

ENVIRONMENTAL CONNECTIONS

GREENING THE HOSPITALITY INDUSTRY: TEDD SAUNDERS '83 RECEIVES ALUMNI ENVIRONMENTAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

AT REUNION 2008 President Leo Higdon presented the Goodwin-Niering Center's sixth Alumni Environmental Achievement Award to Tedd Saunders '83 of Boston, Massachusetts. The President cited Tedd's leadership in promoting environmental sustainability in the business world as the primary reason for this honor.

Tedd Saunders studied sociology and communications at Connecticut College and after graduation went to work in his family's hotel business. He soon became interested in environmental sustainability issues as they related to the hotel and hospitality industry, and used the properties in the Saunders Hotel Group to develop common-sense methods to preserve the environment in fiscally prudent ways. His experiences inspired him to write a book called *The Bottom Line of Green is Black*, and to start the consulting firm Eco-Logical Solutions. Along the way he essentially invented luxury, urban eco-tourism. Also a dedicated volunteer, Tedd serves on the boards of The New England Aquarium, The American Lung Association of Massachusetts, The Environmental League of Massachusetts and Friends of the Public Garden.

Last March the Goodwin-Niering Center invited Tedd Saunders to give a public lecture at the College about his experience of bringing environmentalism to the business world. He pointed out that travel and tourism is the world's largest industry and that it has a huge impact on the environment. His goal since 1989 has been to develop comprehensive and practi-



cal business strategies that are environmentally friendly while reducing costs. His environmental approach has successfully differentiated hotels in the Saunders Group from other high-end hotels. He went on to describe many of the techniques and systems that can make this business sustainable, from towel and sheet reuse to fueling airport

shuttle vans with biodeisel. One bit of luck for Connecticut College is that the Saunders have recently acquired a Holiday Inn that is the closest hotel to our campus. We'll be expecting to see more of Tedd, and will be watching for changes of the green kind from this local business. — Glenn Dreyer



GOODWIN-NIERING CENTER
FOR CONSERVATION BIOLOGY
& ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

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Established in 1993, the Goodwin-Niering Center for Conservation Biology & Environmental Studies is an interdisciplinary program that draws on the expertise and interests of faculty and students in the liberal arts to address contemporary ecological challenges. The Center strives to integrate all areas of learning to deal with the issues of sustainability and the natural environment. Building on a scientific understanding of the natural world, the Center invites the social sciences, the humanities and the arts to help understand and solve difficult environmental issues.



LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

AT THE END OF JUNE I will step down as Harrison Director of the Goodwin-Niering Center. I have been deeply involved in the Center since it was established in 1993. William Frasure and I served as co-directors of the Center from 1993 to 1997. During this period the Center was a more informal organization that sponsored a conference and talks by visiting speakers. We also helped to support the Environmental Studies major (which dates back to 1969). We raised funds to support additional upper-level courses in environmental studies, including new seminar courses in human population growth and

global climate change. There was no certificate program at that time, however, so the connection between the Center and students was indirect. The Center was essentially an interdisciplinary faculty committee concerned with improving the curriculum in environmental studies and sponsoring major public events on environmental topics.

William Niering took over as director of the Goodwin-Niering Center from 1997 to 1999, but after Bill's death I agreed to serve as director again. The Center had recently been endowed with a generous contribution from Helen Mathieson, a Connecticut College alumna and former trustee, and her husband Drew. With a stable source of funding, the Center quickly shifted from being a relatively informal support group for environmental studies to a much more highly organized program with a staff and a separate educational program. The certificate program in environmental studies was approved by the faculty in April 2000. Fortunately, a week after the faculty voted to approve the program, I was invited to a meeting at the headquarters of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation in New York to discuss ideas for developing effective multidisciplinary approaches to environmental education. I arrived at this meeting with the plan for our certificate program, which was directly modeled on the College's already successful international studies certificate program. The certificate program promised to accomplish one of the Mellon Foundation's key goals, which was to engage students from a wide range of disciplines in studying and helping solve environmental problems. Students did not need to choose an environmental studies major; they could major in English or biology or international relations but still learn about environmental issues through the certificate program. The certificate program is distinctly different from a second major with a long list of required courses. Instead, the emphasis is on hands-on participation in discussions, activities and research on the environment. Most students in the program apply the intellectual tools and perspectives of their academic majors to understanding and trying to solve environmental problems. Later that year the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation awarded us a grant for \$298,000 to initiate this program. At the end of the initial grant period, the Mellon Foundation continued to support the program with a second major grant.

