12-7-2010

The Fierce Green Fire Vol. 1 Issue 6

Wofford College Environmental Studies Program

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Sophomore Kelly Blake Attends Local Water Conference

On November 19, ENVS sophomore Kelly Blake attended a seminar in Greer, SC that was coordinated by the local non-profit organization, Upstate Forever. The seminar - “Total Maximum Daily Loads & 303d Impaired Waters” - was part of a speaker series called “Water: Securing Our Future.”

About her experience, Kelly writes, “Representatives from SC DHEC, USEPA, and Woolpert spoke about different issues relating to 303d, or impaired water systems, and how each organization plays a role in managing these watersheds.

When a water system has been put on the 303d list, then a Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL) plan can be developed to deal with the impaired water body. There are many tricky steps between the federal and state level because the EPA must approve the TMDL, but the EPA has no authority to regulate on the state level. Therefore, this responsibility falls into the hands of SC DHEC, which has limited funding and resources to name and manage all TMDLs properly throughout SC.

Due to limited resources, one of the questions that arose in the talk was whether volunteers from the community and from the academic community (Wofford and Furman) could help test and monitor water quality in the Upstate.

This Interim I will be interning for Upstate Forever and focusing on storm water and water quality issues. The talk was a great learning experience and gave me good background information for January.”

All photos by: Dick Carr, compliments of Upstate Forever.
Upcoming Events and Opportunities

December 18th

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<th>SPACE Jingle Bell Run</th>
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<td>9:00 AM, The Cottonwood Trail</td>
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<td>An annual 5K run fundraising for the Spartanburg Area Conservancy. For more information, visit <a href="http://www.spartanburgconservation.org/index.htm">http://www.spartanburgconservation.org/index.htm</a></td>
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**GRAD SCHOOL PROFILE OF THE WEEK:**

*The University of Nevada-Reno, Studies in Literature & Environment*

Established in 1996 by the Department of English of the University of Nevada-Reno, the Literature and Environment Program was the first institution in the US to offer a graduate program in ecocriticism. The program offers both M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in English, with an emphasis in Literature and the Environment.

According to the program’s website, “The “L&E Program” typically enrolls between twenty and twenty-five M.A. and Ph.D. students per year, including both incoming and continuing students. We attract excellent students from all parts of the United States and various parts of the world, united by common interests and a shared commitment to informed stewardship of the earth. Approximately a dozen faculty members contribute to a dynamic curriculum that offers courses in literature, theory, rhetoric, and writing.

We faculty take very seriously our role as mentors, and we give students the careful attention that helps them define and achieve their goals. Together, students and faculty in L&E enjoy a strong sense of community, making friendships that last beyond graduation.”

For more information, view [the program website.](http://www.unr.edu) Also, you may contact the English Department’s Director of Graduate Studies, Don Hardy, at (775) 682-6368, or [donhardy@unr.edu](mailto:donhardy@unr.edu).

**CONGRATS & KUDOS –**

. . . to *Charlotte Perrow*, who will be an intern in the marketing department of AgSouth Farm Credit this coming Spring. “I will be learning about communications within an agricultural organization. I will be working on their internal newsletters, their external magazine for their shareholders, and some other things such as web casting and working to help improve customer service. I am really excited, and I think this is a great opportunity for me to further my interest in the agricultural field.”

. . . to *Kelly Blake*, who will be an intern with Upstate Forever this Interim. Upstate Forever is a nonprofit organization that promotes sensible growth and protects special places in the Upstate region of SC. Its three main program areas are Land Trust, Clean Air and Water, and Sustainable Communities.

**WHAT’S HAPPENING?**

Check out these websites for additional events and opportunities!

*SPARTANBURG AREA CONSERVANCY -* [http://www.spartanburgconservation.org/index.htm](http://www.spartanburgconservation.org/index.htm)

*GLENDALE OUTDOOR LEADERSHIP SCHOOL -* [http://www.setgols.org/index.html](http://www.setgols.org/index.html)