GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Results of the ISEE Business Vote:
1. The Revised ISEE Constitution was approved.
2. The ISEE Newsletter will now appear three times a year instead of four times a year. As a result of this change, the Governing Board of ISEE has decided that the ISEE Newsletter will appear in January (winter issue), May (spring/summer issue), and September (fall issue). The Editor of the ISEE Newsletter requests that ISEE members please submit items for inclusion in the Newsletter by January 1st for the winter issue, May 1st for the spring/summer issue, and September 1st for the fall issue.

ISEE Membership: The Governing Board of ISEE recently discussed several issues concerning ISEE membership. First, ISEE members sometimes complain that they don’t know when their annual membership dues are due, and the old system of using a dot on an ISEE Newsletter to indicate when a member’s dues are due largely has become obsolete because most members now receive the Newsletter electronically. Second, there are a considerable number of ISEE members whose membership dues are past due by two or more years. To address these issues, the Governing Board has decided the following:
1. ISEE membership dues will be due annually on Earth Day (April 22nd) of each year starting with this year (2008).
2. The ISEE Secretary will contact all ISEE members who last paid their annual membership dues in 2006 or earlier. ISEE members who remain remiss in their membership dues after September 30, 2008, will be dropped from the ISEE membership list.

ISEE Group Sessions at the American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division Meeting, March 19-23, 2008, Pasadena Hilton, California:
Thursday, March 20, 6:30 - 8:30 PM (Location TBA)
The Interface Between Environmental Ethics and Bioethics
Chair: Geoffrey Frasz (College of Southern Nevada)
Speakers:
1. Dale Jamieson (New York University) “Broadening Bioethics”
3. Ramona Ilea (Pacific University) “The Relationship Between Poverty, Health, and Environmental Problems and the Spread of Factory Farms to Developing Countries”

Saturday, March 22, 6:30 - 9:30 PM (Location TBA)
Chair: Mark Woods (University of San Diego)
Speakers:
1. Kenneth Shockley (University at Buffalo) “The Pragmatic Value of Intrinsic Value”
   Commentator: Paul Moriarty (Southern Illinois University—Edwardsville)
2. Mark Mysak (University of North Texas) “Evolving Ecological Ethics”
   Commentator: Geoffrey Frasz (College of Southern Nevada)
3. Phil Cafaro (Colorado State University) “There is No Right to Immigrate into the United States”
   Commentator: Peter Gratton (University of San Diego)

ISEE Group Sessions at the American Philosophical Association, Central Division Meeting, April 16-19, 2008, Palmer House Hilton, Chicago:
Thursday, April 17, 5:15 PM- 7:15 PM (Location TBA)
Author Meets Critics
Chair: Piers Stephens (Michigan State University)
Character and Environment: A Virtue-Oriented Approach to Environmental Ethics by Ronald L. Sandler
Critic: William B. Bradley (Syracuse University)
Critic: Katie McShane (North Carolina State University)
Critic: Allen Thompson (Clemson University)
Response: Ronald L. Sandler (Northeastern University)

Saturday, April 19, 12:15 PM- 2:15 PM (Location TBA)
Chair: William McKinney (Slippery Rock University)
1. Jen Everett (DePauw University) “Sustainability in Higher Education: Philosophical Implications”
   Commentator: Chaone Mallory (Villanova University)
2. Robert Figueroa (University of North Texas) “Relocating Environmental Heritage: Cultural Sustainability and Environmental Refugees”
   Commentator: Mark Woods (University of San Diego)

ISEE-Listserv: The ISEE Listserv is a discussion list for the International Society for Environmental Ethics. Its creation was authorized by the ISEE Board of Directors in December 2000. It is intended to be a forum for announcements and discussion related to teaching and research in environmental ethics. To join or leave the listserv, or to alter your subscription options go to: <http://listserv.tamu.edu/archives/isee-l.html>. Contact Gary Varner, the listserv manager, for more information: <gary@philosophy.tamu.edu>.

ISSUES
International Year of the Planet: The United Nations has declared 2008 the International Year of Planet Earth, led by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and its division of Ecological and Earth Sciences. Throughout the next three years, UNESCO hopes to persuade international industry and governments to raise millions of dollars and spend the money on environmental research and outreach. This is planned to be the largest intercontinental effort to promote the well-being of Earth. Ten major U.S. companies, along
with four environmental groups, have announced the creation of a US Climate Action Partnership, seeking to reduce carbon dioxide emissions by up to 30% over the next two decades.

**Al Gore and the Intergovernmental Program on Climate Change have won the Nobel Peace Prize:** The announcement came, interestingly, only a day or two after a British judge had ruled that if the Gore film *An Inconvenient Truth* was shown in British schools, nine errors in it needed to be corrected. The British government had sent the film to all secondary schools, and its use in those schools was challenged in court. One such error is that Gore had asserted that the disappearance of snow on Mount Kilimanjaro was expressly attributable to global warming. Another error is that polar bears have drowned swimming long distances to find ice. In the US, Gore offered copies of the film to all US schools through the National Association of Science Teachers (NAST), but NAST refused to distribute it, saying NAST did not endorse the use of any such advocacy materials.

**Focus the Nation National Teach-In for Global Warming Solutions for the United States:** On January 31, 2008 more than 1,900 colleges, universities, high schools, middle schools, faith groups, civic organizations, and businesses in the US participated in a simultaneous educational symposia on global climate change held across the country. A number of environmental philosophers, including Holmes Rolston III and Phil Cafaro at Colorado State University, participated in this event. For more, visit the Focus the Nation website at: <http://www.focusthenation.org/>.

**Biofuels Now a Global Warming and Biodiversity Threat:** If the full environmental effects of producing biofuels are taken into account, most biofuels used today result in more greenhouse gas emissions than conventional fossil fuels. Biofuels have been touted as being environmentally friendly because the carbon released when they are burned is balanced by the carbon absorbed when the plants grow. This simple equation doesn’t always hold because converting plants into fuels results in greenhouse gas emissions during refinement and transportation. Of more concern, however, is the fact that globally the production of almost all biofuels results in new croplands being cleared to grow plants for fuel or to grow more plants for food to replace those used for fuel. Regardless of whether these new croplands are converted from scrublands or cleared rainforests, the conversion releases new greenhouse gases when the lands are burned and plowed, and the new croplands absorb far less carbon than the original vegetation. In addition to increased emissions, expanding biofuel economies lead to biodiversity and habitat loss. Globally, vegetable oil prices have increased because of an increased demand for biofuel crops in first world countries; farmers in third world countries participate in the global economy by growing plants for biofuels on existing croplands and clearing natural vegetation for new croplands to grow food crops. Many farmers in the Midwestern United States used to alternate corn with soybeans in their fields; many now grow only corn for biofuels, and this leads to Brazilian farmers deforesting more of the Amazon to satisfy the global demand for soybeans. For more, see the two articles published online in *Science* on February 7, 2008: (1) “Land Clearing and the Biofuel Carbon Debt” by Josephy Fargione, Jason Hill, David Tilman, Stephen Polasky, and Peter Hawthorne, and (2) “Use of U.S. Croplands for Biofuels Increases Greenhouse Gases Through Emissions from Land Use Change” by Timothy Searchinger, Ralph Heimlich, R.A. Houghton, Fengxia Dong, Amani Elobeid, Jacinto Fabiosa, Simla Tokgoz, Dermot Hayes, and Tun-Hsiang Yu.
Masdar City, Abu Dhabi to be the World’s First Zero-Carbon, Zero-Waste, and Car-Free City: Abu Dhabi is set to begin building Masdar City—an eight year project estimated to cost US $22 billion—that will house 50,000 people and 1,500 businesses. Co-sponsored by the World Wildlife Fund, Masdar City will consist of a solar-powered desalination plant and solar-powered, low-energy buildings air-conditioned from wind towers. Residents will get around on travel pods running on magnetic tracks. The construction of Masdar City is part of a larger sustainability initiative being launched by Abu Dhabi, and includes building the world’s largest hydrogen power plant and other ventures to develop clean energy technologies. Some critics fear that Masdar City will become a luxury development for the rich. See the story in BBC News, February 10, 2008.

Catholics Take Action on Global Warming: The Pope is making climate change action a moral obligation. Vatican City has become the first fully carbon-neutral state in the world, announcing that it is offsetting its carbon footprint by planting a forest in Hungary and installing solar panels on the roof of St. Peter’s Basilica in Rome.

Southern Baptists Reject Global Warming: The Southern Baptist Convention has rejected scientific claims that humans are to blame for global warming and has dismissed governmental efforts to reverse it. See the story in Christian Century, July 10, 2007, p. 16.

Evangelical Care for the Environment: The National Association of Evangelicals (NAE) has affirmed its stance on caring for the environment, rebuffing complaints that evangelicals should focus exclusively on more pressing moral issues, such as the sanctity of human life, the integrity of marriage, and sexual mores. This affirms the position of NAE vice president Richard Cizek who has argued that caring for creation should also receive priority attention. See the story in Christian Century, April 3, 2007, p. 13.

Creationism at the Grand Canyon: Various science groups continue to insist that a creationist account of the Grand Canyon—The Grand Canyon: A Different View by Tom Vail—be removed from the National Park Service bookstore. But the Park Service says that it can sell books about Native American views, Christian views, and anybody else’s views. People who buy books about the Grand Canyon need to think for themselves. See the story in Science, Vol. 315, no. 5809 (12 January 2007): 167.