In both of our proposals to the Mellon Foundation we promised to use the time when we were supported by grants to build up the endowment of the Goodwin-Niering Center so that the certificate program would become sustainable and self-supporting. Thanks to generous contributions from Andrew and Helen Mathieson '52, the family of Karla Heurich Harrison '28, Linda Lear '62, Barbara Shattuck Kohn '72, the Jean Thomas Lambert ('45) Foundation, the Wallace Genetic Foundation, and others, we are closing in on our goal of supporting our basic programs with income from our endowment. We should be able to sustain the certificate program after the current Mellon grant ends and we are working to build the endowment to provide long-term support for our biennial conference (the Elizabeth Babbott Conant Interdisciplinary Conference on the Environment) and other Center programs.

The Center's programs have been successful because of the efforts of a large number of faculty and staff, and especially because of the steady guidance of the other members of the Center's Executive Committee. Diana Whitelaw, Glenn Dreyer and Gerald Visgilio worked hard to plan, evaluate, and improve the certificate program since its inception. Because of their efforts, we not only have a successful certificate

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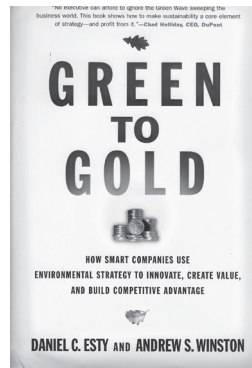
PRESIDENT HIGDON JOINS BOOK DISCUSSION ON GREEN BUSINESS

GREEN BUSINESS WAS THE THEME of this semester's Certificate Seminar. During one session, the students were treated to a stimulating book discussion with Connecticut College President Lee Higdon on "*Green to Gold: How Smart Companies Use Environmental Strategy to Innovate, Create Value, and Build Competitive Advantage*" by Daniel C. Esty and Andrew S. Winston. Fresh from a planning meeting on a campus environmental sustainability audit with members of the Environmental Model Committee, the President led the students in a thought-provoking exchange of ideas.

In preparation for the book discussion, the students wrote papers critiquing *Green to Gold*. An excerpt from the book review

by Charles Van Rees '10 is provided below.

Daniel Esty and Andrew Winston's book Green to Gold attempts to tackle an issue which has plagued many modern (and developing) countries throughout the last two decades, the likes of which is often called a "green revolution." When the actions of businesses for private profit affect others on a very widespread and very public scale and the urgency of global environmental issues increases, particularly large offenders are targeted first. These, of course, are corporations and



large businesses. Do private companies suddenly have responsibilities to protect others at the risk of losing profit? To dispel the issues in capitalist culture which arise in the presence of environmental pressures, the authors have constructed a would-be "guide" for businesses to remove moral ambiguity by finding profits in "green" behavior, and thus creating a win-win

situation by garnering what they call "the eco-advantage." Beginning with a thorough examination of contemporary environmental problems that companies face and how they deal with them, Esty and Winston describe the changes that are tearing through the business world and paint a clear picture of the changes companies will need to make to keep up with this "green wave."

Speaking philosophically, the core issue behind the book, then, is finding the ideal point where both money and morality can be acquired in highest yield. In light of trying to encourage "green" behavior, the authors are caught weighing money against morality, a decision which—I should hope—is not so difficult . . . , yet given the examples presented by Esty and Winston it seems that money is given precedence over environmental sustainability in the majority of cases. Without moral or legal bounds, companies have no real binding commitment to the earth, and instead continue acting green only when it benefits themselves.

[Green to Gold] provides an intriguing look at the business perspective of environmentalists, one many environmental thinkers never see. At the same time, it is also an inspiring motivator for businessmen and women who wish to dip their toes in the figurative waters of environmental business, giving substantial hard, experiential evidence as well as anecdotal advice to guide potential "waveriders" on their journey toward stability. [Green to Gold] definitely has its place in the progress of a sustainable global culture, and may well manifest itself as the environmental "foot in the door" into the corporate world.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST TO JOIN CENTER IN FALL 2008

WITH SUPPORT from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Connecticut College is launching a Postdoctoral Fellowship Program that will bring a recent PhD graduate to each of the College's five academic centers. Fellows will receive two-year appointments with reduced teaching assignments so that they may engage in tutorials and research projects with undergraduate students.

