

EVERGREEN

The Evergreen State College Magazine

Fall 2007

TAKING
on the
WORLD



EVERGREEN

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Evergreen has an exciting opportunity – and we might even say a responsibility – to serve as an evolving model of what is possible in sustainable practices. From small efforts, like my personal commitment to take the bus at least one day a week instead of driving, to larger institutional initiatives including the development of a sustainability-focused campus master plan and ongoing efforts to ensure that social justice is woven into our understanding and goals for sustainability, we can make a significant difference.

On an even more powerful level, we can amplify our positive effect by developing informed, engaged and motivated citizens through our teaching mission.

We can all be proud of the many achievements and initiatives you will read about in this issue of our magazine. Beyond that, I am inspired by the potential I see in the extraordinary people that comprise our Evergreen community; students, parents, alumni, faculty, staff and supporters. Together it is possible to change the world for the better. We are already doing it and we are showing others the way.



Thomas L. Purce
President

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On the cover: Evergreen alumni **Rhys Roth MES '90** and **Paul Horton '90** co-founded the non-profit organization Climate Solutions in 1998. "Global warming is our generation's greatest challenge and solving it is our greatest opportunity to build a healthy, prosperous future."



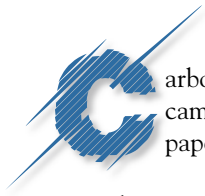
WEAVING A

SUSTAINABLE

PATTERN

By Char Simons

**Evergreen's focus
on sustainability
combines social justice
and the environment**



arbon neutrality and zero waste by 2020. Increasing locally produced food available on campus to 40 percent by 2010, as well as reducing energy consumption by 30 percent, and paper consumption, desktop printers, computers and photocopiers by 10 to 50 percent.

These are ambitious goals for Evergreen, which already gets 100 percent of its electricity from renewable sources, such as wind, solar and biomass, thanks to a self-imposed student fee. Sustainability at the college is going beyond such recognizable green measures. A multi-prong approach by faculty, staff, students and alumni is integrating new opportunities, programs and practices into Evergreen's already strong focus on sustainability that weave together environmentalism, diversity and social justice.

"Social justice and the environment are on an equal footing," Evergreen President Les Purce says. "The two major emerging issues of sustainability and diversity go hand in hand."

Evergreen is spearheading local efforts of a nationwide climate change conversation, Focus the Nation (www.evergreen.edu/committee/sustainability/focusthenation.htm). Discussions are being organized on college campuses culminating in a series of public events on January 30, 2008. Evergreen is coordinating area efforts with other colleges and universities, state and municipal governments, tribes and nonprofit organizations. Daytime activities at Evergreen are to include workshops on transportation, development and green buildings. Evening activities will culminate with panel discussions, speakers and audience participation at the Washington Center for the Performing Arts in downtown Olympia, and will include a "toolbox" of ideas and actions to help participants make a personal impact on climate change.



Evergreen faculty member Rob Cole teaches students to use mathematical models to find new ways of looking at the natural environment. "(My) main job is to create situations for students to create 'ah ha' experiences for themselves," he says. "Situations that will provoke students to act."

The goal of Focus the Nation is to put sustainability issues, ranging from individual to legislative, high on the national agenda. "It's slow progress trying to get people on board about climate change, but they're finally starting to come around," says Chelsie Papiez, Evergreen's Focus the Nation coordinator and a Master of Environmental Studies (MES) student. "Transportation is the biggest issue that needs to be addressed, and is one of the biggest challenges for this college."

Focus the Nation is just part of the picture. "Currently across the country there is a big wave of enthusiasm motivated by climate change," says eco-design faculty member Rob Knapp, who was instrumental in the green design of Seminar II in the early 2000s. "People are beginning to see that solutions are both important and doable."

What sustainability is and how to do it has evolved since the first Earth Day in 1970. Recycling, saving whales and tropical rainforests are all important, but are only pieces of a larger, more comprehensive picture. "A lot of things we call sustainability have been happening for a long time," Knapp says. "What's happening now is an attempt to draw together all of those threads and make use of Evergreen's experience. This includes figuring out what sustainability means today, being clear about the relevancy of our curriculum, and connecting with communities in more ongoing, systematic ways."

At Evergreen, students, faculty and staff have come up with a definition of sustainability the Evergreen way – through collaboration. Campus-wide conversations that began thinking just in terms of the environment quickly evolved to a more holistic, interdisciplinary approach that includes equity, social justice, community and the economy (www.evergreen.edu/committee/sustainability/home.htm). Furthermore, Evergreen hopes to become a laboratory for sustainability, as demonstrated in its operations, curriculum and quality of life for employees and students. Integral to those efforts are nurturing values and practical skills that motivate a lifetime commitment to a sustainable, intergenerationally just way of living on a healthy planet.

In terms of sustainable practices, Evergreen is already catching regional and national attention. As a member of the leadership circle of the Association of American Colleges and University Presidents Climate Commitment, Purce is actively participating in developing the AACUP's Kyoto-like protocol pledging to reduce carbon footprints. More than 400 higher education leaders nationwide have signed the Climate Commitment. The college is racking up environmental awards, including recognition from the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education, *Grist* magazine's top 15 list of green colleges and universities, and the Governor's Award for Pollution Prevention and Sustainable Practices.



Karin Kraft, MES '04 is a sustainability specialist with the Hazardous Waste and Toxics Reduction Program at the Washington State Department of Ecology. She's also their Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Specialist and Interagency Sustainability Coordinator, as well as the director of the Sustainable Community Roundtable of South Puget Sound. Kraft's e-mail tagline is "Buy less stuff."

The Roundtable's mission is to facilitate dialogue, vision, action and celebration (they're big on consensus) to make South Puget Sound ecologically, economically and socially sustainable. They conduct public forums and workshops, and produce a report on the state of the community, including air and water quality, vehicle use, housing, regional food, biodiversity, energy

consumption, and community health. (For more information about the Roundtable, visit www.sustainsouthsound.org)

Kraft's definition of sustainability? "A thriving, happy, healthy community – good food, good friends, good family." She encourages folks to support local businesses "and request that they produce healthy products and services." She believes the idea of sustainability incorporates social justice, and connection with community.

“Change at the societal level often begins with colleges and universities. We train teachers, engineers and others. There is no more important work these days than sustainability,” says Nancy Parkes ’78, environmental studies faculty, co-chair of the campus-wide sustainability task force of faculty, students and staff, and former environmental policy aide for Gov. Booth Gardner.

Academically, Evergreen has long been a national leader in sustainability curriculum, with programs such as Ecological Design, Ecological Agriculture and Sustainable Ecosystems. Student involvement has been high, with students approving fees funding 100 percent green electricity for the college, a green redesign of the College Activities Building, subsidized bus passes, and design assistance for Seminar II and its teaching gardens. Still, new initiatives are blossoming in all areas of the college, such as:

- Sustainability and Justice curriculum. Offerings are to include such long-time favorites as Ecological Design and Ecological Agriculture, along with new offerings in Green Business and Entrepreneurship, Environmental Justice, Models for Social Change, Native American Studies, Political Economy, Energy Systems, the arts, core math and science, internships, community partnerships and graduate programs.
- Strengthening the role of Evergreen’s service centers, such as the Center for Community-Based Learning and Action, in the sustainability curriculum.
- Opportunities for Master of Environmental Studies students, including a core course in sustainability and graduate research and practicum fellowships.
- Hiring faculty in sustainability.
- A new coordinator of sustainability located in the president’s office and making permanent the sustainability task force.
- The college’s new master plan calling for a major focus on sustainability in the next 10 years in the areas of transportation, housing and on-campus facilities.
- Development of green purchasing policies and practices.
- New and ongoing faculty-student projects, such as measuring the mitigating impact of Evergreen’s 1,000-acre forest in reducing the college’s carbon footprint.
- Creating new graduate fellowships for student leaders in new areas, such as coordinating the work of the sustainability task force to infuse sustainability throughout curriculum and college operations.



Willow Oling and her all-Evergreen crew.

Willow Oling ’89 is the owner of Sound Gardening & Pest Management, an organic landscaping company in Olympia. She’s also a garden coach, treasurer and coordinator of the Eastside Community Gardens in Olympia, and treasurer of the South Puget Sound chapter of the Green Party.

She is passionate about organic gardening and landscaping. “I want to live to be an old old lady. I don’t want any pesticides or herbicides in the ground that I work in.”

Her definition of sustainability? “Farming and gardening the same piece of land – rotate the crops and keep yourself going – perennial gardening. That’s what I try to do in all the gardens I take care of. Nationwide, the soil’s been poisoned with DDT and similar chemicals, with a half-life of 100 years. That’s why I use a whole lot of organic matter all the time, because it holds the nutrients in the soil for the plants, and heals the soil from the poisons. You want to be careful of getting contaminated soil on your skin. And if you grow food in it, well, it’s just not a good idea.”

Oling learned the benefits of organic gardening from her father, who grew vegetables when she was a child. “My father said the best thing was to be organic. He said, ‘I want you to be healthy.’ He was a fisheries biologist, so he knew about the natural world. He knew we’re gonna kill ourselves off if we keep using herbicides.”

Oling takes care of about 30 gardens in the Olympia area. “I mulch with organic cow manure as often as I can get it,” she says. “It’s hard to come by now because farms are going out of business, they’re selling to developers. Land is more valuable as subdivisions.” She grimaces.

Even the community garden she volunteers at is organic. “We provide organic manure,” she says, “and wood chips for the paths from local arborists.” Unfortunately, the plot for the 20-year-old garden has been sold to developers. “We need another spot,” she says. “One or one and a half acres would be good.”

Part of sustainability is weighing the common good with individualism. In terms of college operations, nowhere is this more felt than in how goods and services are acquired. "If we don't pay attention to what we're purchasing, we're leaving a fairly large hole in the middle of the puzzle," says Kathleen Haskett, college purchasing manager, who is working on a campus-wide green purchasing policy that would formalize acquisition of items such as green janitorial products and recycled paper. "A green purchasing policy would bring new meaning to the phrase 'the Evergreen way.'"

Some changes will mean putting the common good ahead of individual needs and desires. "Perhaps we go back to the central store model and away from ordering whatever we want off the Internet where delivery trucks make single trips to the college and each purchase has to be logged in individually," says Steve Trotter, executive director of operational planning and budget, and sustainability task force co-chair. "Our whole behavior is based on consumerism and the latest gee-whizeree. How do we go through that difficult phase of right-sizing?"

One way is by examining our values, says Karen Gaul, an anthropologist and Evergreen's new sustainability faculty member. "There is a need to examine our sense of entitlement and privilege, which shuts the door to all we can learn from other cultures. What Evergreen can offer is to educate students

to think and live sustainably, and how to make choices of restraint in a culture of consumption. We need to get away from the idea that restraint equals sacrifice. Life can be so much richer when you're consuming less."

Another way is through beauty, Knapp believes. "One of the most important opportunities we've got is for faculty in the arts to be central to what's going on. Things won't be sustainable until they're beautiful. People won't engage with them enough and love them enough to keep anything going. Sustainability is about making life better. We need the literary, visual and performance arts to understand what sustainability consists of."

Another academic initiative that has great ripple effect potential is Curriculum for the Bioregion, helping college teachers in the Puget Sound region integrate sustainability themes into a wide array of undergraduate courses.

"Each year more than 11,000 students at community colleges in the state take English composition. If even a small number of writing teachers regularly created reading and writing assignments on sustainability issues, think how many students we would reach," says Jean MacGregor, director of the project, which is housed at the Washington Center for Improving the Quality of Undergraduate Education, one of Evergreen's Public Service Centers.

Climate Solutions houses a number of Evergreen alumni, including executive director **Paul Horton '90**, who cofounded the organization with **Rhys Roth MES '90** in 1998. Horton also volunteers to help "businesses and institutions become more sustainable."

Horton thinks the word sustainability is "an overused term that the vast majority of the world, including the so-called converted green choir, are unable to define in any way that allows experts and non-experts alike to make sound, day-to-day or long-term decisions that affect the health of the environment and our prospects as a species." He prefers "science-based definitions and planning frameworks such as the Natural Step."