Cats a Serious Threat to Bird Populations: Exact numbers are unknown, but scientists estimate that in the United States, cats kill hundreds of millions of birds, and more than a billion small mammals, such as rabbits, squirrels, and chipmunks, each year. Cats kill common species such as Cardinal, Blue Jay, and House Wren, as well as rare and endangered species such as Piping Plover, Florida Scrub-Jay, and California Least Tern. There are more than 77 million pet cats in the US. A 1997 nationwide poll showed that only 35% are kept exclusively indoors, leaving the majority of owned cats free to kill birds and other wildlife at least some of the time. In addition, millions of stray and feral cats roam cities, suburbs, farmlands and natural areas. Abandoned by their owners or lost (stray), or descendants of strays and living in the wild (feral), these cats are victims of human irresponsibility due to abandonment and failure to spay or neuter pets. No one knows how many homeless cats there are in the US, but estimates range from 60 to 100 million. These cats lead short, miserable lives. Loss of wildlife habitat and fragmentation
due to human development are the leading causes of declining bird populations. However, scientists now list invasive species, including cats, as the second most serious threat to bird populations worldwide. Habitat fragmentation provides cats and other predators easier access to wildlife forced to live on smaller tracts of land. Rather than havens for wildlife, these areas can be death traps. For more, see the American Bird Conservancy at: <http://www.abcbirds.org/abcprograms/policy/cats/index.html>.

**Back to Your Roots:** EcoEternity now offers green burial. The company will place a person’s remains in a biodegradable urn and plant it beside a mature tree. In time, the remains will be soaked up by the root system. EcoEternity has partnered with Camp Highland, a United Methodist Camp in northern Virginia, where three acres are set aside for this purpose. Small tags will identify the names of the deceased. Leasing a tree costs $4,500, and up to 15 family members can be interred there. See the story in the *Washington Post*, October 8, 2007.

**NOTES FROM THE FIELD**

**Environmental Ethics: South American Roots and Branches**

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‘Abordajes de la problemática ambiental en la Argentina, desde la perspectiva de la ética y la filosofía ambiental’

Alicia Irene Bugallo

**En los comienzos**

No contamos con un estudio pormenorizado del modo en que las reflexiones de la ética y la filosofía ambiental se fueron introduciendo en la región. En principio, la primera noticia parece habernos llegado con la traducción de ‘Una filosofía para el siglo XXI’, capítulo central de un libro del ecofilósofo polaco Henryk Skolimowski.

A partir de ahí, abordé el dictado de los primeros cursos sobre el tema, tales como ‘Ecophilosy’ 1981, y ‘Ecophilosy, the issue of ‘life’ in the philosophy of the 19th and 20th centuries’, 1985, ambos en University of Morón. El conocimiento, a través de mi intercambio epistolar personal con Skolimowski, del enfrentamiento entre ese pensador polaco y el estadounidense George Sessions en ‘The Dogma of Anti-Anthropocentrism and

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1 Candidata a doctor en Filosofía Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina. Desde hace más de dos décadas ha contribuido a la investigación y difusión de la filosofía ambiental en Argentina. Actualmente trabaja como Profesora Titular ordinaria, Universidad Tecnológica Nacional, Buenos Aires y como Profesora Invitada, Universidad del Salvador, San Miguel, Argentina. E-mail: <alibugallo@yahoo.com>.


Desde un comienzo, quedó plantead con la gran dificultad del acceso a la bibliografía sobre filosofía y ética ambiental, que se estaba produciendo y multiplicando en ciertos sectores de América y Europa. Esta dificultad persiste en la actualidad, por lo que la temática no se ha extendido lo suficiente en los medios académicos locales. En el marco de estas limitaciones, pueden considerarse precursores de la divulgación de la problemática ambiental desde la perspectiva filosófica, en la Argentina, algunos de mis primeros trabajos escritos.3

La diversidad de abordajes

A fin de ejemplificar la diversidad de abordajes de la filosofía ambiental que se llevan a cabo en el país, mencionaremos la tarea de algunos de sus centros de difusión más destacados. Asumiendo el riesgo de una excesiva simplificación, se podrían agrupar las producciones locales en tres grandes áreas temáticas.

1) En primer lugar, los trabajos sobre ética ambiental y sus relaciones con las posibilidades de un desarrollo sustentable. En esta línea, un grupo interdisciplinario de investigadoras pertenecientes al ámbito de la filosofía y la ecología del Instituto de ecología y ambiente humano (INEAH), de la University de Salta, ha venido desplegando un rico programa de investigación referido a los vínculos Humanidad – Naturaleza. Los temas más tratados giran en torno de la ética ambiental, la epistemología de la ecología, el estudio de la sustentabilidad de los sistemas naturales y humanos en el país, entre otros. Su producción alcanza una veintena de artículos publicados, entre ellos: ‘¿Constituye el modelo de la sustentabilidad una alternativa?’, 2006, o ‘El ambiente como bien público: conceptos y problemáticas’, 2007 (ref: Raquel Cornejo, <rcornejo@uns.edu.ar>).

En esta primera tendencia ubicamos también los trabajos de investigación de doctorado de la profesora María Teresa La Valle, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Buenos Aires, sobre ética ambiental, con particular interés en los sistemas agropecuarios argentinos, su incidencia sobre la salud, la alimentación y el capital natural del país. En la actualidad, su trabajo se centra en los sistemas agropecuarios y los efectos que produce la globalización del comercio sobre la opción por determinadas políticas de agricultura sustentable. Dentro de ese contexto, estudia las normas del comercio internacional de productos agropecuarios analizándolas desde la perspectiva de la justicia internacional. En un plano más básico, trabaja sobre el concepto de propiedad de la tierra y los derechos que implica –y no implica—en cuanto al uso de la tierra. La profesora La Valle ha publicado trabajos sobre la temática ambiental, ha dado conferencias y participa regularmente en mesas redondas y congresos internacionales (ref: <mtlavalle@hotmail.com>).

II) Una segunda tendencia profundiza en las raíces históricas del pensamiento ambiental contemporáneo, centrándose en la mirada en la filosofía antigua y medieval, con especial atención sobre Platón, Aristóteles, Plotino o San Agustín. Diversas obras abordan temas como la metafísica del alma del Cosmos y la doctrina de la contemplación en relación con la ecolofilosofía, hasta un análisis del paradigma de la ecolofilosofía en el pensamiento contemporáneo. Estos libros han estado acompañados por una serie de producciones de artículos y presentaciones, vinculadas a temáticas tales como la cuestión de la contemplación en la ecolofilosofía, vista desde Aristóteles y Plotino; la proyección del paradigma plotiniano del alma universal en la ecología contemporánea o la Doctrina de la Providencia en Plotino y su vigencia en la ecolofilosofía (ref: Patricia Ciner, <patriciaciner@yahoo.com.ar>.

III) En tercer lugar, se agruparían las investigaciones sobre gestalt ontology, ecosophy, weak anthropocentrism, biocentrism, thick ethical concepts, deep ecology, etc. La Faculty de Filosofía de la Universidad del Salvador en San Miguel, Buenos Aires, supervisa distintas investigaciones en ecolofilosofía. Por un lado, mi trabajo de doctorado sobre el pensamiento del filósofo noruego Arne Naess y la caracterización de las distintas versiones del Movimiento Ecología Profunda a partir de las influencias filosóficas de la ontología Baruch Spinoza y el pragmatismo clásico de William James. Como fruto de este trabajo investigación he producido diversas publicaciones, tanto nacionales como extranjeras.

5 Así lo muestra el libro de Ciner, P.; Adárez M.; Flores, O.; Poblete, M. Ecofilosofía. Una tradición antigua y nueva a la vez, 2004, publicado por un equipo de investigación del Instituto de Filosofía, de la Facultad de Filosofía, Humanidades y Artes, de la Universidad Nacional de San Juan. También en 2004 publicaron el libro: Ciner, P.; Castro, J.; Poblete, M., y otros La Experiencia de lo Sagrado: enfoque interdisciplinario, en la misma universidad.
En la misma institución de la Universidad del Salvador, avanzan los trabajos doctorales de Ricardo Pobierzym sobre las relaciones profundas entre el pensamiento de Martin Heidegger y las propuestas ecosóficas como las de Arne Naess, y la misión de la ecosofía ante el fin de la naturaleza (ref: <rpobierzym@yahoo.com.ar>.

De gran utilidad ha resultado el libro reciente de la investigadora independiente Andrea Speranza, *Ecología Profunda y autorrealización*, 2006, Buenos Aires, Edit. Biblos, aportando un análisis de la *Ecosophy T* de Arne Naess a partir de una amplia bibliografía.

Ya el siglo XXI, los lazos entre pensadores locales ocupados con la filosofía ambiental y/o ambientalistas, se han ido estrechando y la participación conjunta se hace cada vez más frecuente en mesas redondas, jornadas y seminarios. También el trabajo conjunto con pensadores y ambientalistas de otros países está motivando la reflexión, como se podrá apreciar a través del libro *Ideas en ecología filosófica*, de próxima aparición. Este es un volumen de contenido muchas veces crítico, caracterizado por las diversas aproximaciones y temas tratados, en el que participaron philosophers, ecologists and environmentalists de México, Chile, España, además de los argentinos (Monjeau, Bugallo, Speranza, Pobierzym, Toledo, Erlwein, Lara, Pradenas, entre otros).

Sería de esperar que una mayor difusión de estos trabajos permita compartir y profundizar las reflexiones sobre los diversos temas de investigación, así como dar a conocer e intercambiar publicaciones y sus aportes críticos. Es deseable, a su vez, una puesta al día de los caminos abiertos hacia ese giro político necesario en filosofía ambiental, que permita al pensador ambiental proyectarse más allá de la academia y del diálogo cerrado entre pares.