The Goodwin-Niering Center sought a postdoctoral fellow with training in environmental communication, an important, newly emerging field. One of the Center's Certificate Seminar goals is to improve students' ability to communicate, especially with public presentations of environmental information. We anticipate that an environmental communications specialist will add significantly to both seminar discussions and to our students' communication skills.

In addition to participation in the Certificate Seminar, the Mellon fellow will participate in three courses each year. These will include teaching a module in both the science- and policy-based introduction to environmental studies courses which are offered annually. The fellow will also develop a course in her own area of expertise.

After an intense search process, the position was offered to Wei Ying Wong, Dr. Wong received a B.A. in English Literature from the University of Toronto and an M.A. and Ph.D. in Environmental Studies from Brown University. While she had received other very good offers, Wei Ying decided on Connecticut College mainly on the basis of her interactions with the faculty, students and staff she met while she interviewed here. She said she was especially impressed with how well we work across disciplines and departments in the environmental studies program.





CAMPUS ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

MORE THAN 4,000 U.S. colleges and universities feed and house people, perform research; maintain facilities, perform large scale purchasing, administer projects, and adhere to environmental laws. In performing these activities, institutions of higher education consume tremendous amounts of energy, water, other natural resources, consumer products, labor and capitol, and produce a great deal of waste ... creating a large environmental wake. As microcosms of society, more and more colleges and universities are considering and addressing campus sustainability issues. Connecticut College is an environmental leader, having adopted strategies to systematically address the sustainability issues of the College through our mission, policies, programs and practices, and through the Campus Environmental Coordinator position and an Environmental Model Committee comprised of appointed students, faculty and staff.

The College plans to embark on its first comprehensive environmental sustainability baseline audit in Fall, 2008. Initiated by the Environmental Model Committee and supported by the College administration, this study will include an audit of energy, water and other resource uses; sourcing and purchasing; solid waste and hazardous waste generation, disposal and recycling; greenhouse gas emissions; and much more. The survey is intended to benefit the college environmentally and to save the College money, as we continue our efforts toward increased campus sustainability. — *Amy Cabanis*

FOOD ADVANCES

CONNECTICUT COLLEGE, having made many advances in the realm of sustainability, recently began looking at the ways in which we acquire and dispose of food. Student organizations working to introduce more local, fair trade and healthy foods into the College food system include Sprout! (the sustainable food initiative that also runs the organic garden), the Fair Trade Initiative, and MEAT (Motivated for Ethical Animal Treatment).

MEAT's work has brought cage free eggs to the dining halls.

The Fair Trade Initiative is working to bring more fair trade items to the dining halls. The College already serves one variety of fair trade coffee, but the initiative is pushing for full fair trade coffee and other items like bananas and tea. The Blue Camel Café in the basement of Shain Library serves 100 percent fair trade and organic coffees from a local roaster.

The Sprout! garden has now been expanded to almost 7,000 square feet and, thanks to a generous donation, will have for the first time this summer a full time garden manager to care for the garden until students come back in the fall. All produce from the garden currently goes to the dining halls on campus. Sprout! produces herbal teas and sells them at two cafés on campus as well as to Bean & Leaf Café in New London. Sprout! also held a food conference that included a movie showing of "King Corn," a free sustainable lunch featuring all local, organic, and fair trade items, and three panel discussions that focused on sustainability, health, and social justice

issues as they relate to food.

The composting initiative is in full swing. The Earth Tubs are now receiving waste from all of the dining halls on campus (more than 200lbs/day). Work-study students pick up the waste from the dining halls every weekday and transport it to the tubs. Thanks to the tubs, educational initiatives, and the elimination of trays from the dining halls, the College is now reducing its food waste exportation by thousands of pounds.

Finally, the creation of the Food and Purchasing Subcommittee of the Environmental Model Committee (EMC) has allowed all of these student groups, Dining Services, and other faculty and staff members to work together to make positive changes and improve food offerings at Connecticut College.

— *Misha Johnson '08*

2008 GOODWIN-NIERING CENTER'S STUDENT ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERSHIP AWARD

MICHAEL (MISHA) JOHNSON '08 was this year's recipient of the Goodwin-Niering Center's Student Environmental Leadership Award. Given each year, this special award recognizes an outstanding student who has demonstrated great initiative and leadership in campus environmental activities. The numerous environmental endeavors Misha has undertaken include: co-organizing and facilitating composting of dining hall food waste on campus; initiating and chairing the Environmental Model Committee's subcommittee on food; working to bring sustainable foods to the dining halls; organizing and hosting a food conference on campus; and serving as a House Environmental Representative Coordinator. The award was presented by Amy Cabanis, Campus Environmental Coordinator at the Center's Senior Recognition Ceremony on May 17. Misha (pictured above), will be staying on campus this the summer as the sustainability garden manager. His legacy will be felt and appreciated by many.

