

# The Fierce Green Fire

A Newsletter of the Wofford College Environmental Studies Program

*Bella Santoro '18 and friends spent their spring break exploring the landscape of the Grand Canyon.*



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*Dr. Telligman's ENVS 151 class journeyed from campus to downtown Spartanburg to study the sustainability of different modes of transportation. They rode the city bus downtown, then divided into groups (biking, walking, and Ubering) back to campus to compare the social, economic, and environmental aspects.*



## *Spring Break in the Grand Canyon by Bella Santoro '18*

Over spring break, my three roommates and I set out to conquer the Grand Canyon. Expecting some cool views and tedious hikes, we were excited for our adventure. However, what we experienced was so much more than that. We came back with a greater appreciation of Earth's history. When we arrived, we were energized and ready to hike for miles. None of us had been before, so we first began by exploring the North Rim. The initial view over the edge was unlike anything I have ever experienced before. We took a minute to sit on a rough wooden bench and gaze in awe. I felt as though the millions of years of exposed rock was staring back at us.

The dramatic landscape created many questions for all of us, firstly how the heck did this unusual geological landscape come to be. Secondly, would we be able to survive our planned hikes, which now looked much more intimidating. As we hiked the layers I felt we were a part of the geologic history. Each new earthy hue we passed held its own story. We often stopped and learned about each area in the books we brought. We all felt that we were more appreciative of the beauty after understanding the history of it. Also, there is something about sitting in amazement together with your friends that brings you closer together. The canyon was indeed grand, and I hope someday soon I'll return.

## Upcoming Events and Opportunities

**Ongoing**

***Week-long Summer Course – Examining Marine Climate Change:*** June 25-July 2, Appledore Island, Maine. Students will examine evidence of the Earth's changing climate, the greenhouse effect and natural forcing on global climate, sea-level rise, alterations to ocean chemistry and temperature, marine ecological impacts, human coastal impacts, and possible policy solutions. See [Shoals Marine Laboratory](#) for more information.

**Ongoing**

*Until spots are full*

***Ecosystem Field Studies (EcoFS) Summer Courses:*** 3-credit, field science courses in either the Caribbean (June 7-27) or Colorado (July 25-August 14). For all course information and how to apply visit [EcoFS.org](#).

**Ongoing**

*Until position is filled*

***Summer Internship with The Trust for Public Land:*** 10-week, paid internship in Atlanta, GA to coordinate with partners as an ambassador for the master planning process in a project to create a 100-mile long park with trails along the Chattahoochee River from Buford Dam to Chattahoochee Bend State Park. See the [attached letter](#) and contact Walt Ray ([walt.ray@tpl.org](mailto:walt.ray@tpl.org)), Chattahoochee Program Director to apply.

**April 15<sup>th</sup>**

***Deadline to apply for National Science Foundation Research Experience for Undergraduates:*** This 10-week summer experience is held at the University of Iowa and will study geography and spatial sciences. See their [website](#) for more information and to apply.

**April 19<sup>th</sup>**

*3:00pm*

*Anna Todd Wofford*

***ENVS Capstone Presentations:*** Join us for presentations by seniors Riley Garrison, Annie Allison, and Harry Hanna followed by a poster session with all of our seniors and their capstone projects. Light refreshments served.

**April 21<sup>st</sup>**

*10:00am-4:00pm*

*Unitarian Universalist Church  
210 Henry Place*

***Spartanburg Earth Day Festival:*** A community festival celebrating stewardship, sustainability, and our amazing planet Earth. To learn more about this event, visit: <http://www.spartanburgearthday.org/index.html>.

## PROFILE OF THE WEEK:

### *Columbia University – MS in Sustainability Science*

The Earth Institute at Columbia University is a global leader in the study of sustainability. One of the many degree programs offered is a Master of Science in Sustainability Science and can be completed as a full-time or part-time student. The program teaches cutting edge scientific methods and is a pioneer in the use of technology that collects real-time data worldwide.

The program is best suited to students with undergraduate degrees in engineering, math, and science, who want to pursue technical sustainability

careers. Students must take a capstone workshop in sustainability science instead of submitting a thesis. *Graduates will be technical practitioners, who know environmental science, modeling, and engineering, but who are not research experts. Their job and the goal is to bring these disciplines together to address sustainability problems.* Future careers could involve management positions in environmental technologies, monitoring, engineering, and compliance.

Learn more about this program:

<http://science.ei.columbia.edu/>