“In the beginning

We did not have a detailed study of the way in which reflections of environmental ethics and philosophy have been introduced into the region. In principle, the knowledge seems to have arrived with the translation of *A Philosophy for the 21st Century*, the central chapter of a book by the Polish eco-philosopher Henryk Skolimowski.1

From there, I approached the dictation of the first courses on the subject, such as “Eco-philosophy” in 1981, and “Eco-philosophy: the issue of ‘life’ in the philosophy of the 19th and 20th centuries” in 1985, both at the University of Morón. I maintained an interchange with Skolimowski, about his confrontation with the American thinker George Sessions in “The Dogma of Anti-Anthropocentrism and Ecophilosophy” (*Environmental Ethics* Vol. 6, no. 3 (1984): 83-97). This exchange with the Polish philosopher brought me closer to the novel proposals of the Deep Ecology movement.

From the beginning, in Argentina it remained difficult to access the bibliography of philosophy and environmental ethics that was taking place and multiplying in certain regions of

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America and Europe. This difficulty still persists, and for this reason the subject has not been sufficiently extended into local academic mediums. Within the framework of these limitations, which can be considered precursors to the problem of spreading environmental awareness from the philosophical perspective in Argentina, I wrote some of my first works.3

The diversity of approaches

In order to exemplify the diversity of approaches to environmental philosophy in Argentina, I will mention the work of some of its more outstanding centers of diffusion. At the risk of excessive simplification, we can group local work into three main thematic areas:

I) In the first place, the work on environmental ethics and its relationship with the possibility of sustainable development. In this area, an interdisciplinary group of philosophers and ecologists from the University of Salta’s Institute of Ecology and Human Environment (Instituto de Ecología y Ambiente Humano) has developed a rich research program on the Humanity – Nature bond. The themes dealt with the most revolve around environmental ethics, epistemology of ecology, and the study of the sustainability of natural and human systems in the country, among others. This interdisciplinary group has collectively produced approximately twenty articles, including: “Constituye el modelo de la sustentabilidad una alternativa” (“Constituting the model of an alternative sustainability”) (2006), and “El ambiente como bien público: conceptos y problemáticas” (“The Environment for the Public Good: Concepts and Problems”) (2007) (ref: Raquel Cornejo, <rcornejo@unsa.edu.ar>).

In this first area we can also place the works of Maria Teresa la Valle, Faculty of Philosophy at the University of Buenos Aires, on environmental ethics. Professor la Valle has particular interest in the Argentine farming systems and their impact on the health, food, and the natural capital of the country. At the present time, her work is centered on farming systems and the effects of economic globalization on the option of political determinations of sustainable agriculture. Within that context, she studies the standards of international economics of agricultural trade, analyzing it from the perspective of international justice. More simply, she works on the concept of property of the Earth and the rights that are implied—as well as those that are not implied—concerning the use of the Earth. Professor la Valle has published works on the theme of the environment, has given many lectures, and regularly participates in round tables and international congresses (ref: <mtlavalle@hotmail.com>.

II) A second tendency is grounded in the historical roots of contemporary environmental thought, centered in ancient and medieval philosophy, with special attention paid to Plato, Aristotle, Plotinus, and Saint Augustine.4 Diverse works approach subjects such as the


4 The products of investigation can be considered: “Proyección del Paradigma Plotiniano del Alma Universal en la Ecología Contemporánea” (“Projection of the Plotinian Paradigm of the Universal Soul in Contemporary Ecology”)

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metaphysics of the soul and the cosmos and the doctrine of contemplation in relation to eco-
philosophy, up to an analysis of the paradigm of ecophilosophy in contemporary thought.5 These
books been have accompanied by the production of a series of articles and presentations, related
to themes such as the question of contemplation in eco-philosophy, the vision of Aristotle and
Plotinus, the projection of the Plotinian paradigm of the universal soul in contemporary ecology,
and the Doctrine of Providence in Plotinus and its use in eco-philosophy (ref: Patricia Ciner,
<patriciaciner@yahoo.com.ar>.

III) Thirdly, I would group investigations on gestalt ontology, ecosophy, weak
anthropocentrism, biocentrism, thick ethical concepts, deep ecology, etc. The Department of
Philosophy at Del Salvador University at San Miguel, Buenos Aires, supervises a variety of
investigations in eco-philosophy. One example is my doctoral work on the thought of the
Norwegian philosopher Arne Naess and characterization of the different versions of the Deep
Ecology movement from the philosophical influences of the ontology of Baruch Spinoza and the
classical pragmatism of William James. From this investigation, I produced diverse
publications, both national and foreign.6

5 Shown by the book by Ciner, P., Adarvez, M., Flores, O., Poblete, M. Ecofilosofía. Una tradición antigua y nueva
a la vez, (Eco-philosophy: An Old and New Tradition at Once) 2004, published by a research team at the Institute of
Philosophy, of the Faculty of Philosophy, Humanities and Arts, of the National University of San Juan. Also in
interdisciplinario, (The Experience of the Asylum: An Interdisciplinary Approach) at the same university.
6 I cite my articles: “Las ideas de naturaleza en la Ecología Profunda y sus implicancias practices” (“The ideas of
nature in the Deep Ecology and its practical implications”), Ludus Vitalis, Revista de Filosofía de las Ciencias de la
Vida, vol. 10 number 17, 1st semester 2002, México; “Los cambios conceptuales sobre conservación y su influencia
en la gestión de Reservas de Biosfera” (“The Conceptual Shifts on Conservation and their Influence on the
Management of Biosphere Reserves”) in Boletín Electrónico de Reservas de la Biosfera, de América Latina y
Caribe Number 2, Programa del Hombre y la Biosfera (Program on Man and the Biosphere), MAB-UNESCO,
metas de la modernidad, a la luz de la problemática ambiental contemporánea” (“How the goals of modernity are
reframed in light of the contemporary environmental problem”), 2004, I Primer Seminario Internacional sobre
Pensamiento Ambiental, Universidad Nacional de Colombia, Sede Manizales,

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At Del Salvador University, they also advance the doctoral work of Ricardo Pobierzym on the profound relations between the thought of Martin Heidegger and the ecophilosophical proposals such as those of Arne Naess, and the mission of ecosophy before the end of nature (ref: <r.pobierzym@yahoo.com.ar>).

The recent book from independent researcher Andrea Speranza, *Deep Ecology and autorrealización*, 2006, Buenos Aires, Edit. Biblos, has been very useful in contributing an analysis of *Ecosophy T* by Arne Naess with an ample bibliography.

Already in the 21st century, the ties between local thinkers occupied with environmental philosophy and/or environmentalists, has tightened, and joint participation is more and more frequent in round tables, work days and seminars. Also, joint work between philosophers and environmentalists of other countries is motivating reflection, as can be seen by the production of the forthcoming book *Ideas in Ecological Philosophy*. This is a volume of critical content, characterized by diverse approaches and subjects, in which philosophers, ecologists and environmentalists from Mexico, Chile, and Spain, in addition to the Argentineans (Monjeau, Bugallo, Speranza, Pobierzym, Toledo, Erlwein, Lara, Pradenas, among others) participate.

Hopefully, greater diffusion of these works will allow us to share and deepen the reflections on the diverse subjects of investigation, as well as to present and to exchange critical publications and contributions. It is desirable, at the same time, to bring up to date ways toward that necessary political turn in environmental philosophy that will allow the environmental thinker to project beyond the academy and the closed dialogue among peers.

**Letter from Bali: A Tragic Truth**

**Andrew Light**

**Nusa Dua, Indonesia**

**December 15, 2007**

[Editor’s Note: Andrew Light is an Associate Professor of Philosophy and Public Affairs in the Department of Philosophy and an Adjunct Professor of Geography and Public Health Genetics at the University of Washington, Seattle. He attended the United Nations Conference on Climate Change as an observer and participant in a side event.]

I must admit, I clapped. I was probably among the loudest.

With the negotiations here in Bali for the U.N. conference on climate change facing an apparent intractable deadlock going into their last day, I was in a standing-room-only auditorium to hear former Vice President Al Gore address the assembled environmental community, business leaders, and state representatives. For those familiar with Gore’s stump speech on global warming, and his acceptance address for the Nobel Peace Prize earlier in the week, much in his comments was familiar.

One line changed all that. Cautiously hoped for by some, unanticipated by most, it changed the climate in the room considerably: “I am not a representative of my government, so I am not bound by diplomatic niceties. **My own country, the United States, is principally responsible for obstructing progress here in Bali.** [Applause.] **We all know that.**”

With these words, Gore expressed the extreme sense of frustration most in the room had been feeling this past week over the U.S. delegation’s refusal to commit to language in the Bali

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*ethics of environmentally responsible consumption"), in Revista CIAS, Centro de Investigación y Acción Social, número dedicado a La ecología social (Social Ecology), Year 56, Number 564-565, May-June 2007, pp. 159-169.*
roadmap for cuts of 25 to 40 percent of greenhouse gases below 1990 levels by industrialized countries in the next extension of the Kyoto Protocol due to be settled in 2009. More than that, by openly criticizing the Bush administration, Gore had definitively answered those tempted to lump all Americans together on this issue—a welcome relief for those of us who had become progressively more embarrassed by our country’s position and inability to effectively explain its reasons.

When offered, those reasons were simply lame. Why did the U.S. block the emissions cut goal? To avoid “prejudging” the outcome of the next treaty. In the end they won, finally getting an agreement from the E.U. for a document that will not require an outcome wherein the U.S., or any other country, embraces a goal for eventual caps on its emissions.

What exactly would the 25 to 40 percent goal have prejudged? This is a difficult question to answer, especially in light of American negotiators’ public praise this week of the work of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and their recognition of the validity of the conclusions drawn in its most recent Fourth Assessment report. It can’t be that cuts are needed—only skeptics still hold that view, and the administration has renounced this position. It must be the specific figure proposed in the Bali document and the sorts of economic transformations that would be required to meet cuts in that range.