COCAINE: FROM THE LEAVES OF SOUTH AMERICA TO THE STREETS OF NEW LONDON

WHEN I CHOOSE Cross-Cultural Solutions in the Peruvian highland city of Ayacucho as my funded internship through the Goodwin-Niering Center, I hadn't thought much about cocaine or the coca plant from which cocaine is produced. My internship involved a broad range of activities, but the experience that inspired me to take on this topic came from time spent in the city's prison.

About 50 women live in the prison, and since they are allowed to have their children with them until they are three years old. Nine children live in the prison. Besides falling in love with these children, I also had an opportunity to get to know the mothers. Many of their stories were similar. They had a family to feed, no source of income and they were struggling to make ends meet like so many people in the highlands of Peru. Somebody they trusted convinced them to transport cocaine paste or even the ingredients used in the production of cocaine, including large quantities of kerosene, ammonia, potassium permanganate, lime and sulfuric acid. After being caught, these women are serving extended sentences because of increased pressure from the United States to crack down on drug trafficking.

Spending time with these women and their children made me realize the very real impact that the Western world's demand for cocaine is having on the people of Latin America who are so often innocent casualties in our country's "war on drugs." Back at Connecticut College I wanted to educate people about not just the impact of the cocaine industry but also about the traditional uses of coca leaves. Even though cocaine is made from the cocaine alkaloid in the coca leaves, the common slogan for the movement to protect the traditional uses of coca "La hoja de coca no es droga" or "Coca leaves are not a drug" is true.

To do this I facilitated a Common Hour panel discussion titled "Cocaine: From the Leaves of South America to the Streets of New London." The panel included Enrique Mayer, a professor of Anthropology at Yale University, Leo Garofalo, a CC professor of history, Manuel Lizarralde, a CC professor of ethnobotany, and two New London police officers. Presenting to a crowd of

more than 100, the panelists effectively told the cocaine story beginning with the pre-Incan coca traditions and ending with the dispersal of the drug in communities like New London.

During my stay in Peru I also spent time in the jungle region and saw the destruction of the rain forest that is occurring in order to produce enough coca to create cocaine. As another component of my senior integrative project I have researched the environmental impact of the cocaine industry in Peru and have a better understanding of the destruction caused by the cocaine industry. Through both my Common Hour presentation and my independent research I hope that I have helped people understand not only the complexity of the industry but also the impact that the United States' demand for cocaine is having on the women and children living in the prison in Ayacucho. — Bianca Kissel '08



Bianca Kissel '08

Exploring the Future of Socially Responsible Investment at Connecticut College

During her internship with E Magazine, Certificate student Kathryn Gutleber '08 became interested in Socially Responsible Investment (SRI) and decided to delve deeper into the subject for her Senior Integrative Project. SRI describes an investment strategy which combines the intentions to maximize both financial return and social good. Kathryn discovered that SRI is a strategy used by many colleges and universities to support companies with positive social and environmental records and withhold support from companies with poor records. It was her strong desire to lay the groundwork for SRI at Connecticut College before she graduated. In Kathryn's words: "One of the ways in which Connecticut College can meet the dual goals of environmental stewardship and financial success is by developing an SRI strategy."

Kathryn organized a Center-sponsored lecture on SRI which took place at the College on April 22, 2008. She invited Cheyenna Weber, Organizing Director of the Responsible Endowments Coalition, to discuss the logistics of SRI with students, faculty and staff. The Coalition is an organization that provides a network, resources, and strategies to advance SRI of college and university endowments.

In her presentation, Cheyenna Weber discussed some SRI tools including shareholder advocacy, screening of funds, and community investment and divestment. Shareholder advocacy entails proxy voting and filing shareholder resolutions, which allow shareholders to express views on specific issues. Another SRI tool, screening, is a practice in which investment portfolios are evaluated based upon social and environmental values. In her research, Kathryn learned that several colleges and universities, including Brown University, Williams College and Bard College have incorporated screening into their alternative giving funds for alumni and potential donors. More information about SRI can be found at www.endowmentethics.org.

