

The Fierce Green Fire

A Newsletter of the Wofford College Environmental Studies Program



View from Hoots' office of the Colorado University – Boulder stadium!

Volume 8, Issue 6



Dr. Ferguson and Professor Lane caught up with ENVS alumni Eric Breitenstein '12 (above) and Ameet Pall '12 (below) as they were inducted into Wofford's Athletic Hall of Fame during the home football game against Western Carolina. Eric teaches 7th grade science in Arizona and Ameet is in graduate school at McGill University for environmental studies.



Life After Wofford by Alex Hoots '17

Back in April when our thoughtful environmental studies professors invited two alumni to talk with the seniors about what they did after graduating, is when I really felt comfortable with the decision I had made for my plans after Wofford. My main take away from Karen Gravelly '16 and Chris Underwood '15 was that life after college is supposed to be an adventure. Don't get tied down with something you don't enjoy, and to be as cliché as possible, 'follow your arrow wherever it points.'

I decided to go out to Boulder, Colorado and intern with one of the co-founders of the field that I hoped to be a part of: sports sustainability. After working throughout the summer on marketing strategies for advertising Ralphie's Green Stampede, CU Boulder's sports sustainability program, I was hired on part time to work in athletic operations.

My role included not only being a leader in charge of my own project, but also getting to work hands-on in athletics and seeing the "ins and outs" in game day operations. My role is to make sure the vendors at our football games comply with CU's zero waste standards. In order

to make this worthwhile to the vendors, we created an incentive program awarding money to the top three stands that sort correctly. We do this is by tagging every bag that each concession stand uses. So, I head into game days about 7 hours before kickoff and start placing tags -- stickers with the vendor's name and location -- on each compost, recycle, and landfill bag. Four hours prior to kickoff, a student comes with me to train all the vendors about "what goes where." We meet with the vendors at set time to explain exactly what goes in the compost, recycle, and landfill bins.

Now, what makes CU's football stadium amazing besides the spectacular view of the Flatirons, is that it was the first NCAA Division 1 School to have a zero-waste stadium! 'SKO BUFFS!! This is all made possible by having a concessionaire, athletic department, sponsorships and the environmental stewards on board to create a zero-waste stadium.

I am so incredibly thankful for this opportunity that has been given to me and it could not have been made possible without Dr. Telligman.

Upcoming Events and Opportunities

- October 24th**
9:00am
Anna Todd Wofford Room
- Opening Session for Wofford Culture of Sustainability Symposium:** Join us for a discussion of the state of sustainability at Wofford.
- October 24th**
11:00am
Anna Todd Wofford Room
- “What Can a Culture of Sustainability Look Like on a Small Liberal Arts College Campus?”** Talks from 11–12 will be followed by lunch discussion, facilitated by speakers Jack Byrne, director of the sustainability integration office at Middlebury College, and Wes Dripps, director of the Shi Center and associate professor of earth and environmental sciences at Furman University. RSVP to Dr. Savage to be included for a catered lunch.
- October 24th**
4:00pm
Snyder House 1st floor
conference room (Annex)
- Presentations by First Year LLC Students:** Join us for Dr. Telligman’s Living-Learning Community as they present topics related to sustainability.
- October 25th**
11:00am-12:30pm
Anna Todd Wofford Room
- Wofford Culture of Sustainability for faculty and staff:** A listening and ideas session. Drop-in for a few minutes or stay the whole time and have a sandwich.
- October 25th**
2:00pm
Anna Todd Wofford Room
- Wofford Culture of Sustainability for students:** A listening and ideas session will be hosted for students to share their ideas about sustainability. Snacks provided.
- October 25th**
7:00pm
Olin 101
- Milliken Sustainability and Public Health Lecture:** Dr. Juan Declet-Barreto is the Kendall Science Fellow at Union of Concerned Scientists Climate Energy Program. He will speak on *Environmental and Social Science at the Policy-Research Interface*.
- October 30th**
7:00pm
Leonard Auditorium
- Wofford Culture of Sustainability Symposium:** Nathaniel Smith is the founder/chief equity officer of Partnership for Southern Equity. He will be here to speak on community sustainability.
- October 31st**
- Application Deadline:** South Carolina Wildlife Federation will award \$500 scholarships to full-time students pursuing environmental education at South Carolina schools of higher education. Applications should include educational goals and career interests; employee and volunteer experience; and a support letter from a faculty member. Visit their website for additional information, <http://www.scwf.org/>.

PROFILE OF THE WEEK:

University of Michigan – School for Environment and Sustainability

The University of Michigan, located in Ann Arbor, established the School of Natural Resources in 1950. This was the first program of its kind in the world. In 1992 the name was changed to the School of Natural Resources and Environment and now is known as the School of Environment and Sustainability (SEAS).

It offers two master’s degrees, an MS in Natural Resources and Environment and an MLA in Landscape Architecture.

Students in the MS program specialize in one of

six fields of study, including Behavior, Education and Communication, Conservation Ecology, Environmental Informatics, Environmental Justice, Environmental Policy and Planning, and Sustainable Systems.

There is also a doctoral program that offers a PhD in Natural Resources and Environment and in Landscape Architecture, as well as graduate certificate and dual-degree programs. To learn more about the program, visit:

<http://seas.umich.edu/>