It didn’t need to be this way though. The stakes were actually low enough at this meeting that no hard-line brinksmanship was necessary. We could have instead showed up intent on demonstrating a more constructive role for the U.S., sending a message to the world that we are now serious on this issue. Instead, we drew an unnecessary line in the Bali sand.

At the beginning of this past week I met a reporter who was bored with what he was covering so far. After all, nothing was really being decided. The member parties of the U.N. framework were really just negotiating about negotiating—laying out the relatively broad aspirational brush strokes of what a future climate treaty would look like. The goals for cuts stipulated in the Bali roadmap would not set up a binding parameter on the next treaty, but only outline a reasonable, and, given the dire warnings of the IPCC Fourth Assessment Report, prudent expectation for the language of the next treaty. Even if a target range could be used to exert some pressure on the shape of the next treaty, it would not be unassailable.

By the end of the week, the refusal by the U.S. to agree to even this minimal language had turned the meeting into a crisis worthy of front page and top-of-the-hour reporting. The reporter I met earlier was now scrambling. A diplomatic stalemate had been created with repercussions beyond Bali, extending into the administration’s planned Major Economies Meeting in Hawaii next month, where Bush would push forward his own voluntary approach. Because the U.S. would not even accept compromise language committing only previous signatories of the Kyoto Protocol to the goal of a 25 to 40 percent cut (so, not us), the administration seemed intent on keeping everyone from having aspirations to do what they thought was the right thing.

Why did the U.S. hold out? Why did the administration continue to alienate us in the eyes of the rest of the world? I’m not sure, but here are four potential reasons.

1. The Bush administration was trying to protect their friends in the energy sector, who helped get them get elected.

   If this is the case, then this administration is politically naïve—and that simply isn’t true. This is the explanation many of us gave in 2000 after Bush reneged on his campaign promise to regulate CO2 as pollution, and Cheney kept his list of environmental advisors secret. It was an
explanation that seemed plausible in 2004, when the administration was still harboring doubts about the science.

But now those days are past, and such an explanation holds less and less water. It evinces even more leaks in light of the current thinking of the business community on this issue. In addition to those businesses who have actively adopted an ethic of responsibility about climate change, those that remain see a changing regulatory climate and don’t like the options. In his remarks, Gore repeated the promising news that had been at the center of John Kerry’s message to the conference earlier in the week: The states are on the move. Regional state compacts have been launched in the Northeast, Midwest, and West on cutting greenhouse gases, which will commit over half the U.S. economy, and just under half the population, to significant cuts, amounting to responsibility for just under 40 percent of total U.S. emissions.

No business working across borders wants to work under three or more sets of climate regulations. As a representative from a prominent utility put it in Bali, those working on the regional compacts should not get too comfortable, as they will inevitably lead into a federal system (most likely cap and trade) and eventually an international system. If these are the friends of the Bush administration, they apparently no longer want protection from regulators, but instead require support to build a single, coherent regulatory system.

2. The administration didn’t want to burden the next presidential administration with the expectation that the next treaty should contain mandatory caps of this magnitude.

Sound implausible? The Washington Post reported that in a closed-door meeting on Friday, U.S. senior climate negotiator Harlan Watson told Democratic aides “they should be grateful the United States was resisting mandatory emissions targets. ‘I’m doing you a favor,’ he said.” But again, I find this explanation implausible. For one thing, it is presumptuous and mistakenly paternalistic. It is hard to believe that this administration is really trying now, on this issue, to reach across the aisle or assist a Democratic president who actually wants to participate in the Kyoto process.

And if a Republican wins the next election, there is a good chance that he will either also want to cooperate with the rest of the world on climate change, or be forced to do so by the people and the Congress, in which case the administration is just increasing the hurdles he will have to get over to win international trust in the next diplomatic round. Besides, given the legacy—leaving the next president with the problem of Iraq—this would be a relatively small, non-binding burden, and of very little help.

3. The Bush administration is stalling the process until commitments for cuts are garnered from China, India, Brazil, and other high-output developing countries.

The U.S. has staked this claim as a bedrock of its opposition since the beginning and used it as a reason to prevent our own EPA from regulating carbon under the Clean Air Act even while it was still denying the scientific basis of the problem. What this position leaves out, and was also shockingly absent from the original debate over Kyoto in the U.S. Senate (where a non-binding vote ran 95-0 against the treaty), is any recognition that the Kyoto treaty is part of a process and not a one-off attempt to solve the problem.

Developing countries must be shown that there will be real leadership on climate change from the wealthy polluters, not in order to bide their time on the sidelines, but with some reasonable assurance that mitigation and adaptation efforts will not prevent needed development. Look at the debate in Bali over technology transfer. As the Pakistani environment minister put it, without help to acquire clean technologies, compliance with an international regime of carbon cuts and sustainable development would be at odds.
This is not only a fair claim, it is premised on joining an international regime. In one press briefing, James Connaughton, chief of the White House Council on Environmental Quality, put it this way: “We will lead. The U.S. will lead. But leadership also requires others to fall in line and follow.” While analytically true, it begs the question: **Why would anyone follow a leader who appears to be standing still?**

4. The administration was simply trying to save face.

After seven years of being the chief impediment to an effective global treaty, ostensibly because of doubts about the scientific consensus, and now being forced to publicly relinquish those doubts, the administration is reaching for a reason to re-justify its mistaken position after the fact. We’ve heard this one before in other areas of foreign policy.

If this is true, it is beyond sad. It’s tragic. It is not the kind of behavior we would expect of a democratic global power facing what may be, in the words of the theologian Thomas Berry, the great work of our generation.

At the end, all explanations, those offered to us by the U.S. delegation and those we dream up ourselves, are unsatisfactory.

Which brings me back to Thursday night in Bali, listening to Gore’s speech. He knew what he was saying in this applause-generating line, and the implications of saying it. Unfortunately, too many media outlets have left out the remarks that followed. Gore outlined two paths for those who had applauded: either get mad, or **move forward on the assumption that things will change in the U.S. in the next two years**, creating a better environment for a cooperative agreement that the U.S. will eventually join.

The outcome was essentially the second path. According to Hans Verolme, director of the World Wildlife Fund climate-change program, what we now have is a document that leaves “a seat at the table for the next U.S. president, but clearly the Bush administration has shown it’s not serious about using the best available science to craft a deal that reflects the urgency of the threat of dangerous climate change. The serious countries will do their best to strike a serious deal in 2009.”

**By drawing an unnecessary line in the sands of Bali, the Bush administration has proven itself not serious about one of the most important moral issues of our time.** In that respect, while the world has continued down Gores second constructive path, we should also reserve the right to at least revisit the first path—**getting angry**—just for a while.

Bush has let down the majority of Americans, who want something to be done on global warming, and the broader international community, which is now prepared to do something about it. The reason it felt good to applaud Gore’s zinger on Thursday is that we should feel good about being on the right side of an issue like this one, even in the midst of our frustration. Still, righteous indignation can be a good spark for renewed commitment, but it can’t be relied upon to get us where we need to go. The world community has graciously left us a spot at the table to prove ourselves over the next two years. When we do that—when we take our seat and lead—we’ll really have something worth applauding.

**Focus the Nation National Teach-In for Global Warming Solutions for the United States**

**Brief Comment on Focus the Nation**

Kevin DeLuca

January 30, 2008

[Editor’s Note: Kevin Michael DeLuca is an Associate Professor in the Department of Speech Communication and the Institute of Ecology at the University of Georgia. He posted this brief
I hope there is a bit of space for cynicism with respect to Focus the Nation and other feel-good events. The teach-in model suggests that global warming is an education problem and a limited political problem in that we need to vote for the right people. Really? Much of the rhetoric around these events seems designed to celebrate ourselves and distract us from the Big Lie we tell ourselves in order to go on living in our consumerist technological cocoons. What is the Big Lie? That we can nuance our way out of global warming through green consumerism. That green cars and green plastic bags are going to do the trick. Moreover, that somehow our level of consumerism can not only continue but can become a worldwide standard—progress for everyone. Of course, this is delusional. Our level of capitalist consumerism is predicated on the abject misery of at least 2 billion people. Until we abandon consumerism and drastically lower our standard of living, we are not serious. Until we radically challenge capitalism and its unsustainable fundamental premises, we are not serious. Until we revoke the privileged legal/political position of corporations, we are not serious. Global warming is a matter of brute politics. If delusional about this, travel to China or India for a week (I know the costs of airplanes, but we are not running for sainthood). Educational teach-ins co-sponsored by Nike are not the solution, no matter how good they make us feel.

