

# Environmental Science Newsletter

## Allegheny College

Dear ES students, faculty, and staff,

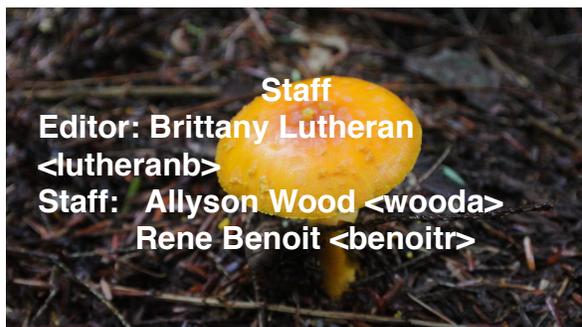
Welcome back to the 2016-17 academic year! I am serving as interim chair while Professor Pallant is on a well-deserved sabbatical leave - my office is in B115 Steffee (middle of the first floor). Eric's 2nd appointment as a Fulbright Senior Scholar (quite an honor) will take him to England in spring semester where he will write, teach, and serve as a cross-cultural emissary on behalf of our Department, Allegheny, and the U.S.

We have a new faculty member, Dr. E. Matthew Bethurum, whose research speciality is on how the impacts of global climate change play out at the local level. Pending Curriculum Committee approval, Matt will offer a new course on Climate Change Policy in spring.

Kerstin Martin will be also offering a new course in spring (pending Curriculum Committee approval) on Small Scale Production Agriculture with a focus on the Carrden.

We are currently planning Gator Day and will be looking for upper class student volunteers in the next two weeks to talk to first year students about the ES department, curriculum, internships, and study away opportunities.

Welcome back,  
Professor Scott Wissinger



This semester, Allegheny welcomed new professor Matt Bethurum to the Environmental Science department. Matt grew up in a small town in a mountainous area called the Ozarks in southern Missouri, but most recently lived in Syracuse, New York. He has received a bachelor's degree in antiquities from Missouri State, a master's in public policy administration from the University of Missouri, St. Louis, a master's in public health from the University of Missouri, Columbia, and a PhD from the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry. Matt's research is focused on climate change environmental policy. He is interested in small scale environmental action, such as steps taken by cities to reduce climate change. Although he has not been at Allegheny long, Matt is already excited by the sustainable movement on campus, specifically the composting system and LEED certified Carr Hall. A true E.S. professor, Matt's non-academic hobbies include hiking, camping and canoeing, as well as live music. Matt joined the Allegheny community because of its commitment to a liberal arts education. The emphasis on teaching, instead of research, was as important aspect for Matt, who is interested in engaging with students.

Matt can be reached in Carr Hall 234.

## Up and Coming Events

Gator Day activities will be determined over fall break. Keep an eye out

### The Buzz on Native Bees

By now, most people have heard about the honeybee population crisis currently happening around the world, but what about native bees? This summer, senior Paige Hickman and sophomore Kaye Moyer traipsed around 17 Meadville sites capturing native bees to catalogue their abundance and diversity. Working under Assistant Professor Beth Choate, Hickman and Moyer collected over 577 native bees, including one bee that is potentially an undiscovered species.

Overall, the goal of the project is to better understand how to attract and retain native bees. For more information and a video on Hickman and Moyer's research, check out <https://goo.gl/yyOEyI>

**WE NEED YOUR HELP!** Are you the creative type, or just good with words? Well, we need help in naming this newsletter! The winner will receive an awesome prize (yet to be determined)! Please email all submissions to <lutheranb>



Picture: Kaye Moyer



The Natural Resource Conservation FS take a break from studying old growth forests in the Allegheny National Forest to celebrate the life of a fallen Hemlock tree. Left to right, Cayla Brandon, Dawei Zong, Rebecca Montgomery, Melissa Burnett, Masha Serguievski, Grace Rohaley, Jordan Durci, Alaina, Duessel, Mitchell Carrigan, Bethany Chez, Karly Studely, Kyle Heller, Andrew Kirn, Chlöe Finger, and Rene Benoit

Interested in becoming apart of the ES Newsletter staff? Contact editor Brittany Lutheran at [lutheranb@allegheny.edu](mailto:lutheranb@allegheny.edu).

For months, Students for Environmental Action (SEA) and the Allegheny Outdoors Club (AOC) have been committed to organizing Allegheny's second annual Wild and Scenic Environmental Film Festival. Sponsored by the South Yuba River Citizens League (SYRCL), the festival will be taking place in Shafer Auditorium at the Campus Center on Sunday, October 23, 2016. Starting at the ripe hour of 11:00 am, a pre-film fest featuring local environmental organizations, live music, environmental crafts and activities, and FREE food will amplify the atmosphere with eco-friendly vibes. Then, a roll of fifteen environmental activist films, meticulously chosen by club leaders, is scheduled to begin at 1:00 pm. Save the date, this is an event you will not want to miss!



The DeHart Local Foods Dinner was held on September 21st. The market was held before the delicious dinner. The flowers were from one of the vendors that always has the most beautiful selection.

Dan Conant, an Allegheny '07 graduate, is currently involved in a project in Huntington, WV where he founded the company Solar Holler. Their goal for the project is to put coal miners that have lost their jobs into renewable energy careers. Here is a statement about the program: Through the Solar Training Institute, Coalfield's crew members sign on for two year apprenticeships with Solar Holler. During that time, they'll be doing three things: getting good, quality paid work; earning associates degrees, and earning their NABCEP certifications—the solar industry's gold standard.



When they sign on, their first experiences installing solar panels will be inside our new training facility. Every type of roof they will see out in the wild—whether shingle, metal, or rubber—they will see first in the West Edge Factory. They'll be given a chance to lay out, bolt down, and wire systems in the safe space of the Factory. They'll learn the art and science of system design in our classroom. And then, when they're ready, they'll go out and join their crew mates to work on real installations that will save our neighbors and our communities real money.

Through the program, every project that Solar Holler designs, finances, and builds--whether with non-profits, business owners, or homeowners--completed around the state will be done using Coalfield labor.