CLASS OF 2008 SENIOR INTEGRATIVE PROJECTS

Christina Comfort *Major: Biology/
Minor: Dance*

Christina investigated sustainable ways to develop supplies of marine-derived pharmaceuticals. In addition to writing a research paper titled "Drugs from the Sea: Discovery, Development and Sustainability," Christina choreographed a dance piece portraying the effects of ecosystem degradation on a coral reef.

Cara Donovan *Major: Hispanic Studies
and Environmental Studies*

Cara wrote, in English and Spanish, a brochure that included a map of the lodge and surrounding trails along with descriptions of plants that were labeled at the Casa Matsigenka, an eco-tourism lodge owned by an indigenous population in the rainforest of Manu National Park, Peru.

Eliza Greenman *Major: English*

Eliza explored the dynamic relationship between people and their environment, both historically and currently, and how this relationship is manifested in literary works in her paper "Nature as a Theme in Selected Readings in American Literature." The works she chose explored both the history of conservation and stewardship in the United States as well as nature as a theme in works of poetry and prose.

Kathryn Gutleber *Major: English and
Environmental Studies*

In "People, Planet, Profits: The Development of a Triple Bottom Line for Connecticut College," Kathryn investigated the ways

in which Connecticut College can align its investment strategies with its mission to act as a global environmental steward.

Kelsey Jacobsen *Major: Environmental
Studies/Minor: Art and French*

Kelsey examined how ocean currents and larval dispersal factor into configuring marine protected areas that are effective for organisms with differing life histories in "Modeling Planktonic Larval Dispersal Patterns to Improve the Design of Marine Protected Areas."

Bianca Kissel *Major: Environmental
Studies/Minor: Botany*

In her project "The Botanical Importance of Coca and the Environmental Impact of the Cocaine Industry in Peru," Bianca detailed the botanical, cultural and medicinal uses of coca leaves, the history of traditional coca use and the development of the current cocaine industry and its environmental impact.

Jessica LeClair *Major: International
Relations and Environmental Studies*

Jessica discussed the impacts of global warming from greenhouse gases generated by countries such as the United States and China on the four million people who live in the Arctic and the unequal burden borne by these Arctic residents in her project titled "Voices from the Far North: The Environmental Injustice of Circumpolar Climate Change."

Lindsay Michel *Major: Environmental
Studies and Anthropology*

Lindsay used a multidisciplinary approach to study land use history and take a very detailed look at the stonewalls in a 26.5 acre area of the Connecticut College Arboretum. Her research paper, "Stonewalls: A Stacked History of Land Use and Ownership in the Connecticut College Arboretum," provides a start at understanding of how this landscape developed through the colonial and post colonial agricultural period.

Katherine Serafin *Major: Environmental
Studies*

Katherine's honors thesis "Seasons, Storms and Seawalls: A Comparison of Constrained and Unconstrained Beaches in Groton, Connecticut," analyzed the impact of a seawall to determine if it leads to increased erosion.

Gabe Sidman *Major: Environmental
Studies/Minor: History*

In his project, "History Trumps the Turtle: A Comparative Analysis of the Simultaneous Management of Cultural and Natural Resources in the National Park Service," Gabe explored how national parks attempt to balance historical and natural preservation simultaneously.

SAVE THE DATE!

NEXT CONFERENCE THEME:
WATER SCARCITY AND CONFLICT

The 2009 Elizabeth Babbott Conant Interdisciplinary Conference on the Environment will be held on April 3 and 4, 2009. Usable freshwater is a relatively scarce commodity on the Earth. Competition for water for human consumption, irrigation, industrial use and power generation has resulted in conflicts at both the local and international scale. The *Water Scarcity and Conflict* conference will provide a broad overview of our current understanding of the use of this shared and critical resource. We will discuss solutions that would enhance the sustainable use of water and reduce political strife among water users. The mix of speakers and topics should appeal to a wide audience of college students and faculty, concerned citizens, NGO representatives and policymakers. More information on the conference will appear in the next issue of *Environmental Connections* and on the Center website.

