

EECPerspectives

The Newsletter of the University of Georgia Environmental Ethics Certificate Program

January 2004

EECP Announces Award-Winning Papers

The Environmental Ethics Certificate Program is proud to announce the winners of the first annual Kleiner Award for Outstanding Graduate Paper and Feighner Award for Outstanding Undergraduate Paper.



Laura Straehla

Laura Straehla receives the first annual Kleiner Award for her paper, "Toward an Ecosophy: Historical Preservation and Deep Ecological Norms," and Gwyneth Moody receives the first annual Feighner Award for her paper, "Assessing the Environmental Literacy Requirement at the University of Georgia"

The winning papers were chosen by a two-tiered process. First, EECP Faculty readers nominated works that they felt were worthy of consideration. Second, a four-person panel — comprised of Dr.

Peter Hartel, Dr. Hilda Kurtz, undergraduate student Sarah Hemmings and graduate student Betty Foster — read and judged the nominated papers. The papers were written by students who obtained their certificates during the 2002-2003 academic year.

Both Gwyneth Moody's and Laura Straehla's papers was cited by the panel for their originality and composition. Gwyneth will be awarded \$125 and a certificate commemorating her achievement. Laura will receive \$250 and a certificate as well.

Laura will also present her winning paper as a Spring Seminar on Tuesday, February 24, at 5:00 pm in the Founders House. We will also present Laura and Gwyneth with their awards that evening.



Gwyneth Moody

20th Anniversary Celebration a Success

On Tuesday, November 18, the EECP celebrated its 20th Anniversary at Gene and Martha Odum's cabin in Ila, Georgia. It was a memorable event, as our Past Chairs gathered for a once-in-a-lifetime photograph and the rest of us gather around the delicious Black Forest birthday cake.

Although the night turned soggy, our members relaxed and dined in the Odum's beautiful Spring Hollow cabin, listening with rapt attention to the history of the EECP as recounted by Frederick Ferré and John Granrose. We were especially lucky to have Dr. Granrose in attendance, who left a new bride and the equally soggy United Kingdom to journey across the pond for our celebration.

We've included a nice selection of photographs from that night in this issue, in particular the one memorializing our Past Chairs (*right*). If you would like a copy of this picture, please contact John Britt at (706) 542-0935 or eeep@uga.edu.

Here's to an amazing past 20 years and many more to come!



From left to right: Peter Hartel, Dorinda Dallmeyer, Frank Golley, Al Ike, Frederick Ferré, John Granrose (not pictured: Kathy Hatcher)

Photo by Robert Newcomb

EECP Abstract Round-up

Images of the Environment in Advertising and their Ethical Implications

Sarah Clower, Certificate awarded April 2003



Advertising has become an intricate part of our everyday lives and has had an undeniable, and even purposeful, effect on today's social values and ideals. Therefore, it is important to be aware of the complex messages used in advertising as companies go to greater lengths to appeal to the target market. By considering the impact that advertising has

on society, I have concluded that the American Association of Advertising Agencies should follow strict standards to protect the portrayal of the environment (as it has been used to protect minority groups and women in the past). My standards will forbid advertising that encourages human dominance over nature or uses false claims and vague references of environmental friendliness. The different types of environmental advertising can be organized into the following categories according to the messages they portray about the environment: 1) dominating nature, 2) Green advertising, 3) finding pleasure in nature, and 4) environmental conservation. I have deconstructed advertisements from each of these categories to prove that my standards are necessary to ensure that unethical ways of interacting with the environment are not being reinforced through advertising.

Reader: William Griswold

Overfishing in the Southern California Bight Region

Jennifer Hertzog, Certificate awarded June 2003



The conditions for marine wildlife off the California coast have worsened to an unacceptable level. Everywhere the competition among commercial, recreational, and sporting fishing and small family fisherman is fierce. Each player wants to catch the biggest and most fish before the next one. This hoarding of resources in this Tragedy of the Commons has greatly reduced fishing

stocks and pushed some species to the brink of extinction. Many agencies are attempting radical policies to increase the chances for some endangered species. However, the fishermen are opposed because to them it would mean less or no monetary gain. If we could all accept a similar value on the marine ecosystem or a similar ethic, maybe our grandchildren will live to see the animals in our bedtime stories instead of imagining them.

