more efficiently and with less supervision and assistance."

"The most important knowledge I gained exclusively from working this internship was how to manage a project from beginning to end."

"I feel my internship provided me with great life skills and I know it expanded my views on how we treat and how we should treat our Nation's protected lands."

"I formed valuable relationships and built my confidence interacting in a professional setting."

"I would love to encourage all students to pursue an internship during their undergraduate careers, regardless of their future goals."

Here is where some of our students have been interning. Thank you, supervisors!

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kansas Water Office</th>
<th>US Geological Survey</th>
<th>City of Lawrence</th>
<th>Spatial Data Research</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cultivate Kansas City</td>
<td>US Forest Service</td>
<td>Kansas Biological Survey</td>
<td>Operation Wildlife</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US Census Bureau</td>
<td>Minuteman Press</td>
<td>EPA, Region 7</td>
<td>Kansas Land Trust</td>
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This past summer, Andrea interned for the Kansas Biological Survey - KU Native Medicinal Plant Research Program. She helped maintain the garden during the summer season and got to work with native prairie plants with medicinal properties.

The internship experience also involved plant collection in the field, monitoring of plant and insect species at the research garden, and work with an extensive ethnobotanical database.

"This internship has helped me decide which path I would like to take in the future. It helped me develop landscaping skills for the first time in my life and has given me the opportunity to do research on my own about native prairie plants and go to the garden and actually work with them. It was a great experience to be able to work with other people that are also passionate about the environment." - Andrea

Patti Beedles
B.A. Environmental Studies, 2012

Patti served as an intern for the Kansas Land Trust this past spring. The Kansas Land Trust works to preserve lands of significance in Kansas. It is a local non-profit organization that has helped to protect more than 16,000 acres of land in Kansas.

During her internship, Patti helped prepare maps and baseline document reports for conservation easements. She also assisted with a prairie burn and met many unforgettable people who helped her develop a newfound appreciation for our Kansas landscape.

"My internship at the Kansas Land Trust was by far the most rewarding experience of my Undergraduate Degree at the University of Kansas. I formed valuable relationships and built my confidence interacting in a profession setting. I learned the value of conservation on a local and regional scale, strengthening my belief in environmental protection." - Patti

If you are currently employed in an environmentally related career and know of internship opportunities for students, contact the office at (785) 864-8902. We are continually working to expand our internship program and love to hear from potential sponsors!
The Program is proud to announce this year’s recipients of the Graduate Certificate in Environmental Studies. Students in the certificate program are already enrolled in a PhD program at KU. Our certificate program gives them training in interdisciplinary environmental studies and it puts them in contact with faculty from across the University. Congratulations, graduates!

**REBECCA CROSTHWAIT**
Rebecca (PhD Candidate, Anthropology) is finishing her fieldwork in Mexico and South Texas, where she has been conducting interviews with workers in the oil industry. She is interested in the broad impacts and impetuses of the local-level meanings of global change. Particularly, she is investigating workers’ tactics for living and working in an increasingly uncertain climate -- in all senses of the word -- political, industrial, social, weather conditions.

**ANNA KERN**
Anna is one of our GTAs in the Environmental Studies Program! She is working with the Field Ecology course this fall and will be helping with Capstone in the spring. Anna is working on her dissertation on Gender and the Green Economy.

**LACI GERHART**
Laci is currently in Washington DC, interning with the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Office of Government Relations (OGR). Laci writes science policy articles, primarily focusing on energy/environment, for the OGR weekly and bi-monthly newsletters to AAAS members, briefs on hot-topic science policy issues (such as renewable energy, nanotechnology, and stem cell research), and also maintains a web page of up-to-date tracking on science policy legislation currently under consideration in Congress.

**HANNAH OWENS**
Hannah Owens is working to complete her PhD thesis in the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology exploring the relationships between cobs and their ecological niches, focusing on how climate change has and will shape their distribution patterns and evolutionary histories.

**ALEXIS REED**
Alexis graduated with her PhD in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology in May 2012. Her dissertation was on spatial and temporal influence upon isotopic signatures in northern red oak and burr oak across a precipitation gradient.

**BRIAN RUMSEY**
Brian is beginning work on a dissertation that will examine how environmental risk has been understood historically, especially through the lens of insurance. He’s wrapping up my coursework requirements this school year, and serving as a graduate teaching assistant in the department of history.

**ADAM SUNDBERG**
After returning from a Fulbright research year in 2011-2012, Adam is currently working on a dissertation about the role of environmental disasters and climate change during the 18th century decline of the Dutch Republic. He is dividing his time between translation and writing.