He believes that for society to be sustainable:

- Substances from the Earth's crust must not systematically increase in the biosphere. "This means that fossil fuels, metals and other materials are not extracted at a faster pace than their slow redeposit into the Earth."
- Substances produced by society must not systematically increase in nature. "This means that they aren't produced at a faster pace than they can be broken down."
- The physical basis for the productivity and the diversity of nature must not be systematically diminished. "We must not harvest more from nature than can be recreated."
- We must be fair and efficient in meeting basic human needs. "They must be met with the most resource-efficient methods possible, including a just resource distribution."

Sustainability is much more than simply about the natural environment, says Horton. "It absolutely must incorporate social justice and community."





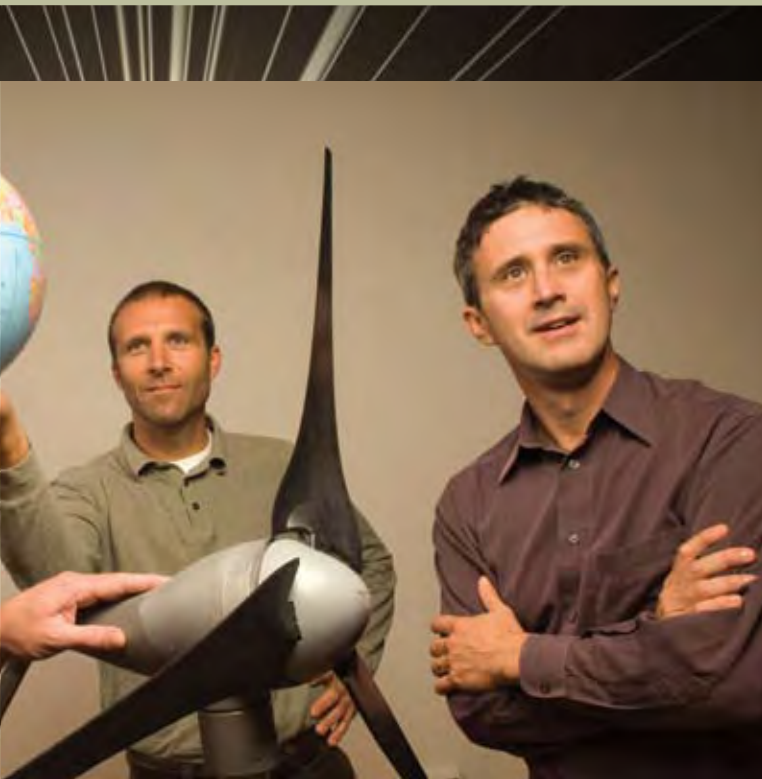
Faculty member Jean MacGregor directs the Curriculum for the Bioregion initiative through the Washington Center for Improving the Quality of Undergraduate Education, helping regional teachers integrate sustainability themes into everyday classes.

One of many untapped solutions to sustainability problems is right outside our door – nature, asserts faculty member Rob Cole. “There is no waste in nature. Everyone is food for someone else,” he says. “Biomimicry is an area in which we could make the most progress.”

Several factors will determine whether sustainability activity nationwide and globally will go the way of civil rights and human rights and become a full-fledged movement, or whether it remains a short-term bandwagon. “People have to be motivated to change their consumer patterns out of hope for a better life, not out of fear. Grassroots initiatives need to remain strong, rather than handing over problems for experts to fix,” says Ted Whitesell, MES director. “We have to be willing to work across significant differences. Change can happen if people challenge the power of the petroleum industry to set political agendas.”

Changing individual, community, corporate and government behavior around energy consumption, transportation, food, housing and other quality of life issues is hard but not hopeless. “These huge problems are not going to be resolved just because highly motivated individuals inform their legislators who design new rules to live by, or because the corporate world suddenly gets green religion or from another spate of U.N. reports, as valuable as all these things are,” MacGregor concludes. “A sustainable future will only happen because individual people believe they can make a difference in the world and are motivated to act.”

For more information on sustainability activities at Evergreen, check out www.evergreen.edu/committee/sustainability or contact sustainability task force coordinator Lindsay Wright, sustainability@evergreen.edu, or co-chairs Nancy A. Parkes, parkesn@evergreen.edu and Steve Trotter, trotters@evergreen.edu.



Peter Moulton, Paul Horton and Rhys Roth (L-R) at Climate Solutions headquarters in downtown Olympia.

Peter Moulton '83 has managed the Harvesting Clean Energy program for Climate Solutions, a regional non-profit whose mission is to accelerate practical and profitable solutions to global warming by galvanizing leadership, increasing investment, and bridging divides. Moulton defines sustainability as, “Meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.” He’s also partial to Natural Step’s definition: Creating new ways to live and prosper while ensuring an equitable, healthy future for all people and the planet. (The Natural Step is an international network focused on global sustainability. For more information check out www.naturalstep.org.)

In his previous life, Peter was a watershed manager for the Department of Ecology. “I worked on sustainability issues through the bioregional lens of collaborative resource management.” He agrees that sustainability is about more than just agriculture, “though agriculture is a useful portal into the complex web of issues and opportunities surrounding sustainability work,” he says.

Moulton works to promote rural economic opportunity through clean energy production in the Northwest. “We’re actively working to ensure we don’t displace one set of environmental problems with another,” he says. “Issues include managing additional demands for water, maintaining and improving soil and forest health, life cycle assessments, genetically modified feedstocks, competition between food, fuel and fiber, etc.”

Creating Sustainable Connections

By Nancy A. Parkes '78 Member of the Faculty
and Co-chair, Sustainability Task Force

From the Evergreen campus to the fragile Galapagos Islands, John Pumilio is connecting people with the natural world.

“People don’t want to be told what to do,” says the 2007 Masters in Environmental Studies graduate. “You have to make them part of something.”



Making people part of something is exactly what John Pumilio did as Evergreen's first graduate fellow to coordinate Evergreen's Sustainability Task Force. His thesis both measured the carbon footprint of the college and offered a set of steps for reaching "carbon neutrality." Evergreen is now committed to the extraordinary goals of having zero effect on global warming by 2020, and producing zero waste within the same time frame. "He showed us what impacts we are having on global and regional climate patterns and what we can do about it," says MES director Ted Whitesell.

Pumilio began his academic career in field biology. One of his first professional projects was the Florida Panther Project.

"People thought I was a hockey player," Pumilio jokes of reactions to the project name. "We were shooting panthers with tranquilizers, flying over in airplanes, and chasing kittens from their dens. It was an intrusion. My major discovery was that we didn't need to learn more about the panthers' biology—their survival depended upon our ability to provide public education and influence public policy."

His decision to come to Evergreen was based on the conviction that he needed to broaden his biology background and take on public policy and education.

"When you boil down what sustainability is, it is figuring out a way where human communities can co-exist with ecological communities," Pumilio says. "We have the idea that nature can exist and we'll put it 'over there.' Our whole park system is designed like that and it can't work."

The challenges are complex and involve both ecological and social justice issues, Pumilio reflects. "We will have nine billion people to sustain by 2050—three billion more people than we have today."

So Pumilio sought an opportunity to integrate public engagement and public policy with his academic studies. Becoming the first graduate fellow to coordinate Evergreen's Sustainability Task Force provided just the right set of challenges. The Task Force and Pumilio began at the same time with the same charge—define sustainability for Evergreen, and provide guiding policies for the college.

"As higher education leads the way to a sustainable future, Evergreen will be a model," he notes. "We have a huge sphere of influence—millions of students, billions of dollars spent in the marketplace. Most importantly, students are our future leaders in every walk of life."

Following an exciting series of conversations throughout the community, Pumilio helped the task force to create a student-centered policy frame for sustainability at Evergreen that focuses on both ecological and social justice.

"John truly demonstrated how effective a graduate fellowship can be in working toward positive solutions to the most critical societal problems we face," says Steve Trotter, co-chair of the Sustainability Task Force. "He was able to effectively quantify the problems and frame the issues as he engaged virtually every member of our community in determining a bold course for the college."

Evergreen's Sustainability Task Force hopes to make graduate fellowships like John Pumilio's a permanent reality at Evergreen. The task force is working with the Office of Advancement to endow an "Education for a Sustainable Future" fund that would support future graduate student fellows to assist the college with its sustainability work.

Meanwhile, Pumilio is taking his sustainability show on the road. As a director with Tauck World Discovery, an eco-tourism company, he is working to educate the public about the fragility of such places as the Galapagos.

"A fundamental tenet of ecotourism is to provide the local population with enough income so that they will want to preserve the ecosystem that attracts the tourists," Pumilio writes in "John's Travel Log: Gray Shades of Ecotourism," <http://johnnypstravellog.blogspot.com>. The Galapagos have gone from being named by the United Nations as a biosphere reserve to being categorized as threatened.

The newly minted MES graduate is a determined optimist, setting about measuring the human footprint on his beloved islands, laying out a hopeful path for their future. He's also busy developing an ecological footprint tool for use by the travel industry.

"Imagine if people learned how to live in harmony with nature in the Galapagos," Pumilio writes. "Perhaps this could serve as a model for other human communities—and in the process, help humans figure out a way to share this planet indefinitely."

*"As higher education leads the way to a sustainable future,
Evergreen will be a model."*

Indigenous Nations Include Climate Change in Historic Treaty

By Char Simons

Strong winds are not just periodic any more, but tend to be constant. Storms are wiping out intertidal shellfish and causing erosion. Salmon runs are declining; more fish are deformed. Fewer birds and frogs populate rivers. As oceans are predicted to rise up to three feet, salt water will contaminate ever more fresh water sources. The lifespan of Native Americans has decreased significantly with the unavailability of traditional foods, making indigenous peoples the miner's canary of climate change.

"For indigenous people who live on the land and the water, climate change is already a disaster," says Alan Parker, Evergreen faculty member and director of the Northwest Indian Applied Research Institute (NIARI) housed at the college.

Parker was instrumental in the development of the Treaty of Indigenous Nations, a compact on climate change among Pacific Rim tribes. Representatives from 11 indigenous nations in the U.S., Canada, Aotearoa (New Zealand) and Australia signed the treaty in August at the Lummi Nation near Bellingham. Students from Evergreen's Master in Public Administration Tribal Governance program also witnessed the negotiations. Evergreen's involvement with the treaty came about through ties with Native American tribes, Canadian first nations, and Maori tribes in Aotearoa.

The treaty calls for the establishment of a United League of Indigenous Nations that will facilitate international tribal political and economic alliances to mitigate climate change on tribal homelands, promote trade and commerce among indigenous nations, bring tribal cultural properties under their protection and assert traditional rights to cross international borders. The treaty is to be ratified in November, when indigenous nations in other parts of the globe will be invited to join the body.

"Indigenous nations throughout the Pacific Rim are in a very precarious position in relation to the impacts of climate change. Their survival has depended upon their ability to remain connected to the land. These connections have served as a wellspring of spiritual energy and have linked them to their ancestors," says Parker, United League of Indigenous Nations acting secretary. "These links provide a body of knowledge that defines who they are in the cosmos and how they must structure their lives in order to survive. If future generations of indigenous people are to continue the traditional practices that make culture a source of spiritual nourishment, these vital connections must be maintained."



Representatives of indigenous nations from the U.S., Canada, and Aotearoa (New Zealand), gathered in August to sign a compact on climate change among Pacific Rim tribes. Photo by Evergreen faculty member Dr. Zoltán Grossman.

The treaty can help tribes in vastly different parts of the globe share information regarding climate change. Plant, animal and marine species will shift into new areas where tribal harvesters may not be familiar with them and they may not fit into local indigenous cultural and spiritual systems. Indigenous communities are already thinking about the implications of traditional resources moving out of their historic territories. Some fish runs, for example, may disappear, and other fisheries may be replaced partially or entirely by new species coming from the south. Whether or not indigenous harvesters can adapt to these new species may determine whether tribal economies survive. New pests and diseases may also threaten tribal health and economies.

