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The Fierce Green Fire: Vol 5 Issue 5

Wofford College Environmental Studies Program

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The Fierce Green Fire

A Newsletter of the Wofford College Environmental Studies Program

Catherine Watson, a junior ENVS major, paddles through a rapid on the Pacolet River Blueway during a recent ENVS 203 field lab.

Come to the Thinking Like a River symposium today and tomorrow to celebrate and discuss Blueways!



Volume 5, Issue 5

The Space: Staff Retreat on the Pacolet River by Lisa Ware

Like many workplace teams, we schedule an annual staff retreat to plan for the coming year. It's an opportunity to get out of the office and our normal routines, and also to enjoy some time together.

We always return from a retreat refreshed and rededicated to doing our best for Wofford's students, but this year was special. With the help of Goodall Center staff, we spent a portion of our August retreat kayaking on the Pacolet River. It was an exciting and fun morning (yes, a staff retreat can be – and should be – fun).

We borrowed Goodall Center kayaks, paddles and life jackets, plus a truck and trailer to haul it all. We set off from Clifton Beach just east of Spartanburg, paddling downstream to the takeout on Lawson's Fork Creek. Guided by Dr. John Ware, professor of English and an experienced kayaker, we enjoyed

a brisk current, several Class I rapids, lots of laughter and a spill or two.

During two hours on the water, we offered each other help and encouragement as we navigated the unfamiliar rapids. We worked together to haul heavy boats in and out of the river. We saw different facets of personalities we thought we knew well.

The shared experience brought us closer in a way that working day in and day out together can't. And a closer team is a happier, more productive team. We can't thank the Goodall Center folks enough for making the day possible.

Lisa Ware is the marketing director for The Space in The Mungo Center at Wofford College.

<http://www.wofford.edu/thespace/>



The Goodall Center trailer stuffed full of sit-on-top kayaks and a couple of boats belonging to The Space team members.



The Pacolet offered plenty of excitement on the rapids, but also some nice calm stretches to catch our breath.

Upcoming Events and Opportunities

- October 9th** *Thinking Like A River Symposium: Join Us Today!* We welcome two speakers, Scott McMillin, Professor of English at Oberlin College; and Leslie King, director of the Rivers Institute at University of Dayton. A panel discussion, “*Blueways: An Inquiring Gaze*,” is planned for 2:30-5:30pm in Anna Todd Wofford Center. McMillin will speak at 7:00pm in McMillan Theater. His lecture will be on “*Am I Blue? The Strange Ways of an Urban River*.”
- October 10th** *Thinking Like A River Symposium: Join Us Tomorrow!* There will be a coffee and conversation at 3:00-4:30pm in Gray-Jones Room with McMillin and King. Leslie King’s talk will follow at 6:30pm in Gray-Jones. Her topic is “*Rivers Institute at the University of Dayton; Partnering on the River*.”
- October 11th** *Canceled - Cottonwood Trail Clean Stream Day:* The stream clean scheduled for this Saturday has been postponed. Stay tuned for a make-up date next spring!
- October 19th** *Tyger River Float Trip:* Please join *SPACE* and the *Spartanburg County Parks & Recreation Department* for a float on Spartanburg's Tyger River. This trip is appropriate for novice or beginning paddlers. Depending on water levels, duration of trip is about 2 hours on the water, with extra time for instruction and transportation from take-out to put-in. They have a limit of 15 boats available for this trip so sign up early, or bring your own boat for a \$10 charge. 2:00-5:00pm. Registration online at Eventbrite.com.
- October 21st** *“Big Men”:* Film screening features oil exploration and the oil industry. Sponsored by ENVS & Government departments. Olin 101 at 7:00pm. Refreshments and discussion following the film.
- October 28th** *Halloween at Goodall:* Bring the kids for some tricks and treats at the Goodall Center! Snakes, spiders, bones, and more! Contact Haley if you would like to help with activities for the kids – brielhe@wofford.edu.

Visit our www.thinkinglikeariver.com website!

PROFILE OF THE WEEK:

University of Georgia – College of Environment and Design

The University of Georgia’s College of Environment and Design (CED) is one of the many areas of study that the school offers to graduate students who are interested in sustainability and the environment. There are three master’s degrees in Landscape Architecture (MLA), Environmental Planning & Design (MEPD), and Historic Preservation (MHP).

The College of Environment and Design is ranked #1 in the nation for landscape architecture sustainable design practices and principles by *Design*

Intelligence magazine.

In recent years, the CED has added a professional degree enhancement to its curriculum for the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) accreditation, which is a highly regarded credential for graduates looking to be hired.

UGA’s College of Environment and Design is one of the oldest programs of its kind in the nation. Visit www.ced.uga.edu/ for more information on the program.