Curated by Ilaria Bonacossa and Latitudes (Max Andrews & Mariana Cánepa Luna)
Website: <http://greenwashing.lttds.org/>

As rockets go to the moon the darkness around the Earth grows deeper and darker — Robert Smithson

Greenwashing presents the work of 24 international artists and artist-groups whose practice suggests that the literalism embedded in old-fashioned concepts such as “environmentalism” and “nature” are not equipped to comprehend the ecological territory of our time. Today we negotiate an evermore urgent and pervasive ecological (and thereby cultural, political, social, and economic) arena that is darkly shadowed by potentially catastrophic ecosystemic collapse. In the face of a constant bombardment of eco-economic guilt, corporate agendas, and political point-scoring, what might emerge is genuine perplexity and false promises, though still possibly capable of unleashing creative change. The terminology and agency around “the environment” and sustainability has become increasingly asymmetric and immaterial. Emissions’ offsetting, food miles, environmental marketing, carbon debt, ecological footprints, and so on, are all recently-coined terms, tied to the anxious sense that the processes and practices of modernisation and globalisation, industrialisation and urbanisation have induced unprecedented deprivations and intrusions on the planet. Consequently there is the familiar refrain to limit growth, particularly in the developing world. Yet how do we reconcile this with the observation that ecological concerns are far greater in affluent societies where more basic needs have been met? And how can we more generally reconcile personal responsibility with collective consensus, local with global, or short-term remedies with visionary strategies? This exhibition sets out to pose such questions. The artists presented in Greenwashing adopt process-based and speculative approaches in their work which articulate energy and material transformations, fundamental ecological processes. Likewise, several works in the exhibition consider repositories of energy—whether waste, water, oil—in ways that reveal previously obscured patterns, while similarly
“upcycling” meaning. The diverse practices represented in the exhibition share a strategy in that they do not just passively lament the degradation of our planet, or only provide sound technical solutions. Instead they actively articulate the contradictions and responsibilities that we encounter personally and as a society. Art here does not necessarily proclaim a “correct” ethical or green choice, but allows the possibility for broadening and analysing our perceptions and actions. It sets a critical attitude into motion that intervenes and infiltrates, re-interprets and decodes humans’ relation to non-human life, as well as to each other.

Greenwashing: Ambiente: Pericoli, Promesse e Perplessità, Fondazione Sandretto Re Rebaudengo, Torino, 28 Febbraio – 11 Maggio 2008:
A cura di Ilaria Bonacossa e Latitudes (Max Andrews & Mariana Cánepa Luna).

Ogni volta che i razzi vanno sulla luna l’oscurità intorno alla Terra diventa più scura e più profonda — Robert Smithson

Greenwashing presenta il lavoro di 24 artisti internazionali la cui produzione dimostra quanto siano ormai desuetti e inadatti all’analisi e alla comprensione del complesso panorama ecologico in cui viviamo concetti come ambientalismo, ecologia e natura. Al giorno d’oggi dobbiamo continuamente confrontarci con l’urgenza e la vastità delle tematiche ecologiche (intese anche in senso culturale, politico, sociale ed economico) e dalla minaccia di un potenziale catastrofico collasso del nostro ecosistema. Alla luce del costante bombardamento mediatico, al martellante senso di colpa eco-economico, gli obbiettivi industriali e le accattivanti promesse politiche suscitano una genuina perplessità sulle pseudo-soluzioni, benché potenzialmente portatrici di soluzioni alternative. La terminologia, il potere d’azione sull’ambiente e la sostenibilità diventano di giorno più asimmetriche ed immateriali. L’impronta ecologica, l’impatto zero, l’annullamento delle emissioni di anidride carbonica, le foodmiles, il marketing ambientale, il debito ambientale, e via di seguito, sono tutti termini di recente invenzione che ci spingono a percepire con sempre maggior inquietudine le intrusioni e le deprivazioni delle risorse del pianeta generate dalla costante modernizzazione globalizzata, così come dall’industrializzazione e dall’inarrestabile urbanizzazione terrestre. Viene quindi unilateralmente invocata la necessità di limitare la crescita e lo sviluppo soprattutto nei paesi in via di sviluppo. Soluzione che resta ipotetica e di difficile attuazione dato che le preoccupazioni ecologiche sembrano rilevanti solo nelle società più affluenti in cui le prime necessità sono state già soddisfatte. E più in generale come riconciliare la responsabilità del singolo con la ricerca di consenso da parte della collettività, come conciliare il locale con il globale, rimedi a breve termine con strategie visionarie? Questi sono gli interrogativi che questa mostra cercherà di suscitare. Gli artisti presentati in Greenwashing strutturano il loro lavoro in maniera speculative e processuale parlando delle trasformazioni energetiche e delle materie prime, processi fondamentali nell’ecologia. I loro lavori analizzano gli accumuli di energia – acqua, spazzatura, materiali di scarto, petrolio – in modo da rendere evidenti meccanismi e processi nascosti e rivelando così dei cicli di scambio e di potere aperti a nuove letture. Le diverse pratiche artistiche presenti in mostra condividono una strategia che non denuncia passivamente il degrado del nostro pianeta, né offre nuove e funzionali soluzioni tecnologiche; articolano invece le contraddizioni e le responsabilità incrociate in cui ci imbattiamo in prima persona e come società. La loro arte non indica la ‘giusta’ via etica ed ambientalista, ma permette di analizzare e mettere in discussione le nostre azioni e le nostre percezioni. Mette in moto un atteggiamento critico che interviene, si infiltra, re-interpreta e decodifica le relazioni umane con le forme di vita non-umana e con gli altri esseri viventi.
Comisariada por Ilaria Bonacossa y Latitudes (Max Andrews & Mariana Cánepa Luna).

*As rockets go to the moon the darkness around the Earth grows deeper and darker — Robert Smithson*

Greenwashing presenta la obra de 24 artistas internacionales cuya práctica sugiere que el literalismo incluido en conceptos 'medioambiente' y 'naturaleza' no están equipados para asumir el complejo panorama ecológico de nuestros tiempos. Hoy en día negociamos en una perversa y más que nunca urgente arena ecológica (y por extensión una arena cultural, política, social y económica) ensombrecida por el potencialmente catastrófico derrumbamiento de los ecosistemas. Enfrentados al constante bombardeo mediático de la culpabilidad eco-económica, los objetivos de corporaciones que quieren complacer mediante políticas de 'enverdecimiento' de sus marcas o productos pueden resultar en una genuina perplejidad ante promesas falsas, aunque en algunas ocasiones capaces de convertirse en cambios creativos. La terminología y agencia entorno al 'medioambiente' y la sostenibilidad ha llegado a ser cada vez más asimétrica e inmaterial. La compensación de emisiones de Co2, el impacto cero, alimentos que viajan kilómetros para ser consumidos y compiten con productos locales (food miles), el marketing medioambiental, la deuda ecológica, etc. son términos recientemente acuñados, ligados a la ansiedad que los procesos y prácticas de la modernización y la globalización, la industrialización y la urbanización han producido en la privación de recursos en el planeta. Existe en consecuencia una abstención hacia limitar el crecimiento, pero ¿cómo reconciliamos crecimiento con las preocupaciones medioambientales particularmente en los países ricos, donde las necesidades básicas de los ciudadanos están cubiertas?, ¿Cómo reconciliamos las responsabilidades personales con las de la colectividad, lo local con lo global, los remedios a corto plazo y las estrategias visionarias? Estas son cuestiones que Greenwashing pondrá sobre la mesa. Los artistas presentados en Greenwashing trabajan mediante especulación y procesos, articulando la transformación de materiales y energía, procesos fundamentalmente ecológicos. Del mismo modo, varias obras en la exposición consideran la acumulación de energía, sea agua, desperdicios o petróleo de modo que ponen en evidencia los mecanismos y los procesos que se esconden y al mismo tiempo revelan ciclos de reciclaje abiertos a nuevas lecturas. Las prácticas artísticas presentes en la exposición comparten una estrategia que no lamenta o denuncia pasivamente la degradación de nuestro planeta, ni ofrece nuevas o funcionales soluciones tecnológicas, sino que articula las contradicciones y las responsabilidades a las que nos enfrentamos como humanos y como sociedad. El arte aquí no indica necesariamente la elección 'éticamente correcta' o ecológica, sino que permite analizar y ampliar nuestras percepciones y acciones. Pone en marcha una actitud crítica que interviene, infiltra, reinterpreta y descodifica la relación entre humanos y vida no-humana entre sí.

**CONFERENCES AND CALLS**

*Fifth Annual Joint ISEE-IAEP Meeting on Environmental Philosophy, Allenspark, Colorado, May 27-30, 2008:* The International Society for Environmental Ethics (ISEE) and the International Association for Environmental Philosophy (IAEP) invite paper proposals for our fifth annual meeting. Panel proposals and volunteers for commentators and session chairs are also welcome. Offers of assistance with organizing group walks and suggestions relating to other aspects of the conference are also welcome. Our hope is to attract a broad cross-section of
the environmental philosophy community, including graduate students. Non-philosophers interested in environmental issues are encouraged to attend as well. There will be general and themed sessions. We hope to have one themed session on Environmental Justice, and we welcome suggestions for other themed sessions. In addition, there will be two plenary sessions. We will have ample free time during the course of the conference to enable conversation and hiking. Our meeting brings together the environmental philosophy community on the border of Rocky Mountain National Park in Colorado. The meeting will be held at approximately 8,500 feet above sea level (2,591 meters) at the Highlands Center, a recently constructed retreat center which includes rooms, meeting space, and a cafeteria. We have reserved 24 rooms, each of which comfortably houses between two and four guests. Camping facilities and other housing options are available nearby. **One page abstracts of paper proposals are due by February 29, 2008.** Electronically send your abstract to either: (1) Clare Palmer (Washington University in St. Louis) <cpalmer@artsci.wustl.edu>, or (2) Robert Frodeman (University of North Texas) <frodeman@unt.edu>. Notification of acceptance will be announced in March. Papers must be ready for distribution on the web by May 1. If you wish to be a commentator, session chair, and/or assist the conference in other ways, please contact us via email. The Fifth Annual Joint ISEE-IAEP Meeting on Environmental Philosophy is sponsored by ISEE, IAEP, Colorado State University, the University of North Texas, and Washington University in St. Louis.