In either case, indigenous nations that choose to adapt to the new species can draw on the expertise of neighbors further south, says Zoltán Grossman, Evergreen faculty member in geography and Native studies who is assisting with a climate change protocol to the treaty. Grossman and Parker collaborated on an Evergreen graduate project last summer on climate change and Pacific Rim indigenous nations, which resulted in a full report and a community organizing booklet available from NIARI.

"Tribes can share information with each other about the effects of global warming, as well as share different responses, such as harvesting different species, renewable energy and land-use planning," Grossman says. "But the first priority is to share information within each community, train youth and prepare for changes in species and habitat."

For more information, check out United League of Indigenous Nations, www.indigenousnationstreaty.org, Evergreen's Northwest Indian Applied Research Institute (NIARI), www.evergreen.edu/nwindian, and Climate Change and Pacific Rim Indigenous Nations, <http://academic.evergreen.edu/g/grossmaz/climate.html>



Bio-Region Quiz

"Hi, I'm from the Mud Bay Watershed." Not a response we usually offer when asked where we are from. Yet if we are to become more aware of—and change—our consumptive habits and lifestyles, we need to consider different ways to describe our world. Here's a quiz to help grow your sustainability knowledge of your bioregion.

1. What is the name of the watershed in which you live?
2. How many days until the moon is full?
3. What is the annual precipitation in your town?
4. From what direction do most storms reach your town?
5. Are there any native Indian groups located near you? If so, which tribes?
6. What is the general forest type where you live? Name three tree species you have observed.
7. How long is the growing season in your area?
8. If you wanted to eat only locally grown foods, where would you go?
9. Which direction does your home face?
10. When was your neighborhood first "developed?"
11. Do you have neighbors? If so, how many? Do you know some of them by name? Well enough to ask a favor?
12. What are the most significant events in the social history of your neighborhood?
13. Do you have running water (most people in the world don't)? If so, where does it come from (what is its source)?
14. Where does your wastewater go? If it goes to a treatment plant, where is it?
15. Where does your garbage go?
16. When you turn on the lights at home, where was that electricity generated?
17. Where does your food come from? Name the bioregions that grew last night's dinner.
18. What are the major trees that thrive in your bioregion?
19. What are the most common birds in your neighborhood? Are they native to North America?
20. Name a plant or animal that is an indicator of environmental health for your bioregion. How is it doing?
21. Which of the following are true?
In the next 25 years, climate change could
 - 1) stress the Tacoma water supply
 - 2) reduce or eliminate winter skiing in the Cascade Mountains
 - 3) increase electric bills in western Washington
 - 4) increase flooding in winter months
 - 5) make agricultural products from eastern Washington more expensive
 - 6) all of the above.

Thanks to Evergreen faculty members Martha Henderson and Jean MacGregor.



A Virtual Classroom at the Arctic's Edge

**One teacher's passion brings
climate change research home
to middle school students**

by John McLain

Photos courtesy of Jana Dean '91

Jana Dean '91 will go to great lengths to teach her middle school students about today's important issues—even all the way to the Arctic Circle.

Last February, Dean joined a Canadian research team in Churchill, Manitoba to study climate change at the edge of the Arctic. She wrote to her students daily, describing her experiences and answering their questions: "What kinds of tools and machines do you use?" "Are there birds and insects there?" and "If you pee outside, does it freeze before it hits the ground?"

No one could have predicted that Dean would make such an adventure, but no one was surprised either. Dean is predictably unpredictable, with a track record of turning imaginative and unconventional ideas into reality.

Dean is a community builder and idea pollinator among her fellow educators. She writes regularly for *Rethinking Schools*, a national journal of education. An article on teaching climate change to middle school students led the Earthwatch Institute to recruit her for the arctic research project. She is also the founder of Educators for Social Justice, a group of South Sound teachers that meets monthly to share strategies for teaching about social and environmental issues.



The climate is changing faster in the Arctic than anywhere else on earth. There are two main reasons for this: more land mass than water in the north means more heat is absorbed; and currents bring warm water from the south. Jana Dean and her team measured the snow's density, temperature, hardness and depth in this upland spruce forest so scientists can monitor climate trends.

Among her Bush Middle School students in Tumwater, Wash., Dean has a reputation for teaching about real world issues, for expecting them to work hard, and for laughing a lot. They know she cares about them and believes in their abilities. They also know she does things a little differently—like the time she dressed up as a carpenter, replete with tool belt, to explain the finer points of determining square roots.

Her family and friends know she will try just about anything if she thinks it will advance learning for her students. After Dean received a travel grant from the National Geographic Society to fund her Arctic trek, friends chipped in to help her raise the rest of the money she needed.

Clearly, anyone willing to so humiliate herself before a classroom of 13-year-olds wouldn't be intimidated by rigid scientific protocols and a little ice and snow.

The End of the World

In Dean's classroom, the atmosphere may be light, but the subjects are often deadly serious. Before she left for the Arctic, she recalls, one of her students asked: "Ms. Dean, do you think the world is going to end?"

"'No way,' I answered. 'I'm a mother, and I wouldn't bring children into a world I thought would end. And I'm a teacher, and you young people are the future. Why would I spend time with you, the future, if I thought the world was going to end?'"

Although some of its inhabitants might argue otherwise, Churchill is not at the end of the world. But it is at the end of the railroad, nestled on the northeast shore of Hudson Bay just below the Arctic Circle. Dean flew to Winnipeg, then traveled the final 36 hours north by train. In Churchill, she met University of Alberta researcher Peter Kershaw, who studies the impact of climate change on arctic tundra. The implications for global climate change are particularly dramatic in the tundra, which contains as much as 20 percent of the world's carbon locked in permafrost. If rising temperatures thaw the tundra, the rapid release of carbon and other greenhouse gases could accelerate warming worldwide.

She may be new to hands-on climate research, but Dean has been challenging her students to think deeply about global warming for years. "My job as a teacher is not to turn students into activists who want to take action on what I'm interested in," she says, "but to put them in touch with issues that are important to them in their lives—which of course, I think global warming is, but I want them to come to that out of their own critical thinking."



"My least favorite thing is planning a half hour in advance to go outside," says Dean. Bundling up for Arctic temperatures ranging from 14 degrees Fahrenheit down to -40F takes a lot of work. "Once we're bundled we stay warm as long as we keep moving," she says.

Teaching Babes in Truckland

Few people use the term “critical thinking” in the same sentence as “middle school.” Dean is one of those exceptions. She teaches the middle grades by choice and rejects any notion of middle school as a teenage wasteland, a holding pen, or *Lord of the Flies* with walls. In fact, mere mention of the idea that adolescent development precludes learning is certain to elicit her quick rebuttal.

“I love them,” she said of her students. “They are very young, even though they can look quite old and they seem old. But they have very little experience in the world, and yet they’re fascinated by the world. They’re ready to learn anything about the world that there is to learn, and they’re starting to be able to think about it. And all of that is new to them.”

Dean knows that the topic of climate change might not be an easy one for students or parents. Students at Bush Middle School come mostly from rural or suburban homes. Public transportation is limited for some families and nonexistent for most. Nearly everyone in the community depends on driving to make a living and participate in community, and the farmers among them depend particularly on fuel-thirsty pick ups.

“It’s normal to be a little fearful when you’re asked to question something that is so much a way of life it’s a part of your identity,” she says. “The fear isn’t even always conscious, but being fearful shuts down critical thinking.”



Dean's snow measuring tool kit. They also used ice corers to measure the density of the snow and instruments called ram penetrometers to measure its hardness.

Fighting Isolation

Some of the same motivations and impulses that led Dean to found Educators for Social Justice and write for national audiences are at play in her approach with students. She wants to break down the isolation that leads her students, her fellow educators, and herself to lose hope, to feel powerless in the face of seemingly unsolvable problems.

To counter the isolation, Dean takes a page from the Evergreen playbook by creating learning communities. “I learned a lot as a writing tutor for (Evergreen emeritus faculty member and first president) Charlie McCann,” Dean explains. “My approach in the classroom also comes from things I learned not from (former faculty member) Don Finkel himself but from his book (*Teaching with Your Mouth Shut*)—although that was just a start.”

After Evergreen, Dean's evolution as a teacher included a master's degree in Waldorf education from the University of New Hampshire, and teaching assignments at the Olympia Waldorf School, Nova School, and now Bush Middle School. She leads professional development seminars for teachers and offers courses through Evergreen's Extended Education program. She's also an accomplished storyteller and a long-standing member of the Olympia Storytelling Guild.

“The question I pose to my students is: What can we do together? Let's not think about our individual actions regarding global warming, but what collective action can we take? What space do we share where we can make change together?”

Three years ago during a unit on global warming, Dean's students were inspired to action. At that time, Bush Middle School didn't recycle paper in its classrooms. The students established a paper recycling system and came up with a way to maintain it. The recycling program still operates, Dean says, even with student and staff turnover.

“It doesn't sound like much, but a lot of science learning went into identifying that as a significant way we could reduce our contribution of carbon dioxide and methane to the atmosphere,” she explains. “We learned that our trash gets trucked to eastern Washington but that a lot of the paper recycling does happen locally. And we learned that methane, though much smaller in quantity than carbon dioxide, has ounce for ounce a much greater heat-trapping effect in the atmosphere.”



At each site Dean helped dig a pit to measure the depth of the snow, which varies in different locations. The deepest ones are more than 2.5 feet deep and the shallowest, less than an inch. University of Alberta researcher Dr. Peter Kershaw uses the data to figure out yearly precipitation. The same kind of work must go on anywhere that large numbers of people depend on snow melt for their dry season water. In a changing climate, rain and snow fall will shift, making prediction based on past years more and more difficult.

Bloggin' it all Back Home

During her sojourn in the Arctic, Dean worked long days—training with project scientists, taking measurements at the project's 12 research stations, and entering measurements into databases for analysis. "I took lots of measurements," she recalls. "Snow depth and temperature, density and crystallization, atmospheric conditions. It was labor intensive, because the work is still very much about understanding what's happening, which you have to know before you can get to solutions."

After her research day was done, Dean went to work on her daily blog (www.janadean.blogspot.com), which chronicles everything from camp living conditions, to the details of her work on the project, to the fate of the world's polar bears.

Dean is still not sure whether she met her own standards as a teacher while participating in Kershaw's research. "I had higher expectations than I was able to meet going in, because teaching is a face-to-face art. It's not something you can do online—at least not the way I know how to do it. In doing this I wasn't so much in the role of teacher in the sense of someone who provides knowledge and space for students to draw their own conclusions. I was more a role model or activist, which has its own merits."

Indeed. Especially if one student's letter to Dean represents what's possible when you invest in the hearts and minds of middle schoolers:

"I hope we, the people of the world that are contributing to global warming, can help stop it, or at least bring it down and lower the carbon dioxide amount. I thought I'd let you know [that] this summer I will be planting trees and flowers. I'm not quite sure if flowers will help, but I'm going to try."

Olympia native John McLain is Evergreen's academic grants manager. He's also worked at the college as a financial aid counselor and institutional research associate. He says he's not sure why Evergreen hired him back after he served state time developing higher education policy, but he's happy for another chance.

Garden Raised Bounty a Hotbed of Greener Activity

by Elizabeth Shé '99

"Sustainability means holding a vision of a future built on careful stewardship in the present, honoring the earth and each individual person."

Nita Rinehart, faculty member and former state senator

Joellen Wilhelm, a 2006 graduate of the MPA program at Evergreen, is the Grants & Capital Campaign Coordinator for GRuB.

Blue Peetz '95 and **Kim Gaffi '97** have been working together since 1997. Their idea of sustainability is to cultivate youth who can cultivate gardens and themselves. Oh, and they also want to obliterate hunger in Thurston County. That's why their farm-based organization, Garden-Raised Bounty (GRuB) is part of the Hunger-free Thurston County Coalition, along with the Thurston County Food Bank and a co-op of farmers and individuals. Fully 50% of GRuB's produce goes to the food bank.