NEW CENTER FACULTY PROFILE COLLEEN KACZMAREK, LECTURER, CHEMISTRY



COLLEEN KACZMAREK BEGAN TEACHING at Connecticut College in 1997 as a laboratory instructor for both General and Organic Chemistry and has taught the first half of organic chemistry as a sabbatical replacement. Although her background is in organic synthesis, her interest in environmental issues dates back to the first celebration of Earth Day when she was a freshman in college. Colleen has been teaching Molecular Science for the past five years, a class in which she can show the connections between environmental issues and chemistry. In Colleen's own words: "As a member of the steering committee for the

Goodwin-Niering Center I hope to work with students in the area of environmental communication and awareness. Some issues that I am interested in include mercury in CFLs, pharmaceuticals in our drinking water, the use and popularity of disposable water bottles, and the concern over bisphenol A as a contaminant in some plastics.



Arboretum staff member Anne Davis works with cub scouts on Earth Day.

EARTH DAY — COMMUNITY DAY 2008

THE SUN was shining brightly the morning of April 19 — Earth Day/Community Day — setting the tone for what turned out to be a fun-filled celebration that included vendors and informational displays on simple things you can do to be more eco-friendly. An estimated 500 people turned up to partake in the festivities on the Campus Green, which were free and open to the public. A high point of the day was Geoff Kaufmann's memorable performance of Songs of the Earth. Over 200 children had their pick from a plethora of activities including nature sand painting, planting beans and sunflower seeds, and other eco-friendly arts and crafts. The Lisbon School Environmental Club exhibited their science projects and assisted with the Arboretum's nature arts and crafts program. The Girl Scouts and New London Public Library also offered activities and wonderful exhibits specifically for the children.

The public was invited to bring soil samples from their yards for pH testing by Arboretum volunteers. There was a display designed by the student-run

ARBO Project and guided family tours were given of the Arboretum Native Plant Collection. A tap water challenge by SAVE and information on renewable energy were also available.

The local Mountain Laurel Chapter of Wild Ones provided information and sold raffle tickets for two nature bags which were jam packed with garden tools, environmental T-shirts, home made soap, and other wonderful items. Wild Ones is a national organization that promotes the use of native plants and naturalistic landscaping. This group also presented a composting demonstration and gave away free plants throughout the day. Their presence added a lot of energy to the overall spirit of the day.

Earth Day — Community Day groups also included: Connecticut College student groups (Sprout!, and the Renewable Energy Club), Sierra Club, Coast Guard Academy Sustainability Club, Heifer Project, The Farmer's Cow, Terra Firma Farm, Pampered Chef, Society of Craft Designers, Urban Eden Soap, Shaklee Corporation, Multicultural

Magnet School/Save the Earth Club, Solar Wrights, Inc., Babies 4 Peace, Renya Creations, and Artists Margarita Hernandez de Maxson and Anne Pugsley.

The Center extends special thanks to the following individuals for working tirelessly to plan and organize the event: Amy Cabaniss, Melanie Bender '10, Students Against Violence to the Environment (SAVE), Kathy Dame, Peter Baum, Geoff Kaufmann and Glenn Dreyer.



Folk singer Geoff Kaufmann

CENTER AWARDS CERTIFICATES TO TEN IN CLASS OF 2008

ON A WARM, sunny Saturday afternoon in May, more than 70 family members, friends, faculty and guests gathered to recognize the 10 students who successfully completed the Certificate Program. Center Advisory Board member Dr. Edward Monahan and CC Professor Emeritus R. Scott Warren were among the distinguished guests in attendance.

The ceremony began with opening remarks from Julie Rivkin, Associate Dean of the Faculty, who told the students that the interdisciplinary nature of their work in the certificate program prepares them for the real world where no problem ever fits neatly into one category and where patterns and connections are spread across various disciplines. Robert Askins, director of the Goodwin-Niering Center, provided highlights of the Center's recent activities. He was followed by Douglas Thompson, associate director, who emphasized that the certificate program works because of the students' motivation and love for the environment. The ceremony was then turned over to Associate Director Diana Whitelaw, who introduced each of the 10 students while Executive Director Glenn Dreyer presented them with their certificates. Each student also received a personalized, recycled glass paperweight, engraved with words taken from Richard H. Goodwin's poem, For Esther, "This world of ours has need of those who deeply care."