**Twelfth Annual International Association for Environmental Philosophy Conference, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, October 18-20, 2008:** The International Association for Environmental Philosophy (IAEP) invites paper proposals for its twelfth annual conference, to be held immediately after the 47th Annual Meeting of the Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy (SPEP). Please send 1-2 page proposals in Word format to IAEP Secretary Ted Toadvine: <toadvine@uoregon.edu>. Proposals should indicate institutional affiliation and any special audio-visual or equipment needs. **The deadline for receipt of proposals is March 21, 2008.** Notice of selection will arrive by mid-May. An award of $100 will be awarded for the best essay submitted by a graduate student. Graduate students whose proposals are accepted for the conference will be asked to submit complete papers by September 15 for award consideration. The winner will be announced at the conference. The International Association for Environmental Philosophy offers a forum for the philosophical discussion of our relation to the natural environment. Embracing a broad understanding of environmental philosophy, IAEP encourages not only discussions of environmental ethics, but of environmental aesthetics, ontology, theology, the philosophy of science, political philosophy, ecofeminism, and the philosophy of technology. IAEP also welcomes a diversity of approaches to these issues, including those inspired by Continental philosophy, the history of philosophy, and the tradition of American philosophy. For more information, please visit our website: <www.environmentalphilosophy.org>.

**Energy and Responsibility: A Conference on Energy and Environment, Knoxville, Tennessee, April 10-12, 2008:** Conflicts and controversies about energy have become familiar features of the political and economic landscape around the globe. The environmental consequences of energy production, distribution, and consumption and energy policy invite consideration of the ethical implications of both practice and policy. What are our ethical obligations to manage the earth’s resources and natural environment in a “sustainable” manner? How should these obligations be enacted, institutionalized and implemented? This conference
invites ethicists, legal theorists, energy policy makers, energy enterprises and environmental activists to engage in a conversation about ethics and responsibility in the contested terrain of energy and the environment. Keynote speakers include Henry Shue (Merton College, Oxford), Robert H. Socolow (Princeton University), Dale Jamieson (New York University), Richard Morgenstern (Resources for the Future), and Dale Bryk (Natural Resources Defense Council and Yale University). The deadline for submitting proposals has passed. To register to attend, visit the conference website at: <http://isse.utk.edu/energy_and_responsibility/>. For the early conference registration fee, register by March 1, 2008.

**Giving Voice to Other Beings, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee, May 2-4, 2008:** In the case of the non-human stakeholders on the planet, we never had the illusion of democratic participation, but the possibilities of informal listening, noticing, engagement, conversation and even representation are no less compelling. We may not be able to establish a parliament of all beings, or an ecological democracy, but other species, tribes of a quite different ilk, make claims on us for systematic respect and consideration. As the rate of species extinction accelerates, and the web of life begins to come apart, what once looked like an ethical option is starting to look like a condition for our own survival. This interdisciplinary conference will look at questions of representation (religious, legal, literary, philosophical), along with the whole range of our communication and engagement with non-humans, and with the ethical and even “spiritual” dimensions of these questions. Speakers include Cary Wolfe, Roger Gottlieb, Kelly Oliver, Peter Steeves, Paul Waldau, Bill Martin, Irene Klaver, and Len Lawlor. Prior to the start of the main program, there will be a Graduate Pre-Conference on May 2 from 9 am to 5 pm. The deadline for submitting proposals has passed. The conference will be held at Vanderbilt’s Scarritt-Bennet Center: “ten tree-filled, park-like acres in the heart of Nashville.” The gothic architecture, combined with beautifully landscaped grounds, provides a peaceful environment for reflection and conversation. Rooms are $45-55 per night. The conference is being organized by David Wood and Elizabeth Covington.

**Fifteenth Annual Conference, Society for Philosophy in the Contemporary World (SPCW), Snow Mountain Ranch, Colorado, July 6-10, 2008:** We invite submissions for the 15th Annual Conference of SPCW. We welcome paper on all topics, from any and all philosophical traditions. The society fosters and supports productive philosophical exchange in a constructive environment. New members are always welcomed! Possible topics might include any of the following, most of which have been themes of conferences over the past fifteen years: (1) environmental ethics, (2) understanding, (3) work, labor, and creation, (4) religious and secular institutions in the contemporary world, (5) discourse and dissent, (6) work, technology, and family, (7) revising technology, (8) tradition and memory, (9) multiculturalism and philosophy, (10) human nature and human habitats, (11) philosophy and everyday life, (12) authenticity, autonomy, and authority: problems of authority in the contemporary world, (13) intersubjectivity: self, other, and lifeworld, (14) time, history, and social change, (15) philosophical issues in the contemporary world, (16) philosophy and humanistic studies, (17) culture and ethics, (18) power, law, and the possibility of peace, (19) applying the virtues, (20) the relevance of philosophy, and (21) justice and identity in a global context. As an open society, we welcome and encourage papers on any topic related to philosophy on the contemporary world (broadly construed). Standard submissions are papers with a maximum length of 3,000 words. Alternative presentation and creative proposals will be given
consideration. **Submissions are due March 1, 2008.** Electronic submissions are preferred. Questions and submissions (prepared for blind review) should be sent to: J. Jeremy Wisnewski, Department of Philosophy, Hartwick College, Oneonta, NY 13820. Email: <wisnewski@hartwick.edu>. For more information, please visit the SPCW website at: <http://www.spcw.info/>.

**EcoRes Forum Online E-Conference, Environmental (In)Justice: Sources, Symptoms, and Solutions, <http://www.eco-res.org>, April 11-24, 2008:** You are invited to join the EcoRes Forum, the second in a series of online dialogues focusing on the ethical, political and socio-cultural aspects of climate change. As experts call for swift action in response to accelerating climate change, the words “global warming” have become commonplace. Headlines and commentators tout the latest technological developments, politicians focus on greening their platforms, and concerned citizens in MDCs check their house insurance and consider relocating to higher ground. Adaptation is underway. But what about those who can't make that choice? Those forced to cope with changes they can least afford, changes to which they contributed little? As the data continues to pour in, UNFCCC Executive Secretary Yvo de Boer’s warning is being confirmed—over and over again: “The most vulnerable communities in the poorest countries, those who have contributed nothing to climate change, will be the worst affected by its impact.” As the growing numbers of unemployed, displaced and dis-eased climate refugees and victims of injustice outpace projections, one thing is clear: Our task, our ethical responsibility, is to ensure that this indefensible discrimination does not continue. What will this require? Nothing less than incorporating fully the interrelated principles of environmental and climate justice across the board, at all levels, in all decision-making platforms, throughout all societies. The purpose of this dialogue is to raise awareness among participants about environmental and climate justice: what these concepts mean, underlying causes and symptoms of EJ/CJ injustice, how this injustice may be rectified, and related elements ranging from national immigration policy and international contraction and convergence proposals to xenophobia and racism. Joining the forum panel will be Julian Agyeman (USA), Patrick Bond (South Africa), Robert D. Bullard (USA), Michael Dorsey (USA), and Shirley Thompson (Canada), internationally known and respected leaders in their fields. Additional panelists are being announced throughout March. Proposals for self-directed breakout discussions and presentations on related subjects may be submitted to: <forum@eco-res.org>. Each selected presentation will be provided with a stand-alone webpage and unlimited discussion threads within the forum website, with limited server space provided for presentation materials. **The deadline for proposals is March 18, 2008.** EcoRes is pleased to introduce its new web-based e-conference format, which will be hosted on the forum website. Registration is required for participation, with materials accessible as read-only for non-registrants. The EcoRes Forum E-Conference series brings together academics and activists, scientists and social critics, researchers, journalists, community leaders, and members from around the world, offering a unique opportunity to learn from and network with like-minded citizens. By offering the series free of charge, crossing cultural, disciplinary and geopolitical borders, and removing the financial and logistical barriers to participation often encountered by those whom climate change threatens most, EcoRes continues to encourage wide-ranging stakeholder participation, with registrants from over 90 countries taking part in previous issue discussions. Join us as we discuss this urgent need for widespread political and societal transformation. For more information or to register for the April event, visit the EcoRes Forum at: <http://www.eco-res.org>. Online registration is now open at:
International Academic and Community Conference, Minding Animals, University of Newcastle, Australia, July 13-19, 2009: This conference is sponsored by the Animals and Society (Australia) Study Group and the University of Newcastle. The conference will bring together a broad range of academic disciplines and representatives from universities, non-government organisations and the community, industry, and government from around the world. Conference delegates will examine the interrelationships between human and nonhuman animals from cultural, historical, geographical, environmental, moral, legal, and political perspectives. The conference will have six major themes and objectives: (1) to reassess the relationship between the animal and environmental movements in light of climate change and other jointly-held threats and concerns, (2) to examine how humans identify and represent nonhuman animals in art, literature, music, science, the media, and on film, (3) to examine how, throughout history, the objectification of nonhuman animals and nature in science and society, religion, and philosophy, has led to the abuse of nonhuman animals and how this has since been interpreted and evaluated, (4) to examine how the lives of humans and companion and domesticated nonhuman animals are intertwined, and how science and human and veterinary medicine utilize these important connections, (5) to examine how the study of animals and society can better inform both the scientific study of animals and community activism and advocacy, and (6) to examine how science and community activism and advocacy can inform the study of nonhuman animals and society. Speakers include: Carol Adams, Marc Bekoff, J. Baird Callicott, JM Coetzee, Dale Jamieson, Val Plumwood, Bernard Rollin, Michael Soulé, Tom Regan, Andrew Rowan, James Serpell, Peter Singer, Paul Waldau, and Jennifer Wolch. For further information, please go to the conference website at: <http://www.mindinganimals.com>. If you have any queries regarding the conference, please send an email to: <mindinganimals@pco.com.au>. If you are interested in attending the Minding Animals Conference and the Protecting the Animals Seminar Series, please register your interest. You will later be able to formally register and submit abstracts for conference presentation (presentations or posters) after July 1, 2008.