Nita Rinehart, Evergreen faculty member and former state senator, is vice president of GRuB's board of directors. "I've been involved with many non-profit organizations over the years," she says. "GRuB is the most successful one I've ever encountered. Every person connected with the organization is completely dedicated to and focused on the mission; no one has a separate personal agenda or ambition that is motivating them."

GRuB runs two basic programs, Cultivating Youth and the Kitchen Garden Project. Cultivating Youth works with at-risk teens to develop their leadership skills, and model positive and supportive relationships in their lives.

“Teenagers have a lot of negative stereotypes to overcome,” says farm manager Justin Umholtz ’98. “The youth at GRuB work hard to show the powerful contributions they can (and do!) make every day. They learn to farm the land, farm the community and farm themselves. They are learning to create a safe, supportive community where they can thrive and grow.”

So what do the kids in the program do exactly? Plant seeds, weed, harvest, deliver flower bouquets, sell veggies at the market stand, and prepare CSA (community supported agriculture) shares for pick up. They work hard, practice their business and sales skills, but also know how to have fun. They taught a recent visitor the official cheer: G! R! U! B! Go! GRuB! GROW!

Early on, GRuB forged partnerships with local schools and youth agencies to connect with kids from low-income families, foster or group homes, or those with learning or behavior challenges.

“I know most of the high school guidance counselors in Thurston County,” says Jackson Sillars ’01, GRuB’s employment program coordinator. He visits schools to pitch the GRuB hands-on experience and meet with kids who may be interested. “If they qualify for the free lunch program, they can sign up for the Cultivating Youth Program. About 15 high school kids work on the crew every year. Many of them return year after year until they graduate.”

Sometimes the crew takes a field trip to work on a local farm, weeding and harvesting. “We are so grateful for their help,” says Genine Bradwin of Kirsop Farms. “We love the work they do for our community.”

Crew member Jeremy Parrish (working on his GED) says, “GRuB taught me to live in harmony with my fellow beings. I hope one day to be as influential to my community, friends and family.”

GRuB office & outreach coordinator Anna Robinson says, “Kim, Blue and the other staff have really made it a priority to build healthy relationships among the staff, the youth and families we work with, and the greater community.”

Both Kim and Blue attribute GRuB’s success to Evergreen. “If Evergreen wasn’t here, GRuB wouldn’t be here,” says Kim. “We also didn’t know it couldn’t be done. Ignorance is bliss, plus we seized opportunities as they arose.”

“GRuB has been a total joy to be around,” says Blue, smiling.

Kids from the Cultivating Youth Program also help with GRuB’s Kitchen Garden Project. KGP builds raised-bed gardens for low-income families at their homes. Even the soil and seeds are provided, and you can sign up for a garden mentor if you need one. More than 1900 gardens have been built since 1993. Last year the gardens fed more than 300 people, including children, in Thurston and Mason counties.

“Evergreen really made it all possible,” says Kim. “I’m still using lessons I learned – grassroots democratic process – always looking back to that.” She says the Urban Ecology program sent her out to “do something.”

Blue nods his head in agreement. “(Former Evergreen faculty member) Michael Beug and the Ecological Agriculture program made a profound impact on my life,” says Blue. “Evergreen changed what I wanted to do.” He laughs, “Now I basically teach Eco Ag to high school students.”

*Want more info about Garden-Raised Bounty?
Visit their website at www.goodgrub.org*

“If Evergreen
wasn’t here,
GRuB wouldn’t
be here.”

Kim Gaffi ’97 and Blue Peetz ’95
cofounded GRuB because “we didn’t
know it couldn’t be done,” says Kim.



Reducing Tumwater's Carbon Footprint

By Char Simons

ANDY DEFFOBIS pulls a thick white binder out of his backpack, opening it to one of several spreadsheets. "Here is a list of all the city vehicles, the gallons of fuel they use, type of vehicle, miles per gallon, and which vehicles are eligible for green tags," he says, his finger following the top of the chart.

Finding ways for the city of Tumwater, Wash. to become more sustainable is all in a day's work for Deffobis, a student in Evergreen's Master of Environmental Studies program and Tumwater's climate protection intern.

From inventories of lighting, electrical appliances, city vehicles and building insulation, Deffobis put together energy- and cost-saving recommendations that will be instrumental in Tumwater complying with the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, which the city signed in 2006. Tumwater's goal is a seven percent reduction below 2000 levels of greenhouse gas emissions by 2012. He is also developing a Web site for the city where residents can learn how to reduce their carbon footprint.

"Having Evergreen as a resource for local governments is great," says Doug Baker, Tumwater city administrator. "Small cities don't have the resources to hire a full-time sustainability person. The experience has been good for Andy too. He's getting exposure to local government and elected

officials. His internship has been a real win-win situation." Deffobis shepherded his energy-saving recommendations through the city's General Government committee and on to the city council and mayor, where they are expected to be approved and implemented during the next two or three years.

"Andy has taken the lead on Tumwater reducing its carbon footprint," Baker adds. "This is a young man who is still in college, but he's been out there like a city staffer on this issue."

Deffobis's work with the city of Tumwater and his companion internship with the Thurston Regional Planning Council crunching numbers for the new edition of its popular Thurston County Profile is part of his lifelong dream to help the planet.

"Climate change is a hot button issue, and fits with my career plans. Both internships are stepping stones to hopefully landing a good job," says Deffobis, who wants to continue working with municipal governments on sustainability issues after graduating. "Since I was a little kid, I was always fascinated by the natural world and wanted to help save the planet. Environmental studies are where my heart and head are."

An initial inspiration came from a high school science teacher in suburban Philadelphia whose "lectures would leave the class either feeling hopeless or motivated, depending on the issue covered. It was there I also learned about the common roots

to environmental problems," recalls Deffobis, who has an undergraduate degree in marine and environmental science. His MES thesis is "Local Solutions to Global Problems: The City of Tumwater, Washington and Development of a Climate Action Plan." "If we address climate change, we address so many other problems."

Gazing into his sustainability crystal ball, Deffobis hopes for a growing alliance between the business and environmental communities as their interests become more obviously intertwined.

"We know that a link is there, but it is not being targeted aggressively," he says. "In a lot of cases, financial goals and environmental goals can be in sync."



MES student Andy Deffobis (right) offers invaluable recommendations to help the City of Tumwater (Wash.) replace old habits with new greener ones. City administrator Doug Baker is instrumental in leading Tumwater's efforts to comply with the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement.

Sustainability from Community

Evergreen's Organic Farm Enterprises

by Elizabeth Shé '99

*If you are interested in continuing
human life on the planet,
then you are interested in sustainability!"*

Evergreen faculty member Martha Rosemeyer

Organic Farm manager Melissa Barker

"CELL is what we are calling the organic farm and associated enterprises," says Rosemeyer. "This includes the production fields used to teach the practice of sustainable agriculture, the community garden, Demeter's Garden (the student-run permaculture model), the medieval medicinal plant garden, the farm house, and the compost and biodiesel facilities."

The CELL committee supports the decision-making of organic farm manager, Melissa Barker. The committee is composed of students (farm caretakers as well as the head of the community gardens and Demeter's Garden), faculty (Steve Scheuerell, Dave Muehleisen, Peter Pessiki and Rosemeyer) and staff (Marty Beagle) who are interested in the farm and its well-being. "It is open to anyone," says Rosemeyer, "but we're the ones most directly involved, who regularly attend the biweekly meetings."

Why worry about sustainability? "If you are interested in continuing human life on the planet, then you are interested in sustainability!" says Rosemeyer. "Agriculture impacts more than 50% of the terrestrial land mass, so it is a critical component of sustainability. Since agriculture is an applied science (and art), it is often ignored by those focused on natural systems, because it is applied (sometimes considered "not pure" or "dirty" science) and deals with human decision-making." For example, she explains, a newly released book, *Low Carbon Diet*, a workbook for citizen action, has some 30 chapters, "but doesn't mention food and agriculture!"

Rosemeyer believes that all roads lead to community. "In a post-cheap-oil economy, the strength of a community is what is going to make the system work," she says. "Whether we are focusing on agriculture, renewable energy or green buildings, it is the community that will allow us to make this challenging transition to a post-fossil-fuel society. This is why we are starting a Sustainability and Justice Cohort as a curriculum piece, combining community and sustainability studies." (Read more in her article in the Sustainability Task Force's newsletter: www.evergreen.edu/committee/sustainability/newsletter.htm)

She is proud of our eco-conscious alumni. "In any farmers market in western Washington, I am able to find alums," she says. "And there are many other ways that our alums are impacting the local community in terms of ag sustainability and justice, most notably Garden-Raised Bounty (see article on page 16), and the Gleaners Coalition. Many others are working across the US and world, in farming, teaching and social action."

**Are you working in sustainability?
What are you up to?
Contact Martha at
rosemeym@evergreen.edu
or www.evergreen.edu/cell**



Toxic Trail Leads Faculty to Jobs, Health and Justice Project

The old smelter and towering smokestack in Ruston are gone. They have been replaced with piles of fill dirt destined to become an upscale housing development overlooking Tacoma's Commencement Bay. But the site from which the American Smelting and Refining Company (Asarco) operated for almost 100 years left a complicated legacy which two Evergreen faculty members, documentary filmmaker Anne Fischel and environmental health researcher Lin Nelson, are exploring in their project, "No Borders: Communities Living and Working with Asarco."

Using video, writing and community networking, "No Borders" is chronicling the controversial pathway of this major mining and smelting corporation and some of the communities it shaped. It documents struggles of workers who fought for safer working conditions in the plants. It recounts stories of community residents who told time by the whistle and learned to live with the fine dust that ate away laundry and the paint on cars. It chronicles the persistent efforts of individuals and organizations to make corporations and government accountable to their needs for sustainable jobs and a healthy environment.

During Asarco's operations, tons of arsenic, cadmium and lead – all smelting by-products – were dispersed into the region. In 1983 the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency declared the smelter site part of the larger Commencement Bay Nearshore/

Tideflats Superfund. The smelter was closed in 1986, and the towering smokestack, long a fixture of the city's skyline, came down in 1993. Over the past few years, the Washington State Department of Ecology has tracked lead and arsenic contamination into Pierce, King, Kitsap, and Thurston Counties, leaving communities struggling with the long-term impacts of low-level exposure to toxic heavy metals.

In 1999 Asarco was sold to its Mexican affiliate, Grupo Mexico, and in 2005 it declared bankruptcy. According to an August 2007 report in the *Miami Herald*, Washington state is currently on a list of creditors, including 16 states, Indian tribes, the federal government and private parties, whose environmental claims total nearly \$11 billion in about 75 U.S. locations. Asarco is also undergoing a corporate reorganization which its main union, the United Steelworkers of America, hopes will give workers unprecedented oversight of company operations and working conditions.

Fischel and Nelson started "No Borders" in 2005 when they taught Local Knowledge: Community, Public Health, Media Activism and the Environment. The program emphasized community-based work, so the faculty members decided to do a project as well. Two and a half years later they point appreciatively to the community relationships that have enabled them to compile a file cabinet full of documents and 20 hours of video.



While their research began in Ruston, the project has led Fischel and Nelson to Asarco-affected communities in Arizona, New Mexico, Texas and Mexico. Their work is supported by the college and Evergreen's Labor Center. The project is important because "it documents struggles to hold a major corporation accountable to standards of justice for workers, communities and the environment," says Peter Kardas, Labor Center director.

At the heart of this project are questions about how communities and unions cohabit with industry, and how citizens assert their rights to information, democratic decision-making, health, and economic development that supports and contributes to community life. "Sustainability is too often seen as an exercise of privilege," Nelson says. "But it should be about the basic foundations for everyone's environmental health. Sustainability should include people dealing with the hazards of industrial society."

The "No Borders" project will support partner communities by providing them with strategic materials they can use in their organizing and outreach, including a documentary film, a collection of writings by community writers, and a book dealing with corporate history, public health policy, and community struggles.