As the students received their certificates, each spoke briefly about their senior integrative projects and their future plans. After graduation Christina Comfort plans to enter a graduate program in marine biology and conservation. Cara Donovan will be working for a law firm that represents people who have been exposed to asbestos. She is interested in a career in environmental law. Eliza Greenman will be looking into environmental education, after she moves to Colorado to ski for a year. Kathryn Gutleber is interested in environmental consulting for businesses. Kelsey Jacobsen plans to work this summer at a dive shop in her hometown of Sitka, Alaska. Next year she will combine art classes with travel abroad. Following that, Kelsey plans to apply to a program for science illustration. Bianca Kissel plans to apply to medical school. She would like to integrate environmen-



The Certificate Class of 2008: Standing (l-r): Kathryn Gutleber, Gabe Sidman, Bianca Kissel, Kelsey Jacobsen, Christina Comfort, Cara Donovan, Jessica LeClair. Seated (l-r): Eliza Greenman, Lindsay Michel, and Katherine Serafin.

tal work with medicine. Jessica LeClair, who completed her internship in Norway, would like to go "back up north" but has not finalized her plans. Lindsay Michel has been accepted into the AmeriCorps program in Vinton, Iowa for the next 10 months. Katherine Serafin is going back to the organization where she did her internship, the U.S. Geological Survey Extreme Storm Group in St. Petersburg, Florida, to study how beaches change from sea level rise and storms. Gabe Sidman will be shipping out with the Peace Corps to work on protected area management in Honduras.

This year, several of our students won other awards and honors. Christina Comfort and Lindsay Michel were named Winthrop Scholars, the highest academic honor bestowed by Connecticut College. The Helen F. Mathieson '52 Award was given to Christina Comfort and Katherine Serafin for excellence in the Center's certificate program. Christina also received the Senior Biology Prize given by the biology department. For excellence in Environmental Studies, Cara Donovan received the Barbara Shattuck Kohn '72 Award and Lindsay Michel was the recipient of the Anthony Francis Nelson Memorial Prize. We were thrilled to hear that Katherine Serafin was asked to be the commencement speaker at her graduation ceremony the next day.

Finally, Glenn Dreyer introduced Wendy Blake-Coleman '75 who works with the United States Environmental Protection Agency Office of Environmental Information, Geospatial Team. Wendy is also a member of the Center Advisory Board. She quickly covered a lot of ground on a topic that was clearly very important to her: the coming societal shift away from a "de-" economy (characterized by activities like development, degradation) to a "re-" economy (where restoration and renewal are the paradigms). These ideas come mainly from works by Storm Cunningham such as *The Restoration Economy* and *ReWealth!* She spoke about one of her favorite projects, the Noisette Development, a public/private partnership that achieved restoration of a creek, stream and tidal park on 135 acres in Charleston, South Carolina. She also mentioned the depletion of water resources in the Middle East, the potential for war over water, and the restoration of a stream by two villages on either side, one Palestinians



Guest speaker Wendy Blake-Coleman '75

and the other Israelis. She told us about Haiti, where the natural resources have been stripped, leading to the complete degradation of society there. Wendy mentioned that the EPA is working to revitalize social and economic factors in many communities. "We need to instill a culture of land re-use. Cleaning up urban and inner suburban sites can help prevent sprawl." In wrapping up her talk, she advised that we create partnerships and think about how we can have win/win outcomes for all sides. Wendy told the

students to be agile and flexible in order to move into directions they had never thought about in response to our rapidly changing world.

After the ceremony, refreshments provided guests and graduates with a chance to mingle and relax. Posters summarizing the students' internships and senior integrative projects were on display throughout the room, sparking conversations. We were proud to see another class of successful certificate students move on along their chosen pathways. — *Mary Villa*.

CONNECTICUT SCIENCE FAIR AWARD WINNER DOROTHY M. KLEIN

Each year the Goodwin-Niering Center offers an Excellence in Environmental Conservation Studies Award to a student who participates in the Connecticut Science Fair. This year's recipient of the \$100 award is Dorothy M. Klein with her project titled: "Mudslide Mitigation Protocols for Southern California Using Enhanced Germination Technologies in *Larrea tridentata*." In providing this award each year, the Center seeks to encourage environmental research among the ranks of junior and senior high school students. Dorothy, a student at Brewster High School, will be attending The State University of New York College for Environmental Science and Forestry with a major in bioprocessing engineering.

JUNIOR INTERNSHIP PLANS AND PROJECTS

IT IS ALWAYS FASCINATING to hear about the Certificate students' internship plans. This year the Certificate Class of 2009 sets out for summer internships to places many of us only dream about visiting. It is always a great pleasure to hear about their experiences when they return in the fall.