Advances in Energy Studies, 6th Biennial International Workshop, Graz University of Technology, Austria, June 29-July 2, 2008: This workshop aims at bringing together experts from different disciplines for the discussion of the latest results in research regarding energy technologies, energy systems and their political, social, and economical impacts. We aim at sharpening the scientific focus and building a critical mass and collaborative network among scientists researching energy issues. We will discuss the question of future energy scenarios and their implications in a circle of open minded people representing different approaches in order to gain new momentum in these years as societal attention once again shifts toward policy debates and decisions concerning sustainable use of energy and resources and their relationship to the economics of humanity and the future of the plant as a convenient habitat. The organisers of the workshop will do their best to concentrate the discussion on needs and energy services for medium and long term developments within the framework of a sustainable economic development. The workshop will be a platform for those who take the energy issue as a serious challenge to our and the next generations and we are aware that a great number of scenarios have to be discussed. This is why we invite acknowledged experts for presentation papers but also anyone who is interested to contribute to the workshops. The event will be complemented with
excursions to installation of energy efficiency and renewable energy in the region in order to learn from the day-to-day business. In order to be in consistency with the workshop idea, the workshop will be organized as a “Zero Emissions Event.” One page abstracts of paper proposals should be submitted by February 29, 2008. For more about the workshop, including instructions for submitting abstracts, visit the workshop website at: <http://www.aes08.tugraz.at>.

Fourteenth International Interdisciplinary Conference on the Environment, Interdisciplinary Environmental Association, Edmonton, Alberta, June 30-July 3, 2008:
The Interdisciplinary Environmental Association (IEA) invites you to participate in the 14th International Interdisciplinary Conference on the Environment! The conference is motivated by the increasing need to combine ideas and research findings from different disciplines to enhance our understanding of the interactions between the natural environment and human institutions. Conference presentations focus on: (1) what all disciplines have to offer with respect to understanding environmental and resource problems, (2) possible solutions that are available, and (3) the implications of the globalization of environmental concerns. The conference welcomes environmental practitioners, academics, students, and all interested persons regardless of background. Participants may organize sessions (please ask for “Panel Organizer Guidelines”), present papers, participate in poster sessions, chair sessions, discuss papers, participate in round-table discussions, or simply observe. The conference welcomes papers and posters submitted by students, both graduate and undergraduate. Advisors, please contact <kreiter@stetson.edu> for details. To facilitate communication, authors should make an effort to write papers and design posters that can be understood by an audience outside their disciplines. All papers submitted for publication consideration in Interdisciplinary Environmental Review must pass peer review from both within and outside the primary discipline of the author(s). The conference program consists of: (1) small concurrent seminar-type sessions with chairperson, presenters, and a discussant assigned to comment on and integrate the ideas of the presentations, (2) a poster session with a period for discussion with the authors, (3) round-table thematic discussions with a moderator, (4) workshops and panels, and (5) invited keynote speakers. There is a welcome reception on the evening of June 30th, and a conference banquet luncheon on July 2nd. We welcome research that spans the boundaries of traditional disciplines to frame environmental problems, propose working models, or address field, community, or academic issues. While any interdisciplinary environmental topic is welcome, areas of special interest in 2008 include: (1) environmental issues in Western Canada and the Northern Plains, (2) environmental ethics, (3) regional water resources and pollution issues, (4) environmental issues and Native /Aboriginal communities, (5) Arctic /Sub-Arctic climate change, (6) creative visions of the changing landscape, (7) the economics of sustainability, and (8) the special topic of accreditation of environmental programs. To participate as a presenter, please submit your abstract (of no more than 300 words) via e-mail to Dr. Kimberly Reiter <kreiter@stetson.edu> by May 18, 2008. Additionally, mail two hard copies of your abstract to the IEA address below. All submitted abstracts will be evaluated for presentation and publication in the Book of Abstracts which will be available at the Conference. You may submit abstracts for no more than two presentations (paper or poster). For co-authorships, please include names, affiliations, and addresses of all authors and indicate who will serve as the presenter(s). To have your paper considered for publication in the journal Interdisciplinary Environmental Review, please submit four copies of the paper by June 1, 2008. Full paper
submission is optional. Papers submitted for review for IER must not have been published, accepted, or submitted for publication elsewhere. All papers will be evaluated using a blind review process. Format instructions are available on-line and/or will be attached to the acceptance for publication letter. Accepted manuscripts of more than 12 single-spaced pages will be considered at $10 per additional page. The disciplines that best fit your paper must be typed on the top right corner of the front page. Please note that May 18th is also the deadline for early conference registration. Efforts are underway to organize several one-day or part-day field trips in association with the conference. The trips being considered thus far include a Columbia Icefield/Athabasca Glacier tour and an Edmonton city tour. These trips will likely operate immediately before or after the conference, and will involve a small fee for transportation and lunch. Please indicate interest in any of these trips, and if there is sufficient interest, details will be forwarded to you once finalized. Details will also be available online once available.

“Session Chair/Moderator and Discussant Guidelines,” as well as copies of the abstracts or papers to be discussed, will be available online and/or emailed to moderators and discussants once sessions are organized. Note that standard registration fees include the banquet, one copy of the Conference Program & Book of Abstracts, the semi-annual Interdisciplinary Environmental Review, membership in the IEA, and access to all conference presentations, sessions, and functions. Individuals submitting abstracts for presentation but not accepted are eligible for fee refunds. Cancellations must be in writing and are subject to a $75 handling fee. No refunds will be given for cancellations after June 11, 2008. Refunds will be processed after the conference. Please mail all abstracts, papers, and registration fees by the appropriate deadline date to: 14th IICE, c/o Dr. Kimberly Reiter, Conference Chair, Department of History Stetson University, DeLand, FL 32720 USA. Telephone: 386-822-7541; fax: 386-822-7544; email: <kreiter@stetson.edu>. Please visit the conference website for more details: <www.ieaonline.org>.

XVI International Conference of the Society for Human Ecology (SHE), Integrative Thinking for Complex Futures: Creating Resilience in Human-Nature Systems, Western Washington University, Bellingham, September 10-13, 2008: Like previous human ecology meetings, this conferences is intended to bring together a diverse group of educators, researchers, and practitioners who utilize, or are interested in, interdisciplinary and ecological approaches. These meetings rely heavily on the suggestions and contributions of participants. Our aim is to make this event as broadly interdisciplinary as possible—bridging science, social science and policy perspectives—with literature, humanities and creative arts. There is always an ethics/philosophy component at this conference. We are looking for people to do the following: (1) Organize a symposium. Organized symposia should be designed to fill a two-hour block and involve four to six people. These usually consist of either a group of papers or a thematic discussion/symposium. The organizer is responsible for the coordination of participants. At this point only the session theme and the organizer’s name and institution are needed. (2) Contribute a paper. Individual papers will be grouped by similar issues. Paper summaries (15-20 minutes in duration) will be given during the session with time allotted for discussion. (3) Be placed on a roundtable discussion groups. These groups are arranged by the conference committee to encourage exchange of ideas among participants. Usually two discussion leaders are designated, and six to ten participants are assigned to a thematic roundtable. Please indicate your willingness to be placed on a roundtable discussion group along with your areas of expertise or interest. (4) Are there other individuals or groups who should be invited to participate? We are pleased to get
email and postal addresses of friends, colleagues, or list-serves who you think should also receive an invitation to attend this conference. **Please submit preliminary proposals for organizing a symposium, contributing a paper, being placed on a roundtable discussion group, or suggestions for others to invite by April 1, 2008.** Please send these proposals directly to both <humanecology@coa.edu> and <gene.myers@www.edu>. Continuously updated information about the conference can be found on SHE’s website at: <www.societyforhumanecology.org>. The SHE XVI Conference Committee Co-Chairs are Gene Myers (President of SHE/Western Washington University) and Richard Borden (Executive Director of SHE). Members of SHE include: John Anderson (College of the Atlantic), Alpina Begossi (UNICAMP, Brazil), Dale Blahna (Utah State University), Ian Douglas (University of Manchester), Robert Dyball (Australian National University), Catherine Gross (Australian National University), Wolfgang Serbser (German Society for Human Ecology), Bill Throop (Green Mountain College), Shirley Vincent (Oklahoma State University), Scott Wright (University of Utah), Barbara Carter (Executive Assistant, SHE), and Sean Berg (Networking Coordinator, SHE/Huxley College of the Environment).

**7th Global Conference on Environmental Justice and Global Citizenship, Environments, Sustainability and Technologies, Mansfield College, Oxford, United Kingdom, July 9-12, 2008:** This inter-disciplinary and multi-disciplinary conference aims to explore the role of ecology and environmental ideas in the context of contemporary society and international politics, and assess the implications for our understandings of fairness, justice and global citizenship. “Environmental justice” is conceived broadly as reflecting not only justice in the context of human communities but also towards other species, ecosystems, habitats, landscapes, succeeding generations and the environment as a whole. In particular, the 7th Global Conference on Environmental Justice and Global Citizenship will explicitly explore: (1) the relationships between environments, sustainability, and technology, (2) the role of technology in creating possibilities for sustainable resources for the future, and (3) the inherent problems and dangers which accompany that role. We are looking for papers which investigate and question the relationships of power and equity between ecosystems, including also inter-generational equity and sustainability. Among these relationships, technology has a vital role, not only in terms of the negative impacts of past technologies, but also the potential (and often unknown) impacts of future technologies, and the positive role technologies may play in both remediating existing problems and enabling us to live more sustainably in the future. **The deadline for submitting proposals has passed.** Perspectives are sought from people engaged in: (1) actor network theory, (2) agriculture and agricultural economics, (3) the built environment disciplines, (4) conflict resolution and mediation, (5) critical geography, (6) environmental studies, (7) human development and ecology, (8) industrial relations and design, (9) philosophy and ethics, (10) political science and international affairs, (11) public policy and advising, (12) social sciences, (13) sociology of science, (14) theology, (15) urban studies, (16) Western European studies, (17) the public and private sectors—people who are involved in planning and project development, policy-making and implementation, and negotiation and mediation at national and international levels, (18) governmental, inter-governmental, and non-governmental organisations, (19) voluntary sector bodies, (20) environmental charities and groups, and (21) businesses and professional associations. All papers accepted for and presented at the conference will be published in an ISBN eBook. Selected papers accepted for and presented at the conference will be published in a themed hardcopy volume. A number of epublications and hardcopy volumes
are in print and/or in press from previous meetings of the project. The conference is sponsored by Inter-Disciplinary.Net as part of the “Probing the Boundaries’ programme of research projects. The conference aims to bring together people from different areas and interests to share ideas and explore various discussions which are innovative and exciting. For further details about the project please visit: <http://www.inter-disciplinary.net/ptb/ejgc/ejgc.htm>. For further details about the conference please visit: <http://www.inter-disciplinary.net/ptb/ejgc/ejgc7/cfp.htm>.