"The problems of industrial contamination, in the context of corporate mobility and weak regulatory mechanisms, can seem insoluble," says Fischel. "Our work is shaped by the belief that people, working together, have the capacity to solve the problems they face. By showing the capacity of citizens to work effectively on what appear to be large and insoluble problems, we can encourage greater participation in issues critical to the quality of American life."

For more information on the "No Borders" project, see www2.evergreen.edu/fischela/no-borders.

Suggested Reading

- ***Collapse: How Societies Choose to Fail or Succeed.*** Jared Diamond. 2005. Penguin Group
- ***Cradle to Cradle: Remaking the Way We Make Things.*** William McDonough and Michael Braungart. 2002. North Point Press.
- ***Leading Change Toward Sustainability: A Change-Management Guide for Business, Government and Civil Society.*** Bob Doppelt. 2003. Greenleaf Publications.
- ***Natural Capitalism: Creating the Next Industrial Revolution.*** Paul Hawken; Amory Lovins; Hunter L. Lovins. 1999. Little, Brown and Company.
- ***Sustainability on Campus: Stories and Strategies for Change.*** Peggy F. Bartlett and Geoffrey W. Chase. 2004. Massachusetts Institute of Technology.
- ***The Principles of Sustainability.*** Simon Dresner. 2002. Earthscan Publications.
- ***The Sustainability Revolution: Portrait of a Paradigm Shift.*** Andres R. Edwards. 2005. New Society Publishers.
- ***World Agriculture and the Environment.*** Jason Clay. 2004. Island Press.

Thanks to Evergreen faculty member Rob Cole and the Sustainability Task Force.





SEEING THE LIGHT

HILLMAN TAKES HIS PASSION FOR GLASS TO NEW HEIGHTS

BILL HILLMAN '73 came to Evergreen before the college had doors to open. His first class was held in the Washington State Senate chambers at the capitol. He planned to be a psychologist. "But Evergreen opens your eyes to different possibilities," he says.

When he took a small business class with Phil Harding, the founding faculty member asked him – "Do you want to get a job or do you want to get a life?"

He decided to get a life, turning his "hobby" of stained glass art into a passionate career. In 1973, he began The Mansion Glass Company with fellow Greeners Ken Hill and renowned contemporary artist Tom Anderson '73. Mansion Glass has become one of the country's leading glass commission studios, and has produced more than 3,000 one-of-a-kind stained glass installations for churches, residences, hospitals, restaurants, banks, hotels and casinos.

Hillman's work has been featured in *Glass Magazine*, *Glass Studio Magazine*, *Artweek*, *House Beautiful*, and numerous other publications. In 1984, a commission by Spectrum Glass Company to create a design that used their entire line of glass in one window evolved into the now famous Bill Hillman "Marble Poster" that resides, among other places, in the Smithsonian Institute.

But in 1972, Hillman had been working with stained glass on the side. The Studio Glass movement in the Pacific Northwest was just starting. "I was fortunate to be here on the ground floor of the movement in the Northwest, which has now become the world's center for glass work," he says. "Today, people from around the world come here to learn glass."



Former Evergreen president and Washington Governor Daniel J. Evans and his wife Nancy accepted a commemorative glass piece designed and created by Bill Hillman and Macy Jewell at the Evans Library Modernization Celebration in May 2007.

"Soon after, St. Martin's University called him with an opportunity. Glass artist Ray Nyson, who had done some of the first stained glass work in the Northwest, had left all of his work to the university. His studio, housed in a barn, was full of finished and unfinished pieces, drawings, and plans for glass pieces. Bill met with Nyson's great grandchildren, and so impressed them with his skill and interest that they offered Ray's drawings for him to work with. Many of those drawings still grace his studio today.

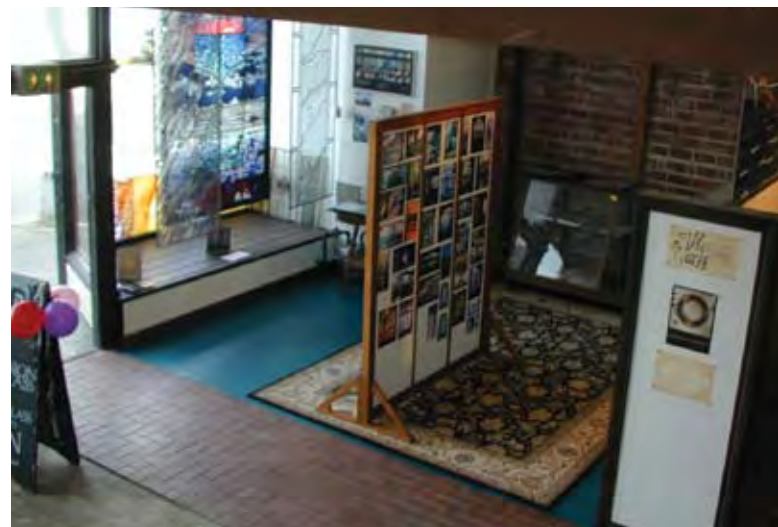
For Harding's class, he created a proposal to open a glass studio, and Mansion Glass was born. The founders were joined by Tom Lind and now world famous glass artist Cappy Thompson '76. Today, the studio is housed on the second floor of a 5,000-square-foot building in downtown Olympia that Hillman and Anderson renovated into gallery space and art studios about a year and a half ago, creating a space for working artists.

Glass art is unique because its impact depends so much on its surroundings, and the new studio, with its full wall of windows, gives him a perfect opportunity to try different things. "Natural light is very important, because it changes so much," Hillman explains. "This work is all about channeling and filtering the light in new and interesting ways."

When the college was deciding how to honor former Evergreen president and Washington Governor Daniel J. Evans at the Evans Library modernization celebration in May 2007, Hillman's work was the obvious choice. He created a commemorative glass "coin" depicting the college's clock tower and founding date, which was presented to Dan and his wife Nancy at the celebration. "Dan is such a great man, we wanted the piece to be commemorative," Hillman explains. "It is inspired by the design of a coin, where the words and images work together creatively."

Hillman worked with dean of the library Lee Lytle on the Dan Evans piece, along with his long-time collaborator, Macy Jewell '78, and assistant Jeff Galegher. Jewell began working with Hillman after graduation, while she was running a restaurant across the street from his studio. "I came in to make some Christmas presents, and just kept going," she says. Today, she and Hillman collaborate on many of the pieces, while she also runs her own home studio, Reflections Custom Etching.

Through word spreading about his work, Hillman and Mansion Glass have worked on large and small scale jobs across the country, from churches and public art commissions, which can take more than a year to residential pieces that take a month or two. They've just completed a four by twenty foot "wall of stars" for the Little Creek Casino in Shelton, Wash., and are currently working on a massive piece depicting angels for a Texas church. His goal is to create modern designs that fit into contemporary homes and businesses. "I want to be able to hand this off to the next generation," he says. "Glass art is not simply an antique – it's relevant and new for contemporary artists."



The first floor of the Mansion Glass building houses a gallery of art work by Hillman and other contemporary artists.

**FIND OUT MORE ABOUT BILL HILLMAN AND
HIS WORK AT WWW.MANSIONGLASS.COM.**

EVERGREEN *everywhere*



SPEEDY—On the Road Again!

Speedy D. Geoduck joined more than 30 other mascots in welcoming kids to Safeco field for Kids Appreciation and Community Mascot Day, September 30. He took part in the on-field introduction and activities with Harry, the University of Washington Husky, Blitz, from the Seattle Seahawks, the Seattle Mariners' Moose and several other athletic team and organization representatives. After his third inning performance on the dugout roof, more than 200 adoring kids, parents and fans requested to have their pictures taken with Speedy!



To find out where Speedy will be for additional sporting and charity events, check the website at www.evergreen.edu.

Photo by Katie Frank.

Evergreen Night at the Mariners

Evergreen students, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends came out in force at The Evergreen State College Night at the Seattle Mariners September 14 at Safeco Field. More than 200 Greener fans caught the exciting action, with the Mariners gutting out a win over the Tampa Bay Devil Rays in the ninth inning. In addition to free Mariners t-shirts, Greeners enjoyed seeing the group honored on the Mariners scoreboard, and were entertained by mascot Speedy D. Geoduck himself! Plus, part of the ticket purchase supported The Evergreen State College Alumni Association. We look forward to making Evergreen Night at the Mariners an annual outing, so look for information next summer and join us at the game!

Evergreen State College Basketball Celebrates 10th Anniversary!

On October 27, current and former Geoduck hoops players and fans celebrated 10 years of Evergreen basketball at the inaugural Alumni Basketball Game in the Evergreen College Recreation Center. The 2007-08 men's and women's teams took on alumni teams featuring former All-Americans such as Trelton Spencer and Troy Torbert and Geoduck record holders Heather Johnson and Sara Wallman. Evergreen plans to make this an annual event, so look for information next fall and join the reunion celebration.



Traveling Seminar Series Off to a Strong Start

Fifteen Portland-area alumni gathered at the lovely Helvetia Vineyard August 26 for the inaugural alumni "Traveling Seminar Series." Evergreen faculty member Nancy Koppelman '88 led a discussion of the assigned reading, a 35 page article titled "The Death of Environmentalism." The most senior of the group recalled Evergreen's first year; the youngest graduated in 2006. Idealism and academic passion bridged the decades.

"This is a terrific alumni event because it highlights one of Evergreen's best practices: seminars on important topics," said Koppelman. She was pleased with the vigorous participation. "It's clear that Evergreen graduates continue to thrive on lively discussions," she said.

"The Traveling Seminar is a great idea!" said Portland Area Alumni Club organizer, Sinnamon Tierney '98, MPA '00. "It allows alumni and friends to engage in an actual seminar while making new connections with other Greeners in the area and keeping a tie to Evergreen."

The Portland Area Alumni Club was thrilled to be the first alumni group to host a seminar. "It just came together," said Tierney. "The topic was ideal, Nancy was an excellent leader, and the venue was superb."

The venue, Helvetia Vineyard, is owned by alumna Elizabeth Furse '74 and her husband John Platt. Tucked away in the rolling hills northwest of Portland, Helvetia boasts superb vineyard and bountiful country charm.

For information on hosting a Traveling Seminar in your area of the country, contact the Alumni Relations office, 360-867-6551.



Come Meet Comedian



Josh Blue '01, who in August 2006 took home the top prize on NBC's "Last Comic Standing," will be honored at pre-show receptions before his shows at The Aladdin Theater in Portland, Ore., on January 31, 2008 and at the Kirkland Performance Center in Kirkland, Wash. on February 2, 2008. Take advantage of this rare chance to meet one of the most unique and dynamic comedians of his generation!

For information or to purchase tickets for the pre-show receptions, contact Katie Frank in Evergreen's Alumni Relations Office at 360.867.6551. Ticket purchase and location information for the Kirkland show: www.kpcenter.org (Group discount price of \$36 (adults) available for the Kirkland show. Mention Group Code "Evergreen"). The alumni reception will be held before the early show at 7 p.m. Ticket information for the Portland show: www.aladdin-theater.com.

Want to Get Involved?

Share Your Knowledge and Experience with Current Students

The alumni relations office is working with faculty members to identify alumni speakers for their programs. If you have expertise, good public speaking skills, and a desire to share your story with students, please contact us. We'll connect you with faculty and see how your contributions may fit with program needs.

Help Us Recruit the Next Generation of Evergreen Students

Alumni relations and enrollment services are working with alumni volunteers to enhance student recruitment. Let us know if you would like to help share the Evergreen story with prospective students in your area.

Are You An Evergreen Entrepreneur? We'd Like to Know.

We want to identify, celebrate and promote alumni-owned/founded enterprises (businesses, non-profits, etc.). If you would like to be recognized as an Evergreen Entrepreneur, just tell us your name, the name of your business or organization, its primary product, service or purpose, your role with the organization, and contact information. We're working on a design for a window sticker you can display at your place of business to highlight your Evergreen connection. Send your information to R.J. Burt at burtr@evergreen.edu.

Affinity Reunion Program Helps Evergreen Alumni Reconnect

Do you get together with fellow alumni from your program, year, dorm or extracurricular activity? If not, would you like to? Either way, our Affinity Reunion Program may be for you. The alumni relations office can help you organize an on-campus activity to reconnect with each other and with Evergreen.

