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The Fierce Green Fire: Vol. 4 Issue 15

Wofford College Environmental Studies Program

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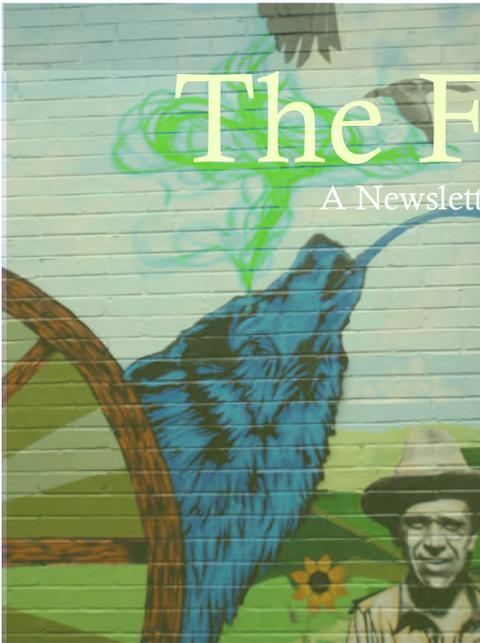
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The Fierce Green Fire

A Newsletter of the Wofford College Environmental Studies Program



Students in ARTS 245 and ENVS 330 visit Inman Stone, hosted by Rob Kennedy '13 (left).



Volume 4, Issue 15

A Creative Collaboration



Students in ARTS 245 and ENVS 330 show their watercolor palettes. They made the paint from natural pigments.



It's Monday afternoon and students in the two classes, ARTS 245 (Introduction to Studio Art) and ENVS 330 (Art and Earth) are in the lab mixing paint, making a palette of watercolors from earthen pigments and local clays combined with gum arabic and honey. The students used the *Munsell Soil Color Chart* to identify the pigments' hues. In a few weeks, they will take their palettes to the Glendale Shoals Preserve for *plein air* landscape painting, and some of their work will be displayed later this semester in the Glass Case Gallery in the Roger Milliken Science Center.

Other collaborative projects in the classes have included a visit to Inman Stone, a rock quarry where recent ENVS alumnus Rob Kennedy '13 is employed, and sculpting wax carvings that will be cast into aluminum with the help of local artist and engineer Robert Brown. Next up is an exploration of media that have botanical or biological origins, including charcoal and chalk.

Another part of the courses will explore the natural processes that formed the landscapes depicted in various artistic works, as well as site-specific art generated within particular landscape environments.

It's all part of a new collaboration that the professors, Kris Neely and Kaye Savage, are developing to foster art integration across the curriculum. The *Art and Earth* class is focused on the geological sources of materials used in the fine arts, and understanding how the environments in which they formed influence their properties, from the artist's perspective. The *Introduction to Studio Art* class has more of an emphasis on creating art objects from different media, and exploring their expressive properties.

Profs. Neely and Savage both agree that the collaboration provides a richer learning environment for both classes, and look forward to continuing this partnership through future semesters.

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Upcoming Events and Opportunities

- March 11th** *Lecture at Hub City Bookshop:* At 5:00pm David Taylor, professor at the University of North Texas, will talk about his book of poems, *The Log from the Sea of Cortez: A Poem Series*.
- March 18th** *Eco-poetry Lecture:* Terry Gifford, British eco-critic and poet will speak on campus. 4:00pm, location TBD.
- March 22nd** *Spartanburg Area Conservancy:* Workday at the Cottonwood Trail/Griffin Preserve property from 9:00am-noon. Volunteers will meet at the Woodburn Road parking area. Please bring wheelbarrows, rakes, shovels, and pitchforks. Work gloves and shoes that can get wet/dirty are also advised. Please call 948-0000 or email Andrew, andrew@spartanburgconservancy.org if you would like to help.
- May 9th** *Deadline to apply to be a Bartram Fellow with Fall Line South Field Institute:* Visit <http://www.falllinesouth.org/> to learn more about this summer opportunity. Camp dates are June 6-15. College-aged leaders need to interact with high school-aged students and assist camp instructors in an outdoor environment.

PROFILE OF THE WEEK:

University of Delaware – Masters of Energy and Environmental Policy

The University of Delaware's Center for Energy and Environmental Policy (CEEP) was established in 1980 and is a leading institution in graduate education, research, and energy and environmental policy.

The lead professor of the program, Dr. John Byrne, shares the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize for his contributions to *Working Group III of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change* with fellow panel authors and review editors.

The CEEP offers master and doctoral degrees in Energy and Environmental Policy (MEEP and PhD-ENEP) and sponsors degrees in the School of Urban Affairs and Public Policy Program (MA-E3 and PhD-TES).

The program's areas of research include energy sustainability, environmental justice, global environments, political ecology, sustainable development, and water sustainability.

For more information visit the website:
<http://ceep.udel.edu/>