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The Fierce Green Fire

A Newsletter of the Wofford College Environmental Studies Program

*Congratulations
to senior
Sheridan Kate
Murray, our
2019 recipient
of the
Harrington
Award!*



Volume 9, Issue 26

2019 Harrington Award Presented at Honors Convocation

*“To see a world in a grain of sand,
and a Heaven in a wildflower,
Hold Infinity in the palm of your hand,
And Eternity in an hour.”*

John W. Harrington, beloved Professor of Geology at Wofford for almost 20 years, loved this passage by William Blake and made it come alive for his students year after year, as he introduced them to the wondrous dynamic world of the deep past and shimmering present. Professor Harrington’s style of promoting curiosity in the field and delighting in the challenge of interpreting observations is a guiding force of the Environmental Studies Program that is part of his legacy. Concepts like the “wasness of the is,” the “cone of vision,” and the “four critical aspects” with its questions of “what?, which?, where?, and how?” provide a tool kit necessary to fully understanding an environmental situation. The comparative and holistic use of humanities, sciences, and social sciences perspectives provides the liberal arts context in which these tools are used to define, understand, and seek solutions to modern environmental problems. One of John Harrington’s intellectual heroes was geologist Charles Lyell whose dictum was “trust reason not authority.” John encouraged, valued and rewarded personal insights and creative reasoning in his students. This award in his honor continues that tradition.

The Harrington Award is given by the Environmental Studies Program to the graduating senior who embodies John Harrington’s curiosity, creativity and excitement for field learning, while exhibiting high academic achievement, scholarly promise, and intellectual and moral integrity.

This year’s John W. Harrington award goes to Sheridan Kate Murray. I remember meeting Sheridan Kate as an Asheville high schooler, learning that she was already planning to major in Environmental Studies, and wondering what feats she might do in her time here. Four years later, the answer is, SO MANY FEATS. Sheridan Kate edited the Old Gold and Black, received a Whetsell Fellowship, studied in Glasgow, and served as Hub Bub’s Creative Placemaking intern. Her senior fall, she wrote a 56-page senior capstone on the environmental impacts of cadmium in art supplies, and artists’ perceptions and management of those supplies.

This semester Sheridan Kate, along with taking 17 other credits, worked with me on an independent project that incorporates environmental policy analysis, charismatic megafauna, and postage stamps. The paper will be submitted for publication in Environmental Science and Policy. She is also overseeing marketing and rebranding for Wofford’s recycling system as we implement a DHEC grant. She will graduate with a BA in Art History as well as a BS in Environmental Studies. I’m not sure that she ever sleeps.

Next year, Sheridan Kate will bring her combination of intellectual rigor, focused passion, and creative advocacy to environmental education and outreach work. She will surely make a difference in all the people and places she meets.

~presented by Dr. Brewitt



As we say farewell to Black Science Annex, we enjoy the final spring blossoms of the dogwood tree in the BSA courtyard.

During the 2019-20 academic year, please find our temporary offices on the second floor of the College Street building as we await our new building to be completed in fall 2020.

Upcoming Events and Opportunities

**These count toward your two required extracurricular events for the semester.*

May 1st – 18th
Hallway of Black Science Annex

Natural Patience: A photo exhibition by senior Christina Boyd for her ENV5 capstone project. Please stop in anytime during the day and view her works in the hallway of BSA. A reception is planned for 3:30pm on May 16; the work will remain on display through graduation.

May 15th
6:00-7:00pm
Hub City Bookshop
186 W Main Street



In Discussion with Dr. Peter Brewitt*: Dr. Brewitt will be at the Hub City Bookshop to discuss his new book *Same River Twice* which tells the stories of three major Northwestern dam removals—the politics, people, hopes, and fears that shaped three rivers and their communities.

May 16th
4:00pm
Black Science Annex

Thirsty Thursday and Farewell to Black Science Annex: Join us in BSA to raise a glass of wine, beer, lemonade or water and say so long, farewell and thank you to Black Science for a job well done with many memories made within its walls.

May 24th
Application Deadline for 11-month positions
Ongoing Applications
for summer until all positions are filled

Conserving Carolina positions available: Currently recruiting for summer internships and 11-month positions (*beginning September 2019*) to work with host site organizations to protect the unique natural resources of the Blue Ridge Mountain region in western North Carolina. Visit [Americorp Project Conserve/Conserving Carolina](#) for more information.

June 15th
Application Deadline

Schiele Museum of Natural History Internship Opportunity: Fall and spring semester 2019-2020 part-time environmental education internships in a museum setting. Visit [Schiele Museum Internships](#) for more information.

Ongoing

Job Opportunities in Conservation and Restoration: [The Great Basin Institute](#) is a nonprofit organization that specializes in conservation and restoration all throughout the West. They are currently hiring for over 60 paid positions ranging from ecological monitoring, wildlife monitoring, trail maintenance, range land management, and fuels reduction.

PROFILE OF THE WEEK:

Penn State University – Ecosystem Science and Management Program

The College of Agricultural Sciences' Ecosystem Science and Management program at Penn State offers both an MS and PhD in Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences.

Students gain hands-on experience exploring in area streams, forests, and wetlands, which give students an understanding of the biology and aquatic wildlife species and their environments. The program's website says, "State-of-the-art laboratory facilities, including off-campus field stations and field sites, a vibrant seminar program and an engaged,

enthusiastic faculty are available to student in this program."

In a joint degree program with Penn State Law, students can also earn a JD along with an MS in Forest Resources or a PhD in Forest Resources or Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences.

A listing of all the College of Agricultural Sciences' graduate degree programs can be found at [Penn State – College of Agricultural Sciences](#).