Reader: Mac Rawson

Water Apportionment in Georgia: Economics, Ecology, Equity and Future Generations

Frank Armstrong, Certificate awarded July 2003



A significant drought, interstate water conflicts, and burgeoning growth have led Georgians to think seriously about their once plentiful water supply and how it should be allocated to satisfy economic, ecological and societal needs. This paper presents an overview of Georgia water law nested within the concepts of Federalism and the potential impact of the Public Trust Doctrine on water governance in Georgia.

Readers: Dorinda Dallmeyer and Laurie Fowler

The Border Problem: NAFTA and the Economic, Social, and Environmental Implications Thereof

Leslie Hooper, Certificate awarded May, 2003

There remains little question that the implementation of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) has expanded the economic systems within North America, especially between the United States and Mexico. The goals of NAFTA include the creation and expansion of markets and employment opportunities in North America and the desire to serve as a catalyst for international cooperation. However, economically, the so-called cooperation between the United States and Mexico should be questioned. While NAFTA may temporarily appear to boost the Mexican economy, the kind of social and economic development Mexico has been developing is not necessarily sustainable in the long term, partly because of its dependence on other foreign economies.

Similarly, the path to unfettered economic development includes some negative side effects. Mexico, in particular, has experienced severe environmental degradation as well as serious social impacts on the human condition. Essentially, has NAFTA had an overall positive or negative effect Mexico? In an effort to move toward an answer to this broad question, this paper examines the benefits and costs of the implementation of NAFTA and attempts to show the linkage between the onset of NAFTA and its economic, social, and environmental consequences.



Reader: Ben Blount

Regulatory Takings and The Endangered Species Act
Jennifer Roth, Certificate awarded December, 2003



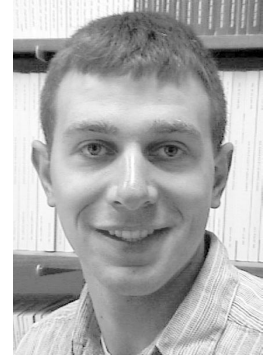
In this paper, I examine two areas of much current interest in environmental policy: regulatory takings and the Endangered Species Act (ESA). The takings proposition and the ESA have generated an enormous amount of debate of legal scholarship, case law, and political activity — all in an effort to determine exactly what sorts of government actions constitute takings.

In addition to exploring regulatory takings and their relationship with the ESA, this paper includes discussion on nuisance law and policy evaluation, particularly in light of biocentrism and preservationism.

Reader: John Bergstrom

Do Herps Need Ethics?

Luke Fedewa, Certificate awarded December 2003



Does environmental ethics have a place in herpetofaunal conservation?

Global conservation of reptiles and amphibians, or herpetofauna, is one of the many environmental problems that needs to be addressed by burgeoning human populations. The increasing number of anthropogenic interactions and the underlying social and cultural perceptions threaten amphibians and reptiles throughout the world. Environmental ethics may provide the objective tools to determine what we ought to do regarding the myriad of moral conflicts involved in herpetofaunal conservation. Three categories of environmental ethical theory (ecofeminism, animal rights/welfare, and biocentrism) were applied to three herpetofaunal conservation problems (habitat destruction, unsustainable use, and environmental pollution) to elucidate the efficacy of applying environmental ethics toward herpetofaunal conservation.

Readers: Frank Golley and J. Whitfield Gibbons

Scenes from a Celebration: Happy 20th Birthday, EECP!