Greener Groups Online!

Lots of areas around the U.S. have active online Greener groups! Find one in your area at www.evergreen.edu/alumni/greenerwebgroups.htm. We're also helping to organize Greeners in Seattle and Portland, New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, Boston and Washington, D.C. If you are willing to help organize in one of these cities, or are interested in starting a club in your area, email Alumni Relations. For more information about any of the activities or programs noted above, contact R.J. Burt in the office of alumni relations: burtr@evergreen.edu or 360.867.6568.

EVERGREEN NEWS



Blackwood Named Volleyball Coach

This fall, Evergreen named Clay Blackwood head volleyball coach and the college's recreation and fitness coordinator.

Blackwood coached the volleyball team at Olympic College in Bremerton, Wash. from 2004 to 2006. In his second season as head coach for the Rangers, the team advanced to the NWAACC tournament. Before coaching at Olympic College he coached eight seasons at North Kitsap High School.

Blackwood earned his associate's degree from Olympic College in 2001 and in addition to coaching volleyball, he also coached softball for five years at the same institution. He received his B.A. in workforce and education from Southern Illinois University in 2002.

Sharing coaching duties with Blackwood is Gerry Cassel, who has been an assistant to Blackwood for the past three seasons at OC. Having worked together in the past will help tremendously in starting the program basically from scratch. "We are both enthusiastic to be a part of a four year program," says Blackwood.

The Evergreen volleyball team, which struggled last season with a 3-16 record, has a hopeful outlook for the future. Immediate success in '07 has been tough to achieve, but Blackwood has the experience to build the program into a contender.

Geoduck Runners Named All-Conference

Emily Uhlig (Jr, Renton, Wash.) and Brian Rakestraw (So, Woodinville, Wash.) led their teams in respective races at the 2007 Cascade College Championships October 20, both earning All-Conference honors.

The women's team placed 6th overall in the competitive eleven team race held at the challenging Eagle Island State Park course near Caldwell, Idaho. Leading the Geoducks, Uhlig moved steadily through the field from 13th place at the first mile to eighth place at the finish and a time of 19:45.20 over five kilometers. In doing so she became the first female harrier to earn championship honors for Evergreen.

Evergreen's men were led by sophomore Brian Rakestraw's eighth place finish. Rakestraw matched the previous best finish in these championships by Josh Klimek '05 and became just the third All-Conference honoree for the sport. Rakestraw's final time was 26:43, an excellent time on the course, bettering his '06 place by five places.





Governor Gregoire Honors Evergreen's Sustainability Efforts

Evergreen received the 2007 Governor's Award for Pollution Prevention and Sustainable Practices in a ceremony at the state capitol on Oct. 9. The college is among 11 companies and agencies Washington is recognizing this year for their success in moving the state toward a more sustainable future.

According to the Washington State Department of Ecology, the three state award winners (Evergreen, the Chambers Creek Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant and Yelm Earth, Worm & Castings Farm) reduced or even eliminated their use of toxic materials, applied key principles of sustainability, and conserved resources that otherwise would have been consumed. They demonstrated excellence and leadership through their commitment to environmental quality and their willingness to share their knowledge of pollution prevention and sustainable practices.

"These winners represent the best of the best at protecting the environment while running profitable businesses," said Jay Manning, Department of Ecology director. "I never fail to be impressed by the creativity and vision displayed by these award winners. They show that in Washington you can protect the environment and succeed commercially at the same time."

An external panel of judges selected the winners from finalists reviewed by Ecology staff. The judges are past winners, pollution-prevention experts, and representatives from business, labor and environmental groups, and academia.

Evergreen is Top 15 in Being Green

National environmental news site *Grist* named Evergreen to its list of 15 Green Colleges and Universities in August. The digital news site, with more than 750,000 daily readers, cited the work of the Organic Farm and its partnership with campus food service, as well as composting and other environmentally friendly practices. *Grist* also lauded Evergreen's student-approved fee increase to purchase 100 percent green power. Read more at grist.org.

AASHE Presents Evergreen with Sustainability Leadership Award

The Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) named Evergreen Honorable Mention in its annual Campus Sustainability Leadership Awards ceremony in September. The awards recognize institutions nationwide that have demonstrated an outstanding overall commitment to sustainability in their governance and administration, curriculum and research, operations, campus culture, and community outreach. The awards were presented at the 7th biennial Greening of the Campus conference at Ball State University.

"We had a very competitive pool of applicants this year, so winning one of these awards is a major achievement," said Tom Kimmerer, executive director of AASHE. The organization received 21 applications for the campus awards.

The awards are endorsed by the Higher Education Associations Sustainability Consortium (HEASC), a network of 13 leading higher education associations with a commitment to advancing sustainability within their constituencies as well as in the system of higher education. The award winners were selected by pools of campus sustainability experts assembled by AASHE. For more information, visit www.aashe.org





Focus the Nation... on Climate Change

The Evergreen State College is a proud participant in Focus the Nation, a nationwide campaign dedicated to bringing communities together through the help of colleges and universities to find solutions to global climate change. On January 30, 2008 Evergreen will host a series of daytime workshops focused on climate change issues and real solutions to big problems.

In the evening, Evergreen will join with St. Martin's University, South Puget Sound Community College, and Centralia College for a Community Forum at the Washington Center for the Performing Arts in downtown Olympia. The forum, entitled "Creating a Climate of Change: A Community Forum on Climate Change in the Pacific Northwest," will bring together state and local government officials, scientific experts, and members of our local community to discuss ways we will address climate change locally. This will be a moderated discussion with plenty of time for audience questions and responses. Participants will also take home a "toolbox" of ideas and actions to help them make a personal impact on global warming.

Please join us for this momentous event!

For the full agenda, visit:
www.evergreen.edu/focusthenation

1974

Bob Gerrish and his wife **Janice '75** are the busy owners of Pizza Works restaurant on King County's eastside. It features gluten-free pizza, regular and whole wheat crusts, vegetarian and vegan options, along with take and bake or dine in. Under their management for the past two years their clientele is ever expanding and requests for "mailing and delivering their products back to Olympia" happen often. Their daughter, **Christina Bashungua** is a 2006 alumna of Evergreen. Stop by and check out their establishment located at 14130 Juanita Dr. NE, in the Englewood Village Shopping Center between Kenmore and the Juanita/Kirkland area.

Eric Stone's latest book, *Grave Imports*, was published at the end of September. It's the second in his series of detective thrillers set in Asia, based on stories he knows from his 11 years

of living and working in the region as a journalist. This book is based on the trade in looted Cambodian antiquities. A major book tour took Eric to 19 cities in October and November, including a stop in Olympia at downtown's Whodunit? Books, on November 14. He signed copies of the new book, as well as his older one, *The Living Room of the Dead*, which came out in paperback in August.

1979

Allison Martin and her spouse Richard's oldest son is graduating from high school in 2007. They are working on their 10th year of online support of adoption of children with special needs and premature infants. More information can be found at their current websites: www.comeunity.com, www.childrensdisabilities.info and www.prematurity.org.

1980

Ernest Jones and Torie (Victoria) Scott have been in Portland for eight years. Torie's a reference librarian at Portland Community College and Ernest is a stay at home dad for their 7 year old. He also continues to work as an on-call community relations staff for FEMA and periodically works for the local county elections office. Ernest also observes elections overseas from time to time on behalf of the OSCE.

1981

Barrett Burr and his wife Doris Faltys own Polar Bear Construction located in Olympia, Wash. Their company has been building energy efficient and green buildings for over 20 years. Their work was featured in the spring solar home tour in Olympia and as part of the Olympia Master Builders Tour of Homes this summer. Barrett recently

Bill Bradlee '93, MES '97 bicycled across the USA this summer to raise awareness of global warming.



Ride for Climate USA is a bicycle journey across the U.S. to promote energy efficiency, renewable energy, and other solutions to global warming that will give America and the world a better future. Bill and climate scientist David Kroodsma started their five month, 5,000 mile journey on April 21 in Boston and finished the northern leg in San Francisco on September 19. As they traveled through 17 states, they gave more than 45 formal presentations and talked to thousands of people they met on the road about global warming and energy efficiency.

They are currently taking a short break, but are planning and fundraising for a potential return trip across the southern U.S.

Bradlee works in the nonprofit community teaching people how to have a voice in making environmental policy. His passion is helping people understand environmental issues and then make changes that will create a healthy environment for current and future generations. Most recently, he was managing director at The Regeneration Project, which helps people of faith address global warming by conserving energy, becoming more energy efficient, and using renewable energy. Bill has also worked for The Union of Concerned Scientists.

"When I was thinking about taking on this project and the USA bicycle tour, someone told me: If you want to hate this country read the newspaper every day; if you want to love this country ride a bicycle across it," Bill says in a blog entry from South Dakota. "They were certainly right about the second part. We live in a country with exquisite physical beauty and amazing human diversity of all kinds. I encourage you to go see it along the back roads at ten miles per hour. It will give you hope."

Find more information on the project website: www.RideforClimate.com.

served as general contractor for a 2,200 sq ft. green home called Zelonedom, which means "Green Home" in Polish. It was planned to be "the most environmentally sensitive house yet constructed in Thurston County (Washington)." The home uses one third the total energy of comparably sized homes, with utility total bills in the \$35-\$40 per month range. The home was also featured in a "green" article in Solar Today magazine this past year. Learn more about the "green home" at www.thegarsts.com

1982

Barbara Baker, a legislative policy expert, was chosen by Washington State House Democratic leaders as the new top administrator of the House. House Speaker Frank Chopp says Baker's wealth of experience and her passion for issues will make her a big asset as chief clerk. Baker has worked for the

House for 11 years, serving as policy director for the Democratic Caucus for the past seven years. Before that, she was an attorney representing poverty law programs. She is a graduate of the University of Puget Sound School of Law.

1983

Blaise DePaolo is living an incredibly satisfying and meaningful life in Baltimore, Maryland. She is on the fine art faculty at Morgan State University. She was adjunct faculty at Morgan for two years before she was offered a full time job. She is in her third year of teaching and has written and now teaches two of the four classes in her load. Her three studio art classes and one seminar on the history of African American art are at Morgan, but she just finished a collaboration with the Maryland Institute College of Art and five of Morgan's students

that culminated in a ground breaking exhibition examining the history of Maryland in regard to slavery and freedom. That is just one example of the ways in which she continues to explore interdisciplinary education and continues to live out the Evergreen legacy.

1985

Dr. Mary Shepherd has a new book due out for publication in December. It is a careful and thorough study that employs data from a 20-year period during which she investigated the issues behind the sex ratio imbalance in India. Main topics of the research include: Does sex-selective abortion have an impact on gender differentials in child morbidity and mortality in India? If prenatal discrimination against girls has been substituting for postnatal discrimination, then eliminating sex-selective abortion may lead to an



Sheppard Honored at Cannes Film Festival

Evergreen faculty member Dr. Gilda Sheppard's documentary film "Women Together as One" was the first ever short film selected for showing by Fest Afrique 360 at the 2007 Cannes Film Festival in France. The film's world premiere was part of the Agora Lumiere Cinema Series showcasing the best work worldwide of filmmakers from Africa or of African descent. Sheppard also served on the series' "African Diaspora Cinema" panel.

"Women Together as One" focuses on work Sheppard did with Liberian women refugees who live at the Buduburam Refugee Camp in Ghana, West Africa. She worked with the refugees to organize and design classes for economic sustainability (computer literacy, adult literacy, cosmetology, catering, sewing and tie and dye workshops) and school scholarships for their children. Evergreen-Tacoma executive director and faculty member Dr. Artee Young, information technology systems specialist Luversa Sullivan and four youth from the Intel Computer Clubhouse and Girls and Boys Math, Science and Engineering programs at Evergreen-Tacoma visited the project and helped with the work.