History major **Sarah Ayres** is keenly interested in fisheries management. She will be helping to develop and implement a survey of fishers while she interns for the Gulf of Maine Research Institute in Portland, Maine. **Rebeccah Beachell**, a Government and East Asian Studies major, plans to intern with the Green Camel Bell, an NGO in Gansu Province, Peoples' Republic of China. Rebeccah will be working with elementary and middle school students raising their awareness of environmental protection and helping with their English language skills. ES major **Tyler Dunham** will perform an environmental marketing internship at Collins Design Research New York City. **Hans Eysenbach**, an International Relations major, is seeking to gain experience with sustainable food production and organic farming by working for Silverbrook Farm in Dartmouth, Massachusetts. Botany major **Rick Hederstrom** will be interning at The Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, located in Richmond, a suburb of London, England. There he will assist with efforts to collect and organize the valuable but quickly vanishing ethnobotanical knowledge of Great Britain. ES major **Maya Jacobs** will apply her interests in climate change, renewable energy and environmental economics in her work for the Coalition for Environmentally Responsible

Economies in Boston, Massachusetts. Philosophy major **Jeff Nemec** will be interning at the Adirondack Museum in Blue Mountain Lake, New York where he will be involved with a research project that will look at environmental impacts of past and present mining operations as well as the role of historic preservation in preserving community identity. ES major **Katherine Sacca** will work as a coordinator for World Camp in Lilongwe, Malawi, managing volunteer instructors and developing the curriculum for this environmental and health education non-profit. International Relations major **Mike Seager** will intern with FUNDAPAZ, an NGO in Argentina that works to give a political voice to indigenous communities, farming families and poor rural populations. Mike will analyze the implementation of the National Forest Law in Argentina in order to discover the effects on peasant families and the environment. Biology and ES major **Jamey Smith** will work as a biofuel crop research assistant for the Hawaii Agriculture Research Center in Aiea, Hawaii. Jamey will be responsible for assisting in all aspects of a research program focused on tropical species for use in the emerging biofuels markets. Government major **Andrew Watts** will pursue his interest in environmental law and public policy with an internship on the Community Action for a Renewed Environment (CARE) project, under the auspices of the EPA in Boston, Massachusetts. ES major **Samantha Wright** will be involved in designing programs for coastal habitat conservation and environmental monitoring during her internship with Ocean and Coastal Consultants in Trumbull, Connecticut.

FROM THE DIRECTOR *continued from page 2*

program, but we have also developed a well-respected conference series, an excellent series of public programs, and a new program to host visiting fellows and postdoctoral fellows in environmental studies. Recently we have returned to our roots by supporting the development of new, interdisciplinary courses on environmental issues. Twenty-one professors and lecturers, a remarkably large proportion of the faculty at Connecticut College, are now associated with the Center.

Last year Douglas Thompson replaced Gerald Visgilio as associate director of the Goodwin-Niering Center, and he will now succeed me as the Karla Heurich Harrison Director of the Center. Jane Dawson, a professor of government who has always been extremely active in Center programs, will become the new associate director, continuing our tradition of including faculty from both the natural sciences and the social sciences on the executive committee. The Center will be in superbly qualified hands, and I'm confident that Doug and Jane will continue to improve the programs and develop new ideas for educating both students and the general public about pressing environmental problems.

Robert A. Askins, *Director*



MEET THE CLASS OF 2010

Melanie Bender Major: Environmental Studies; Minor: Government
Environmental Focus: The human behavioral aspects of environmental activism.

Erin Brady Major: Government/Environmental Studies
Environmental Focus: Environmental education and greening the economy.

Ariella Cohen Major: Environmental Studies
Environmental Focus: Environmental justice aspects of human health and polluted environments.

Maria Figliola Major: Environmental Studies; Minor: Art
Environmental Focus: Advertising strategies that help to raise awareness of environmental issues.

Erica Hildebrand Major: Biological Sciences
Environmental Focus: Molecular ecology of salt marshes.

James (Andy) Irwin Major: International Relations/Environmental Studies
Environmental Focus: The role of green design and architecture in the emerging green economy.

Kevin Izzo Major: Environmental Studies; Minor: Economics
Environmental Focus: Ways to increase the environmental sustainability of large sporting events.

Lily Kunin Major: Economics
Environmental Focus: Environmentally sound investment strategies.

Sturgis Sobin Major: Economics/Environmental Studies
Environmental Focus: Global renewable energy markets in relation to large industries.

Charles Van Rees Major: Biological Sciences; Minor: Philosophy
Environmental Focus: The interface of ethics and endangered species conservation.

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