**LINDA WILLIAMS**
Linda is currently in her final year of doctoral work and writing her NSF funded dissertation titled "Welcoming the Outsider: Variations in Local Construction of the Law toward Immigrants" which assesses how widely local agencies have adopted welcoming policies and practices and whether practices “on the street” differ considerably from the stated policies and practices of the organization. In addition, her research evaluates how migration from Mexico to the United States may be affected by climate change and the implications of this migration on policy and local governments.

**ASHLEY ZUNG**
Ashley interned this summer in the Office of the Geographer and Global Issues at the State Department in Washington D.C. During her internship she worked on a variety of projects related to climate change, food security, human rights, and humanitarian affairs. She returned to Lawrence in August, and is working to complete her dissertation research and writing in order to graduate in May.
2012 Undergraduate Degree Recipients

Anna Archer
Beauregard D. Barnhart
Bradley Barton
Bryan Brooks
Jessica Brooks
Stephen Brown
Sarah Brummett
James Carder
Sarah Cruz
Sarah Davis
Abby DeClerk
Charles Fiebig
Preston T. Fine
William Fink
Kayla Fox
Caroline Franke
Adam Fund
Margaret Gathunguri
Matthew Geier

Rion Glynn
Carra Gorby
Caleb Gorby
John Hamill
Kristen Hanson
Ellen Hernly
Isaac Hodges
Ashley Hudson
Edward Irvine
Alicia James
Rachel Landreth
John Lenherr
Hayley Mallen
Monica Melhem
Lauren Metzger
Nicole Niehues
Reed Niemack
Aaron Othmer
Chelsea Paxson

Cheyenne Pike
Benjamin Pirotte
Savannah Remmich
John Salva
Keri Schreiner
Lauren Service
Eric Simon
Ryan Sims
Joseph Stogsdill
Ryan Surface
Zachary Taylor
Sean Tokarz
Julianne Thomas
Tommy Watgen
Erik Wolf
Reece Zwisler

Highest Distinction ★
Distinction ★
Honors
Alumni Spotlight

One of the most common questions students ask our faculty and staff is this: what can I do with my environmental studies degree? For the last few years, we have worked to provide answers from the experts - our own alumni - who have kindly responded to our requests for updates on what they are doing today. Read on for this year’s updates.

Jessica Brooks
B.A. Environmental Studies and International Studies, 2012
Upon graduating from KU, Jessica went to New Haven to be a Master of Science candidate and National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellow at the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, specializing in water resources science and management. The most important thing Jessica learned at KU was how much more there is to learn. She advises students to learn about different places, cultures, and ways of thinking as well as areas such as statistics, economics, and GIS that are integral parts of the environmental sector.

Kelley Catlin
B.A. Environmental Studies & Geography 1998, JD from KU Law (with an Environmental Law Certificate) 2005
During her senior year at KU, Kelly applied to the Peace Corps and served for two years as a community forestry volunteer in the mountains of Nepal. She notes this as an experience that contributes to the person that she is today and wants students to not limit themselves. She suggests that students get to know their professors and ask for their guidance. Kelley is presently employed with the EPA Region 7 (Kansas City) and works as an attorney.

Regina Danison
B.A. Environmental Studies, 1998
Gina now resides in the Raleigh-Durham Metropolitan Area where she works as the Environmental Program Manager at the Raleigh-Durham International Airport. The environmental responsibilities at an airport cover a wide variety of items including, but not limited to, permitting, storm water sampling, air quality compliance, soil contamination cleanup, recycling, sustainability, and dealing with regulation (local, state, and federal) compliance. Working at an airport, Gina encounters the full spectrum of humanity. She is grateful that her flexibility, understanding, and tolerance of others was expanded at KU.

Robert Freeman
B.A. Environmental Studies, 1994
Robert is currently working as a Construction/Quality Control Manager for Tetra Tech Inc. as well as being a Site Manager for Military fuel systems constriction and repair. He wants students to know that the job opportunities for Environmental Studies Majors are much broader than you realize as a student. He advises students to be open to all opportunities and to explore internships, for they were the best learning experience for him and exposed him to all the possibilities allotted to him.

Richard Friesner
B.S. Environmental Studies 2004, M.S. Environmental Science 2006
Richard is currently enrolled in the Environmental Science and Public Policy doctoral program at George Mason University, with a dissertation related to adaptive management in the Chesapeake Bay watershed. At the university, he works as the Program Director for the Washington Youth Summit on the Environment. The most valuable thing he learned while at KU was to pay attention to detail and to follow through on things; that you can figure out complex problems if you work hard. He also advises students to go to every basketball game they can.

Margaret Gathunguri
B.S. Environmental Science, 2012
B.S. Geography, December 2012
Margaret is presently a research assistant for Dr. Ho at KU Institute of Policy and Social Research as well as a Hydrological technician at USGS-Kansas Water Science Center. Margaret changed her major from Chemical Engineering to Environmental Studies after studying abroad with Living Routes program in South India; she will be heading to the Peace Corps in January! Her advice to students now is to try to get an internship any time after freshman year and study abroad especially to places where it is significantly different than the western world.

