This week we embark on the second Thinking Like a River symposium. The events have both taken the same shape: we invite three or four folks in to talk publicly about our TLAR metaphor and experience our local Pacolet river on an overnight float trip.

At last year’s symposium, writers Susan Fox Rogers, Mike Freeman, Alison Hedge-Coke, and hydrologist David Furbish visited. This year it’s scientist Margo Farnsworth, writer and teacher Hal Crimmel, and river restorer Jon Calabria.

After last year’s symposium Susan Fox Rogers hauled the idea north, and last week she inaugurated “TLAR North” at Bard College. I traveled to the Hudson, read river poetry, sat on a panel of river activists, writers, and scientists, and floated down the river with Bard students and faculty. We camped on an island too.

Come on out to our symposium events if you can. Learn to think like a river. We are especially fortunate that the Thinking Like a River symposium coincides with a week-long residency of Tibetan monks from the Drepung Loseling Monastery, during which they have been constructing a sand mandala at the Chapman Center. They have chosen to distribute the sand from the mandala in the Lawson’s Fork Creek behind the Goodall Center for Environmental Studies.

Public events:
“Undiscovered Tributaries I”
Thursday, October 3, 2013 – 2:30pm-5:00pm - Anna Todd Wofford Center Panel discussion with Margo Farnsworth, a consultant in strategic sustainability development, an adjunct faculty at Lipscomb University’s Institute of Sustainability, and a Fellow for Biomimicry 3.8; and Jon Calabria, professor of landscape architecture at the University of Georgia.

“Undiscovered Tributaries II”
Friday, October 4, 2013 – 1:00 p.m. behind the Goodall Center for Environmental Studies at Glendale Shoals.

Mandala Sand distribution
Friday, October 4, 2013 – 7:00pm – Gray-Jones Room, Burwell Building Part two of our panel discussion will feature Hal Crimmel, professor of writing and literature at Weber State University; and our two guests from Thursday, Margo Farnsworth and Jon Calabria.
Bard College, a private liberal arts college, is located on the shore of the Hudson River, which is just north of New York City. The Bard Center for Environmental Policy (Bard CEP) was founded in 1999 and the graduate program was launched in 2001.

Today, Bard CEP offers a MS in Environmental Policy and a MS in Climate Science and Policy. The Peace Corps Master's International Program also provides the opportunity to incorporate the Peace Corps service with a master's degree.

A joint program with Pace Law School, one of the nation’s top five environmental law programs, provides a MS degree, in environmental policy or climate science and policy, and a JD with a certificate in environmental law. Two other dual degrees are offered. The MS/MAT is for students seeking advanced knowledge in environmental policy and certification in secondary education and the MS/MBA is for students developing careers that combine the skills needed in both policy and business. For more information, visit http://www.bard.edu/cep/.

PROFILE OF THE WEEK:
Bard College – Bard Center for Environmental Policy