

The Fierce Green Fire

A Newsletter of the Wofford College Environmental Studies Program

Join us on Friday at 4:00pm in Glendale to celebrate the life of our curious, compassionate, accepting, brilliantly intelligent, and unforgettable friend, MacGregor Ruffin.



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Dr. Brewitt Visits Iceland



This summer, my family and I traveled in Iceland, a strange and wondrous place. It is an all-but-empty island (most of the 350,000 people live within an hour of Reykjavik) tossed in the cold waters where the Atlantic and Arctic oceans meet. Homo sapiens have only been on Iceland for a little more than a thousand years. Many of the people still – still! – believe in elves and don't have family names. It's as if Denmark and Alaska had a baby and left it to grow up amongst glaciers and volcanoes.

It is relentlessly beautiful. In most other countries the landscape is normal,

with a few scattered areas of remarkable scenery. In Iceland the whole country is composed of menacing snowy peaks rising straight up out of the ocean, yawning timeless valleys, black sand beaches, plummeting ghost waterfalls, and otherworldly volcanic wilderness where no-one has ever lived. The only spots that you could describe as normal are maybe a couple of VW dealerships on the way into Reykjavik.

We rented a car and drove the Ring Road, the only big highway in the country, describing an oval around the igneous wilderness in the center of the island. We stayed in herring factories at the head of lonely fjords and in sheep farms on high plateaus. We hiked up waterfalls and into caves. We soaked in geothermal hot springs above black sand beaches. We ate fresh cod and read Nordic Crime novels. Who wants to go on my Iceland interim*?



Dr. Brewitt and family enjoyed the landscape of Iceland during their visit this summer!



(*not this year)

Upcoming Events and Opportunities

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

- September 16th**
4:00pm
Memorial service in Glendale for MacGregor Ruffin: Join us at the Goodall Center as we celebrate MacGregor's life! This will be a time to laugh, cry, and tell stories in one of her favorite places. Very casual attire; light refreshments will be served. Contact Ann Casey Hughes, hughesao@email.wofford.edu, with questions.
- September 17th**
7:30am-12:00pm
Spartanburg Water's Lake Sweep*: Meet at the Lake Bowen Wardens' Office – registration and breakfast at 7:30am - Busses leaving promptly at 8:00am. Put together your team of 5 and register at www.spartanburgwater.org. Lunch provided and a free t-shirt! Contact jmoore@spartanburgwater.org with questions.
- September 24th**
9:00am-11:00am
Cottonwood Trail Cleanup Day*: SPACE is will host a cleanup day in preparation for the "Light Up the Night" light installation and "Shucking Good Time" fundraiser event. Remember to bring your gloves and wear long pants! Register at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/cottonwood-trail-work-day-tickets-27025265296>
- October 6th**
5:30pm-7:00pm
PBS's 10 Buildings That Changed America*: Viewing and discussion will take place at Chapman Cultural Center, West Wing Conference Room and will feature panelists Samantha Nicholson, Development Manager for Johnson Development's Spartanburg portfolio and others tapped to share professional insight on lessons from the film that can be applied locally.
- October 14th-15th**
Yawkey Overnight Trip*: 10 students have an opportunity to experience the alligator habitat on this 22,000-acre preserve near Georgetown, SC. Contact Dr. Simmons if you are interested in going, simmonjw@wofford.edu.
- October 20th**
7:00pm
Milliken Lecture Series on Sustainability and Public Health – Gary Nabhan*: *Food Genes and Culture: Why Silver Bullet Diets and Quick Genetic Fixes Won't Reduce the Prevalence of Nutrition-Related Diseases.* Join us in Olin 101. Free and open to the public.
- October 24th**
5:30pm-7:00pm
Mary Black Foundation presents Dr. Ann Kulze, The Happiness Diet: Learn how to use food to boost happiness, beat stress and unleash your brain's remarkable power. Chapman Cultural Center – refreshments, 5:00-5:30pm. This event is free to the public; please RSVP by October 17 to lriley@maryblackfoundation.org.

PROFILE OF THE WEEK:

Johns Hopkins University – MS in Environmental Sciences & Policy

The Zanvyl Krieger School of Arts and Sciences at Johns Hopkins has a graduate program in Environmental Sciences and Policy that covers a broad position centered at the juncture between science and policy. Graduates of the program emerge with a combination of expertise in science and policy that enables them to assume key positions in public and private entities responsible for safeguarding our environmental future.

The program offers a flexible curriculum that allows students to tailor their academic experience to suit their personal needs and interests.

Core coursework includes geology, hydrology, oceanography, meteorology, ecology, and policy making. Electives range across a spectrum from courses strongly oriented toward policy to ones focused more heavily on science. Case studies and student projects receive special emphasis. In addition, students may identify a concentration in Environmental Monitoring and Analysis, Ecological Management, Environmental Management, or Environmental Planning.

<http://advanced.jhu.edu/academic/environmental/master-of-science-in-environmental-sciences-and-policy/index.html>