Andrea Goodwin
B.A. Environmental Studies, 2008, JD from the University of Tulsa in 2011
After her time at KU, Andrea went on to get her JD from the University of Tulsa in 2011 and is now living in Portland, Oregon, working as a new attorney. She is adjusting well to the state and environment and is open to helping KU grads thinking of moving out West after graduation. Her advice is to take advantage of every opportunity available during undergrad, whether it be organizations, internships or volunteer positions. “It definitely helps after graduation, and the experience is incomparable.”

Ed Hubert
B.A. Environmental Studies, 1984; M.S. in Engineering Management, 2002
After 27 years working in environmental consulting, Ed switched gears this year, and now works for Solar Side Up, a solar energy integrator, where he works on designing, financing, and installing residential and commercial solar energy systems. This job lets him do something new and different, while continuing the focus he has always tried to have on promoting environmental sustainability. He wants students to know that environmental issues are one of the most pressing issues today and to take them seriously. But most importantly, he wants students to actively look each day for ways to make a real, meaningful difference.
“College should prepare you, not just for a job to put food on the table, but for a career where you can, hopefully, help create positive change in the world.” - Ed Hubert

Jennifer Kongs
B.A. Environmental Studies and Geography, 2009
Jennifer is presently working as the Managing Editor of Mother Earth News magazine. While in school, she took an internship with Mother Earth News and a little over two years later, she earned a spot in the magazine’s editorial management and loves her experience! While at KU, Jennifer says the most important thing she gleaned from her experience was how to network and connect with groups of people to make a project come to life. Her advice to students now is to take the time to get real world experience and don’t be afraid to go for a job, don’t be afraid to speak up while in your job.

Teri Leahy
B.G.S. Environmental Studies, 1993
Teri is presently a Graduate Coordinator for the Physics and Astronomy Department here at the University of Kansas. Recently, she went back to school to get her Master’s Degree in Counseling and is on track to graduate from MidAmerica Nazarene in 2014. The most important thing she learned at KU was tolerance and patience for all. She wants students to not limit yourself into one pigeonhole, but get as many skills as possible because you never know where your job may lead you.

Steph Mott
B.A. Environmental Policy 2005, Environmental Planning 2008
Steph is currently employed as an Office/Human Resource manager. She wants current KU students to realize the importance of policy and the range of transferable skills it provides you for the workplace. She also emphasizes the need to be flexible and to be able to follow directions, two things she says are important for future endeavors.

Dena Sampel
B.A. Environmental Studies, 1996
Presently an Environmental Health Specialist with Riverside County, California, Dena also obtained her REHS (Registered Environmental Health Specialist) six years ago with a focus on retail food facilities in Riverside County. Taking a wide variety of coursework and being prepared to work in a job you might consider “out of your scope” are two things she wants current students to be aware of. She also wants students to know that a college degree does not equal an immediate job and that the contacts she made through clubs/organizations she participated in were extremely beneficial in her career future.

Taylor Schaack
B.A. Environmental Studies & Film and Media Studies, 2011
After graduating from KU, Taylor found a job as an Environmental, Health, & Safety Engineer at Diodes FabTech Inc in Lee’s Summit, Missouri. He says that since Environmental Studies is a very interdisciplinary major, he would encourage students to find their passion and pursue it. While at school, he learned the value of persistence and patience, both skills he says are invaluable in the working world today.

Lona Tenpas
B.S.G. Environmental Studies, 2006
After graduating from KU, Lona went on to receive her M.Ed. in Adolescent Education from Canisius College in Buffalo, NY and graduated in 2011. She now works as a Biology/Physics professor at Southwest High School in Minneapolis, MN. She loves her job as a teacher and wants current Environmental Studies students to know that your job can be fun, as long as you find what you love to do.

Ryan Tompkins
Ryan is currently working at Hunt Midwest, Manager of Sales and Leasing. He says the most valuable thing he learned while at KU was perseverance and his advice to current students is to find your interest, keep your values, take risks, and strive for excellence.