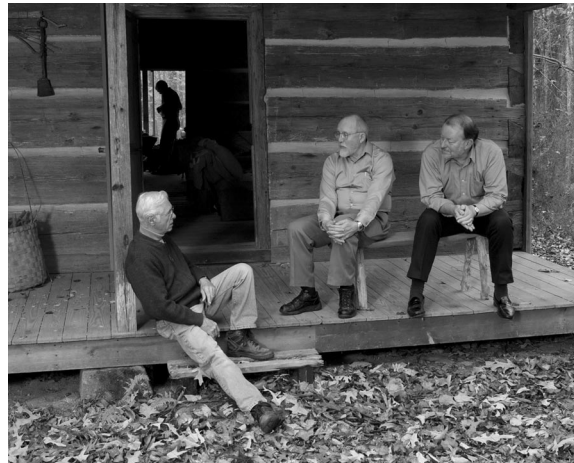
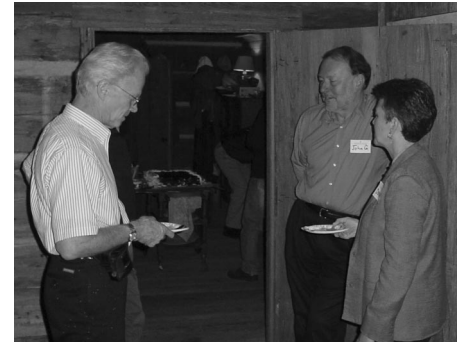
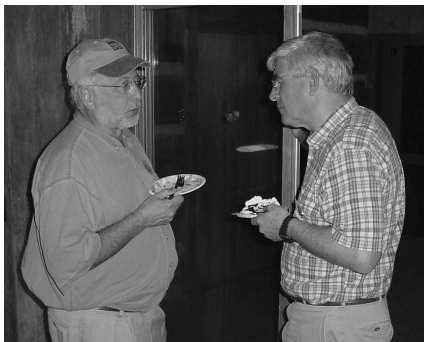


Photo by Robert Newcomb



Spring Seminar Schedule Announced

To the right is a guide to this semester's seminars. Put it on your fridge, in your wallet, or on a chain around your neck — you'll be sorry if you miss out. Unless otherwise noted, all seminars will start at 5:00 pm at the Founders House. You can read more about Laura Straehla's seminar inside this issue, so here's a few words on our other speakers:

Terry Centner is a professor of Agricultural and Applied Economics. He has analyzed a wide variety of topics relating agricultural production with economic performance and environmental quality to advocate new strategies for resolving conflicts and preserving resources. Centner's research on water pollution from animal feeding operations suggests that policy makers might seek ways to revise existing regulations to be more innovative. Terry will speak in the Ecology seminar room on South Campus.

Melissa Walker is the author of *Living on Wilderness Time*, in which she chronicles 200 days spent alone in America's wild places. She serves as vice-president of National Wilderness Watch, chair of the Georgia chapter of Wilderness Watch, and serves on the Southern Appalachian Council of the Wilderness Society. She has been a professor of English at the University of New Orleans and Mercer University and a fellow of Women's Studies at Emory University.

Geology professor David Wenner will take us on a walk along Hunnicutt Creek, the site of recent contamination. On August 10, 2003, vandals opened the valves on storage tanks at the David Oil Co., sending nearly 14,000 gallons of petroleum waste into the creek. Dr. Wenner will discuss the event and its effect on the creek and surrounding area. The walk will end at the Salsa Rock Café (formerly Calienté Cab), so if you want to stay for dinner, bring a few dollars for fried plantains.

Spring Seminar Schedule

Tuesday, Jan. 13: Peter Hartel, UGA
Turtle World: A Video Discussion

Tuesday, Feb. 3: Terry Centner, UGA
Regulating Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations:
Moving Beyond Clean Water Act Mandates

Tuesday, Feb. 24: Laura Straehla, Kleiner Award Winner
Toward an Ecosophy: Historic Preservation & Deep Ecological Norms

Tuesday, March 23: Melissa Walker
Becoming a Wilderness Activist and Living on Wilderness Time

Tuesday, April 13: David Wenner, UGA
Philosopher's Walk along Hunnicutt Creek

environmental ethics certificate program

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