Another of Sheppard's films, "Theodor Wonja Michael: Interview with a Black Prussian Elder," was presented at the Goethe Institute during the Pan African Film Festival in Ghana, West Africa. The film is a documentary on an interview with actor Theodor Wonja Michael conducted by author and researcher Anne Adams. In this interview, Michael speaks of the choices for survival of black German families before and after World War II, as well as the complications and triumphs of building a life in post-war Germany and into the 21st century.

increase in excess female infant and child mortality. This timely work not only has critical implications for India, but its insightful findings will also be highly informative for many countries or societies dealing with sex ratio imbalances. She holds a research faculty appointment in international health at the Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health. She has a Ph.D. from Johns Hopkins University, and an MS from University of Massachusetts. Dr. Shepherd publishes and presents in the field of public health. You can find her book at www.cambriapress.com

1989

Crai Bower appeared on Seattle's National Public Radio affiliate, KUOW, during "The Beat" on August 30. He previously appeared in May 2007 and is scheduled again in November 2007. Past discussion topics included micro vacation destinations from the

column "Escape the Pace" he authors for *Conscious Choice* magazine. He contributes articles to more than twenty magazines about topics as diverse as the Edmonton Fringe Theater Festival in Alberta to Seattle as hub for creative professionals to heli-fishing in the B.C. interior. He is a contributing writer to travel website Expedia.com and a public presenter of the history of light rail on Seattle's Capitol Hill. He lives and writes in Seattle. Read more about his work at www.floatingstreamwriting.net

Terrell Ann Erickson (MES) was named National Biologist for the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service in Washington, DC, in August. Her broad range of experience includes serving as NRCS State Biologist in Hawaii from 1996 to 2005, providing conservation planning and technical assistance, and seven years as program manager for the Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program

and the Wetlands Reserve Program. She was also involved in developing the national model wildlife Conservation Security Program tools. Prior to coming to Hawaii, she worked as a biologist in Guam for the Navy and as a private consultant. In May, Terrell and her husband received the 2007 Hawai'i Book Publisher's Association "Ka Palapala Po'okela" award for Excellence in Natural Science with their *Hawai'i Wetland Field Guide*, an ecological and identification guide to wetlands and wetland plants of the Hawaiian Islands. She is in the Senior Executive Service Candidate Development Program.



Perri Lynch '94



had her public art installation, "Straight Shot" dedicated during opening ceremonies at Seattle's Magnuson Park on June 7. The artwork is a procession of 12 standing ink jade limestone sculptures which run parallel to and mark the Sand Point Calibration Baseline. Public and private sector surveying and scientific communities use the baseline to verify the accuracy of and calibrate electronic distance measurement equipment.

"It's the region's tape measure," says Seattle Public Utilities surveyor Gavin Schrock, who lent his technical expertise to the baseline artwork project. "It's the ruler that we measure all other rulers against."

The stones are perfectly aligned, along a one-kilometer course that runs north-by-northwest across the park. Two circular holes drilled through each stone invite visitors to peer through, creating a framed perspective of trees, grass, sky, water and surrounding elements of the park. The sight line offers a straight shot, thus the artwork's title. Sighting through the stones, the viewer will have the experience of making a targeted observation in the landscape, adopting the stance of a surveyor calibrating his or her instruments.

"My goal as an artist is to draw attention to that which is often overlooked or unheard so that one may derive a deeper sense of place," says Lynch. "My work is about 'amplifying' the obscure but also about providing ways to see the familiar in a new light. For 13 years I have visited this park and never knew the baseline existed, though I have walked by it many times ... I hope this work helps folks connect with the specialness of subtle things and provide a new perspective on a familiar scene."

In addition to her Evergreen degree, Lynch earned her bachelor of fine arts degree in printmaking from the University of Washington and a master of fine arts from Cranbrook Academy of Art. She recently returned from leading a public art program for college students in Auroville, India. She teaches courses in printmaking, design, and art theory at UW's School of Art and department of urban design and planning.

The artwork was funded with Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) 1% for Art funds. The Land Surveyors Association of Washington and Trimble, a leading provider of advanced positioning solutions, also contributed to its installation.

Learn more about the creation of "Straight Shot" on Lynch's blog at <http://sandpointbaseline.blogspot.com/>

1990

Syrenka L. Slettebak, (formerly Lisa Slettebak) was elected President of PNWSOPHE, The Pacific Northwest Chapter of the Society for Public Health Education.

1992

Rebecca Bloom ATR-BC, LMHC is a board certified art therapist and licensed mental health counselor. She has been using the creative process to foster self understanding for the last nine years. For the last two years she has been creating the mandalas used in Om art workshops. She is currently teaching a hands on workshop of yoga, art and self reflection at Yoga on Beacon in Seattle. You can contact her at www.bloomcounseling.com

Bee Lavender MPA '94, had her most recent book, a memoir titled

Lessons in Taxidermy, nominated for an American Library Association Award. The book was on the *Village Voice* Literary Supplement Bestsellers List, and was named to a number of U.S. best of the year lists, including the American Library Association Best Books list. Bee is a writer, publisher, and activist. After living in the Pacific Northwest for 33 years she moved to England. Her books include the anthologies *Breeder* and *Mamaphonic*. She is the publisher of the online edition of *Hip Mama* (www.hipmama.com) and created and publishes *Girl-Mom* (www.girlmom.com), an advocacy website for teen parents. For more information on her work, visit www.foment.net

Benjamin O'Brien and his wife Eszter reside in Budapest, Hungary and are parents of 4-year-old Leon and 1-year-old Milo. Ben is a faculty member in the theatre department of the American International School.

1993

Catherine Darley, ND opened her new business, The Institute of Naturopathic Sleep Medicine, in Seattle (www.naturalsleepmedicine.net). Her past research with St. Peters Sleep Disorders Center and her years at Evergreen led her to her current love of sleep medicine.

Lori Mansell, previously Lori Richardson, married a Canadian and they reside in Concord, N.H. She has been working as a nurse at a prison, but is leaving that profession for labor/union organizer training and job placement. Her present and past activities include working with Boston Terrier Rescue, working on domestic violence issues, freelance writing and advocating for wage, labor and working class issues.

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Peter Stepman is working at NHTV Breda University of Applied Sciences in The Netherlands. He is a lecturer in the international media and entertainment management programs.

Geoffrey Wirth lives on Whidbey Island with his wife Teresa, daughter, Eva, and new son Jasper. He is still making furniture. He has run his own business, Possession Point Woodworking, for a little over three years now and is having a great time.

1995

Cynthia D. Vogel moved to Mexico after graduation before returning to the US. She worked for two years in Olympia with the AmeriCorps program in public schools before moving down to Vancouver, Wash. For the last eight years, Cynthia has been working in the community mental health field where she is a clinician in the dialectical

behavior therapy (DBT) program at Columbia River Mental Health Services. Along with work, she is pursuing a second degree in fine art at Portland State University.

1996

Kate (Bergquist) Phenix and Erik Phenix live in Maine with their daughter Dylan and son Izaak. Erik works as an environmental consultant at Ransom Environmental in Portland and Kate is a staff member at Bowdoin College.

1997

Carl S. Andrews designed a solar energy hybrid system for buildings that is patent pending in 32 countries. He is working with land developers in Nevada to realize a solar and wind powered business incubator. He is a research and development analyst for OPD Consulting in the San Francisco area.

Richard Lopez leads Native Blue, a six-piece instrumental jazz group comprised of a trumpet, sax, trombone, piano, bass and drums. Five of the members live in the Olympia area. All of the band members have extensive experience working as professional musicians throughout the Northwest and have worked with many local and national artists over the years. Three of the band members are graduates of Evergreen. Native Blue performs most of its music similar to the timeless Art Blakey/Jazz Messenger sound in addition to offering the listening audience progressive jazz such as the Yellowjackets. Native Blue also adds a jazzy twist to the classic funk-rock hits from artists like Steely Dan, The Doobie Brothers, Stevie Wonder and the Average White Band. Olympia has always made a significant contribution to the Northwest contingent of jazz musicians. Native Blue is another



Photo Credit: ASI Europe www.asiphoto.net

Monique Lance, MES '97 earned 17th place in a field of 84 women in her age group at the 2007 International Triathlon Union World Championships in Hamburg, Germany on September 2, which also happened to be her 37th birthday. Just before race time, thousands of voices from around the world rose up in song to wish "Happy Birthday" to the USA Team tri-athlete.

She is one of 250 USA team athletes who range from 16-81 years old and hail from 38 states across the nation. She races in the age-group competition, which is specifically for amateur athletes. This year, 2,500 athletes from more than 50 countries competed in the age-group event.

Lance is a marine biologist for the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife in Tacoma. Her work as a marine biologist and a marine sea birds and piniped specialist also involves working in the Marine Mammal Investigations Unit. She is a published scientist, frequent presenter at marine biology meetings and seminars, and regularly directs large groups of scientists in the field. She has made significant contributions over the past 10+ years with research to shape economic and public policy for the Puget Sound region.

She is also the triathlon training program director for the YMCA of Tacoma-Pierce County and currently trains more than 100 athletes while continuing her own personal triathlon training. She hails from North Bend, Oregon.

The 2007 Triathlon World Championship hosted 8,000 top ranking tri-athletes from 60 countries for the three-day event. The event is a critical 2008 Beijing Olympics qualifying race for elite athletes holding a pro license. Organizers believe more than 300,000 spectators were in attendance.

example of how deep Olympia's bench is with regard to the fine talent that exists here in our own community. Native Blue is an ideal representative of the richness and authentic gift of music that Olympia's community and The Evergreen State College can foster. You can check out Native Blue at www.nativeblue.org

1998

Heidi Eckel Alissi joined the Employee Benefits Group at K & L Gates in 2007.

Laurie Steelsmith (formerly Laurie Steele Grimm) has written a book, *Natural Choices for Women's Health, How the Secrets of Natural and Chinese Medicine Can Create a Lifetime of Wellness*, which was published by Random House on May 24th. She would love to share the book with greener community. To find out more, visit www.drlauriesteelsmith.com.

2001

Katie Bruggeman of Brooklyn, N.Y., has been a staff member at Comedy Central's *The Colbert Report* for the past two years. Her story ideas have also been published in America's Finest News Source, satirical newspaper *The Onion*, and she has acted in several comedic short films that are featured on the website Superdeluxe. She studied 16mm film, animation, and cultural studies at Evergreen, and attended Mediaworks her senior year. She is now in the process of applying to Washington D.C. area law schools, because American politics are getting super depressing these days and she wants to help!



Katie Bruggeman with former House Speaker Tom DeLay.



Sarah (Sarita) Role '04 was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship to collaborate with Fundación Paraguaya, a leading Paraguayan microfinance institute, to study sustainable agriculture and microfinance. From Aug. '07-June '08, Sarita is conducting participatory research at Fundación Paraguaya's "Self-sufficient Organic Farm School," a pilot agricultural high school where rural Paraguayan youth learn organic farming and business administration through direct experience.

At the Organic Farm School, students not only grow their own food, they also market and sell it. Revenue earned from the students' sales covers the school's operating costs, including teacher salaries. When students graduate, they receive small

loans to start their own organic farms. Sarita hopes to import the Self-sufficient Organic Farm School model to the U.S., to provide the next generation of farmers the education they'll need to survive in today's market: an education that addresses both the agricultural and entrepreneurial demands of organic farming.

Many people would like to see a nation-wide increase in organic production, including the 16,000+ members of Organic Volunteers (www.GrowFood.org), the rapidly growing non-profit organization Sarita and her fiancée founded in 2001. Roughly 1,500 of Organic Volunteers' members are "hosts": organic farmers, green designers and builders, renewable energy experts, transportation innovators, "slow-fooders," and eco-tradespersons who host interns, apprentices, and volunteers. "Organic Volunteers hosts now provide interdisciplinary, community-integrated, hands-on training in all 50 states and in 18 Latin American countries," Sarita explains. "They inspire and empower thousands of young people to pursue socially responsible, ecologically sustainable careers, filling an educational niche that mainstream colleges and universities are only beginning to address."