Caroline Valenti
B.A. Environmental Studies, 1997
While currently a stay at home mother, Caroline had a variety of jobs and opportunities after graduating from KU. From 1997 -2005 she worked at three different Environmental and Engineering companies from 1997-2005, as Project Manager/ Environmental Specialist in Chicago. Then from 2005-2009 she changed careers and became a science teacher and worked for Chicago Public Schools. Her best advice is to intern at an environmental company or shadow someone to see what your chosen career/job would be like. She says to be open when looking for jobs and use resources such as family and friends during the process, “You would be amazed to know that most companies hire people that someone knows or recommends.”
Does KU Environmental Studies offer a Master's degree? We get this question a lot, and now the answer is “we will”, beginning as early as the fall of 2013. The Program, in cooperation with the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the KU Edwards Campus, is developing a Professional Science Masters in Environmental Assessment (PSM-EA). The Professional Science Master’s is a relatively new type of interdisciplinary degree that combines advanced coursework in science with a set of professional skills courses (project management, technical writing/communications, financial management), and a capstone/internship experience. The Environmental Assessment PSM is designed especially for graduates of bachelor's programs in physical/natural sciences, environmental studies, and related fields who are currently employed in private firms, public agencies, and non-for-profit organizations that address a range of environmental issues. An essential component of building the degree program was the establishment of an External Advisory Board of local environmental professionals from private companies and public agencies. Our Board is charged with providing input on the curriculum of the proposed PSM-EA degree. In September, the Provost’s Office approved our pre-proposal for the degree, and we are moving forward with a full proposal that will eventually be reviewed by the Kansas Board of Regents.
**“Far Above” and Environmental Studies at KU**

The KU Capital Campaign, Far Above, is now in full swing. Nancy Jackson at KU Endowment is our program’s contact person in the campaign. She is eager to speak with Alumni and Friends who are interested in establishing endowments that transform the lives of students and ensure the sustainability of our environment for generations to come. The Program has established the following giving areas as a guide for prospective donors who are interested and able to make gifts of any size.

- **Holistic solutions**: funds our efforts to engage undergraduates in the cutting-edge environmental research of our faculty.

- **Our global environment**: ensures students have access to our outstanding study abroad experiences.

- **No student left inside**: allows us to continue offering the best field ecology and field studies courses anywhere.

- **Seeding new ideas**: an opportunity to develop a *named lecture series* that brings high profile visitors to campus to meet with our students, faculty, and the broader community with the goal of helping build research and action on pressing environmental problems.

- **Faculty Fellowships for Environmental Studies**: funds faculty across campus to spend a year away from their disciplinary department specifically to teach Environmental Studies and conduct related interdisciplinary research.

- **Preparing for environmental careers**: makes it possible for students to work in internships, often in non-profits, that are normally unpaid, ensuring everyone has the opportunity to gain the experience required for entering, and excelling in, the environmental workforce.

[Click here to donate to Environmental Studies](#)

For additional information, please contact Nancy Jackson at 785-832-7357

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**Mark Your Calendars!**

- **Zadigan Undergraduate Research Scholarship Application due November 15th.**

  [Click here for the application.](#)

- **Spring Undergraduate Orientation-January 24th, 2013, 120 Snow Hall, Pizza ‘til it’s gone!**

- **Spring Graduate Recognition Ceremony-May 18th, 2013. Exact time TBA.**
Environmental Events on Campus

Wondering what environmental events are happening on campus, in Lawrence and nearby communities? Look no further than the events section at esp.ku.edu. No other place on the web hosts a comprehensive list of all things environmental in the area. Whether you are looking for an interesting lecture, a workshop, a documentary showing, or you are looking for ways to get involved in local or regional environmental causes, you’ll find it at KU Environmental Studies.

You can also LIKE US ON FACEBOOK and FOLLOW US ON TWITTER.

Potter Lake Benefit Concert, November 11, 2012

KU Environs is hosting a benefit concert at the Dance Pavilion of Potter Lake on November 11th called the Potter Lake Project. The purpose of this benefit concert is to educate and create support from the Lawrence and KU community on one of KU’s treasures, Potter Lake. The lake’s location makes it susceptible to many environmental problems like run-off and invasive species. Environs is hosting this concert to raise funds for maintaining the health and beauty of this campus resource. Planned maintenance includes planting native and wetland plants to fight pollution and help support the fish and other critters who make their home in and around the lake.

The concert features three student bands, student and faculty speakers, hot cocoa and cake, games, and a beautiful November afternoon. Come share in celebrating the value of Potter Lake. Ticket prices are $3 and donations are welcome. With your support we can make our goal reachable and continue to save Potter Lake.

EVRN Class Planning Green Clean Initiative

When: November 7th, 7 pm
Where: Hashinger Residence Hall

The service-learning toxicology class (BIO/EVRN 420), taught by Professor Kathleen Nuckolls, announces a course-related event called the Green Clean Initiative. The event educates fellow students about the toxins we are in contact with everyday, from what we use to wash our clothes to the makeup we put on our faces. Students will view the documentary Chemerical (approximately 1 hr long); there will be door prizes and handouts of free homemade detergent and detergent recipes made by students in the class. Snacks and drinks will also be provided!
Keep In Touch!

Alumni and friends: We want to hear from you! We appreciate your support and want to keep in touch with you. If you happen to be in the area, drop by Snow and visit us!

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