Sarita's goal is to use her Fulbright grant and her world-wide sustainability contacts to promote new modes of education – agricultural and otherwise – that get students out of the classroom and into the world, where they can directly experience social and environmental challenges, and cooperate with others to overcome them.

The Fulbright program was established in 1946 by the U.S. Congress to "enable the government of the United States to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and people of other countries."

2003

Cathy de la Cruz is an MFA student at University of California-San Diego with a concentration in filmmaking. Her first group show, "This Is My Country," opened September 7 in the Little Italy arts neighborhood of San Diego. It was the inaugural exhibition of the Luis De Jesus Seminal Projects. You can keep up with her accomplishments at http://ucsdopenstudios.com/2007/artist.php?a=Cathy_De_La_Cruz and www.seminalprojects.com

Alison Loris continues to work in shelters for homeless men and women in Seattle and is currently working on a novel. She resides in Bremerton, Wash.

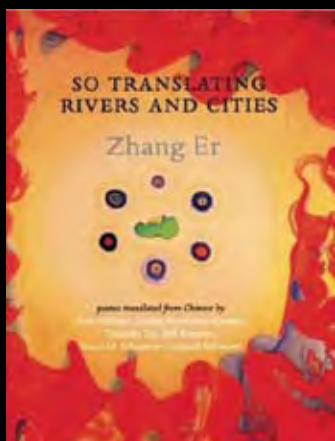
2004

Jade Leone Blackwater is an independent writing and editing consultant providing a variety of creative, artistic, and professional services. She is currently based in the Philadelphia area. She can be contacted at www.brainripples.wordpress.com

Chris Blanton is a master's student at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. He is working on his thesis, which is on weather models and hurricane asymmetries.

Leon Smith is one the primary playground designers of Planet Earth Playscapes. This summer, he agreed to work as a consultant for the Talkeetna

(Alaska) Community Playground Project, where he spent his summers growing up. He has worked as a childcare provider and preschool teacher in several different settings, including the Giddens School (formerly called Happy Medium) in Seattle. Through his work with preschool children, he developed a passion for creating spaces that allow children to do what they do naturally. He is the west-coast affiliate for the Planet Earth Playscapes, based out of Spencer, N.Y. They travel throughout the country (and world) to create one-of-a-kind, natural, community built, play and learning environments for children. Their playscapes are a combination of free-flowing grassy hills, trees, sculptures, boulders, herbs, sand and water and more. They have been



Zhang Er's Poetry Available in New Translation

Evergreen faculty member Zhang Er's recently collected poems were published this summer in a bilingual edition, *So Translating Rivers and Cities*, by Zephyr Press. She also gave a reading from the book at the University Bookstore in Seattle on July 27.

So Translating Rivers and Cities is a selection of work from Zhang Er's three most recent Chinese manuscripts. Translators on the project included Evergreen faculty members Bill Ransom and Leonard Schwartz, both well-known poets and authors in their own right. "Everywhere in these poems, the image of enchantment becomes luminous fact of enlightenment," writes award-winning poet and professor Donald Revell. "Wisdom proceeds through the enchanted eye into pure mind, finding no obstacle, broaching no impediment. The effect is of a sudden, entirely true transparency."

Zhang Er was one of the featured poets in Qinghai Lake International Poetry Festival at Xining, China this August. She was born in Beijing, China and moved to New York City in 1986. Her poetry, non-fiction writing, and essays have appeared in publications in Taiwan, China, the American émigré community and in a number of American journals. She is the author of multiple books in Chinese and in English translation. She has read from her work at international festivals, conferences, reading series and universities in China, France, Portugal, Russia, Peru, Singapore, Hong Kong as well as in the U.S. She currently teaches at Evergreen-Tacoma.

Her new collection is available on Amazon.com or Zephyrpress.org.

The North Thurston Public School Board recognized **Amada Lang MIT '05** (Horizons Elementary School), and **Aimee Leggett MIT '06** (Timberline High School) who were selected as "Outstanding New Art Educators of the Year" by the Washington Art Education Association (WAEA). "These women are new to the profession but already standing out as leaders in their schools, district and the state," said Ginny Lane (Nisqually), who was selected herself as the WAEA 2007 Art Educator of the Year. "Their outstanding professionalism, service and promotion of the arts demonstrate what it takes to help kids appreciate and excel in visual arts."

widely recognized for their safe, multi-sensory, developmentally appropriate, and accessible designs for children of all abilities. They also provide other services including slideshow workshops and lectures to community based clients. Learn more about their work at www.planeteearthplayscapes.com

2005

Caitlin Kittredge has several pieces due for publication this year. Her novel, *Night Life*, about a crime-fighting werewolf, is the first in her Nocturne City series, and will be published by St. Martin's Press in March 2008. Find out more at her website, www.caitlinkittredge.com. Her publications are available for pre-order at Amazon.com.

Randy Scott was hired by The Colville Tribal Enterprise Corporation (CTEC) board of directors as chief executive officer. Scott, who started work on Aug. 15, has over 25 years of senior management experience with tribal and state governments and spent 16 years as a business owner. Scott is an enrolled Haida/Gitksan tribal member from Alaska.

2006

Eden Greer is starting the MPA journey this month at Evergreen. Last year Eden worked as a legislative intern in the 2006-07 session for the Washington State House of Representatives in Olympia.

2007

Dave Dethlefs, owner of Superior Storage, Inc. and past Tumwater Area Chamber of Commerce President, is a proud graduate in business management. He also works as assessment coordinator for the Thurston County Economic Development Council, assessing the needs of the business community through surveys and interviews. He started his work at the EDC as an Evergreen intern in 2005. A part of that effort has led to the formation of the South Sound Manufacturer's Alliance.

In Memoriam

Luanna May Austin '85, MPA'91, of Olympia, died on July 1, 2007 at her home after a short struggle with cancer. She was raised on a cattle ranch in Montana, and attended the University of Montana in Missoula in the 1950's. She married Richard David Austin on Sept. 4, 1958, at the family ranch in Montana, then moved to Olympia, where they lived most of their lives before divorcing. She returned to college at Evergreen, earning two bachelor's degrees as well as a Master of Public Administration degree, all while teaching English as a second language at South Puget Sound Community College. She later retired from teaching and finished her career at the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services as a human resources specialist.

Luanna dedicated her time to the local chapters of the Mountaineers and the Democratic Party, where she taught courses and served as a precinct officer. She is survived by her sister Elaine, her brother Doug, her three children, Ian, Christina and Dan, her daughter-in-law Lisa Pacheco, her son-in-law Bob Airhart, and her ex-husband Dick.

The Evergreen community suffered a significant loss in July with the death of faculty member **Dr. doranne crable**. doranne was a creative and focused scholar who was well known for her insatiable love of learning, dedication to student success, and vibrant artistry. A former student of Butoh master Kazuo Ohno, doranne's legacy of Butoh Dance continues to influence the work of countless numbers of artists, teachers, and musicians worldwide. In respecting her wishes not to have a formal memorial on campus, the community celebrated doranne's life at Olympia's Capitol Theater on November 17, 2007 during a screening of the film, *Gypsy Caravan*, which documents the music and spirit of a group of people that she held close to her heart. A reception, sponsored by doranne's family, was held at The Heritage Room following the film.

Jon Gribskov '82 died November 21, 2006 in Washington, D.C. of brain cancer. He was the son of former Evergreen faculty member Margaret Gribskov (1973-1990) and brother of Megan Gribskov Painter '82, and Maren Gribskov '85.

Adrian Lane '07 passed away on September 3, 2007. He was born on September 4, 1977. A carefree, curious individual, Adrian loved electronics and learning, and was also a poet. Though mental illness slowly robbed him of joy and hope, Adrian's gentle, loving spirit was a gift to all who knew him. Adrian had been a student at Evergreen since winter 2004. During the 2006-2007 academic year, he worked most closely with faculty member Stacey Davis, who says "Adrian was a dedicated student of environmental studies, comparative religion and European history who combined all three fields in a highly interdisciplinary and original senior thesis, *The Protestant Reformation and the Natural Environment*, with Emphases on England and Holland." Adrian is survived by his son, Brynn, mother, Kel Lane, father, Charles Schultz and sister, Theresa Hays.

Rebekah Scarbrough '02 of St. Louis, Mo., died February 27, 2007 after a courageous struggle with brain cancer. She was 29. An artist and writer, Bekah worked in collage, wrote poetry and short stories, and brought her love of nature and her strong environmental consciousness wherever she went. She worked for several years after graduation at Duff's Restaurant in St. Louis's West End, near where she grew up. She is survived by her mother, Pamela Sprung Voisin, and her sister, Sarah Voisin.

Lynn Marie Sundborg '00, daughter of Jean and Pierre Sundborg, died August 5, 2007 in Seattle, Wash. She was born in Seattle on March 14, 1971. Children's Home society placed the 3-week-old with Jean and Pierre. Lynn lived in New York, Texas, Minnesota, Alaska, France, Normandy Park, Olympia and Spokane, always returning to Seattle. She attended the American International School of Nice, France and graduated from Highline High School in 1989. The faculty and staff at Seattle Central Community College nurtured the best in Lynn and introduced her to success in science and mathematics. After receiving her Bachelor of Science in biotechnology from Evergreen, she was employed by several Seattle biotech firms and facilities. Artistic, musical and French linguistic abilities balanced her scientific knowledge and expertise. Lynn was a lovable, capable and gifted person who made friends easily. Lynn struggled with alcoholism and mental illness more than half her 36 years. Her far-too-early death is mourned by her parents, her grandfather, three aunts and three uncles and their four spouses, a brother and 15 cousins plus their 11 spouses and 16 children.

Michael Sutherland '89, of Kunming, China, died unexpectedly in a rafting accident on August 26, 2007 in Kunming. Mike, 41, was one of five sons of the former mayor of Appleton, Wis. He was a great outdoorsman, a gifted photographer and writer, and a professional mountain biker.

After graduation from Evergreen, Mike began a solo bike tour of Asia. Two years later he had pedaled some 60,000 kilometers through India, Pakistan, Nepal and China. During his bike travels he fell in love with Yunnan province, especially its beauty and ethnic diversity. Setting up in Kunming provided him with an ideal base for exploring the province.

One of the key things that drew Mike to Yunnan and kept him in Kunming was the traditional hemp cultivation and hemp culture in rural areas of Yunnan, which he researched and worked with in developing his various hemp projects. Mike founded his company, Peopleshemp, which sold a line of hemp clothing that he designed. The company's eco-friendly mission reflected Mike's love of nature and the outdoors – a love which defined his life right up to the end. He will be remembered and greatly missed by his parents, Bronte Sutherland Lamm and James Prescott Sutherland, his brothers Paul, James, John Abraham, and Samuel, his stepfather, Ray Lamm, and his niece, Skye.

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Tom Womeldorff '81

Occupation: Evergreen faculty member, economics and environmental studies.

Mode of transportation: Bike.

Book: Robert Heilbroner's *The Nature and Logic of Capitalism*.

Accomplishment: Survived five years as an Evergreen Dean.

Word: obfuscate.

When I'm not teaching, I love biking, hiking and photography.

Favorite thing about Evergreen: The level of creative freedom for faculty and students.

Favorite Greener: My daughter, Nadya Elise Santiago Womeldorff '08.

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Making a Statement on Climate Change Through Art

The Black Car Project was created as a simple and meaningful artistic reaction to climate change. Evergreen students Bruce Wilkinson (pictured), Blas Nadal and Beda Calhoun collaborated on the project, which "decommissioned" Wilkinson's perfectly good, working Isuzu Rodeo by encasing it in cement in the Evergreen parking lot. The project evolved from work in the fall 2006-winter 2007 Sustainable Design program. It was supported with an Evergreen State College Foundation Activity Grant, with oversight from faculty members Rob Knapp and Helena Meyer-Knapp.

Through their project blog (<http://autovoid.blogspot.com>) the artists are encouraging other individuals to make their own climate change statement. "The Black Car Project isn't complete," says Wilkinson. "The idea is instead of a functional art car we want a non-functional car that is a statement on global warming to pop up in parking lots across the country."