Environmental Studies Association of Canada (ESAC), Thinking Beyond Borders—Global Ideas: Global Values, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, June 3-6, 2008: The 2008 ESAC Conference will be held on June 3 to 6 at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver as part of the annual Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences. The **deadline for submitting proposals has passed.** Updates and more information can be found on the ESAC website: <http://www.esac.ca/>. Further questions may be directed to Chris Ling at <chris.ling@royalroads.ca> or Tim Quick at <tim.quick@royalroads.ca>. The Environmental Studies Association of Canada (ESAC) is a Learned Society formed in 1993 to further research and teaching activities in areas related to environmental studies in Canada. ESAC is a non-profit, federally incorporated, bilingual organization open to members from across Canada and elsewhere. Members are welcome from educational institutions, government agencies, and private sector and non-profit organizations.

14th International Symposium on Society and Resource Management (ISSRM), People and Place: Linking Culture and Nature, University of Vermont, Burlington, June 10-15, 2008: ISSRM is the official annual meeting of the International Association for Society and Natural Resources and is the largest international gathering of academics, researchers, graduate students, and practitioners interested in the application of social science to natural resources and environmental issues. The theme of the 2008 Symposium is “People and Place: Linking Culture and Nature.” This theme will (1) emphasize the human dimensions of environmental and natural resources issues, (2) include the broad array of social science disciplines and related fields of study, and (3) illustrate the interdisciplinary, cooperative, and collaborative character of research and management. The 2008 Symposium will include a Welcome Reception, plenary sessions with keynote speakers, concurrent sessions of scientific papers, a poster session and reception, a Student Forum, a Student Paper Competition, a Graduate Career Fair, an awards dinner, and a pre-Symposium (June 9th and 10th) two day training course on Social Impact Assessment (SIA) given by Rabel Burdge. The 2008 ISSRM will be hosted by the Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources, one of only a few such endowed academic units in the US, and the flagships of the University of Vermont’s commitment to excellence in environmental stewardship. The Symposium will be held at the University’s new Davis Student Center, a state-of-the-art, LEED-certified building, and on-campus housing will be available at the new University Heights Student Residential Learning Complex, also LEED-certified, and just a short walk to the Davis Student Center. Blocks of rooms are also being held at surrounding hotels. The University of Vermont campus sits “on the hill” in Burlington, a small city on the shores of Lake Champlain, nestled between the Green Mountains of Vermont and the Adirondacks of New York, and a town that is perennially noted as one of the most “livable” in the US. Participants in the Symposium will appreciate the environmental and cultural amenities of Burlington, including a bustling downtown pedestrian mall with restaurants and shops, an extensive bike path, a
community boathouse, a waterfront park and promenade, a fishing pier, a lake aquarium and environmental science center, and one of the most dramatic sunsets anywhere. Burlington is served by an international airport (just two miles from campus), AMTRAK, and Interstate Highway 89. The surrounding Vermont countryside offers a wealth of opportunities to learn about the State’s longstanding and progressive commitment to the environment, and to enjoy many forms of outdoor recreation. We encourage participants to extend their stay to take advantage of the “laboratory” that Vermont offers for studying sustainability and the Symposium theme of integrating people and the environment. The web site for the 2008 ISSRM is: <www.ISSRM2008.org>. ISSRM offers many types of opportunities to participate, including traditional paper (oral) presentations, poster presentations, and a variety of sessions that can be organized by participants. The deadline for submitting proposals has passed. To receive more information about any aspect of the Symposium, please contact us at: <ISSRM2008@uvm.edu>.

Call for Papers in a Special Issue on Next Species of Thought: In the Approach of a More-Than-Human World, Journal of Environmental Philosophy, Fall 2008: James Hatley is the guest editor. The essays of this volume will explore how philosophy might be initiated in the approach, gaze, or voice of another living species—plant or animal. In doing so, what it means to think specifically, as well as radically, about the living world will come into focus. This could occur through reflecting upon one’s own participation in the life-world of another entity, or in providing a case study of how yet another human individual or culture has done so. Papers analyzing texts or artistic works addressing the situation of being in the approach of another living species will also be considered. For instance, Karsten Heuer’s Being Caribou, Yann Martel’s Life of Pi, Amitav Ghosh’s The Hungry Tide, Joan Maloof’s Teaching the Trees, or Barry Lopez’s Of Men and Wolves might provide appropriate starting points for raising the volume’s theme. Preference will be given to papers addressing living entities still existing in a wild state, i.e., beyond an “emphatic” domesticity. The question to be asked in each paper is: How does becoming attentive to the lived-world of a particular species cast a unique shadow into one’s own philosophical praxis? This outcome can be religious, ethical, ontological, phenomenological, metaphysical, epistemo-logical, political, social, aesthetic, or all of the above. A diversity of results and styles is hoped for in the volume’s contributors. Poems or artworks taking up this theme can also be submitted for inclusion in the volume. The deadline for submissions is June 1, 2008. Please send submissions electronically or by post to: Dr. James Hatley, Department of Philosophy, Salisbury University, Salisbury, MD 21801, <jhatley@salisbury.edu>. A printable flier is available online at: <http://ephilosophy.uoregon.edu/CFP%20Species%20of%20Thought.pdf>.

Call for Papers, Interdisciplinary Aspects of Climate Change: In the history of science there have been only a few issues which have mobilized much the attention of scientists and policy-makers alike as the issue of climate change currently does. The release of the 4th Assessment produced by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) in the summer of 2007 has put the reality of human-induced global warming beyond any doubt. In addition, the high-level event on Climate Change held at the UN Headquarters, New York (24 September 2007), the thirteenth United Nations Climate Change Conference held on the island of Bali (Indonesia) on 3-14 December 2007, and the various strategies and actions plans which are being prepared and implemented all over the world, indicate that the emphasis to this topic will continue to dominate
the scientific agenda for decades to come. Although the subject matter of climate change is regarded as a critical issue and sound scientific knowledge is needed in order to address the problem in a holistic way, there is a paucity of academic publications specifically focusing on the different aspects of climate change. The book *Interdisciplinary Aspects of Climate Change* will address this need. It will report, document and disseminate experiences, projects and practical, inter-disciplinary initiatives related to climate change performed by research centres, non-government bodies, international organisations, practitioners and universities both in the industrialised and developing nations. By means of cases studies and project descriptions, it will offer a picture of the state-of-the art in the field across the world and demonstrate how much can be achieved by means of interdisciplinary efforts focusing on matters related to climate change. The book *Interdisciplinary Aspects of Climate Change* will be published by Peter Lang Scientific Publishers (Frankfurt, New York, Bern, Vienna), which has published previous volumes of the award-winning series “Environmental Education, Communication and Sustainability” which has produced nearly 30 high-impact books since its creation in 1996. Submissions to *Interdisciplinary Aspects of Climate Change* will be commissioned by the Editor-in-Chief and, when accepted, will be subjected to peer-review by an international editorial board, which will process the submissions further. A special emphasis will be given to research which has led to tangible results, as opposed to merely theoretical analyses and appraisals of aspects of climate change problems. Further details on this call for paper and on the submission process are available at: <http://climatechange.international-projects.eu/>. The deadline for submission of expressions of interest with abstracts is February, 20, 2008. Selection of the submitted proposals and communication to authors is March 15, 2008. Deadline for submissions of all papers is May 30, 2008.

**Paper Competition to Design a Policy Framework to Succeed the Kyoto Protocol:** The Harvard Project on International Climate Agreements invites submission of papers focused on the design of international climate policy architectures. Papers should propose a complete policy framework to succeed the Kyoto Protocol in the post-2012 period. The Harvard Project will select one or more submitted papers and award winning authors an honorarium of US $3,000 per paper. The Harvard Project will publish the winning paper through the Project’s Working Paper Series and website at <http://www.belfercenter.org/climate>. Papers should be submitted as a PDF file attachment by email to <climate@harvard.edu> by July 1, 2008. Include “HARVARD PROJECT PAPER” on the subject line of the email. The paper should include the following: (1) the title of the paper, name and institutional affiliation of author(s) and their disciplines on the title page, (2) a one-page abstract, and (3) text not too exceed 10,000 words. Only English-language papers will be considered in the competition. Email submissions should also include a PDF file attachment of the lead author’s curriculum vitae. The Harvard Project will acknowledge receipt of all submissions by email. Notification of acceptance will be made by September 1, 2008. This call for papers is open to policy practitioners, scholars, students, and others in all fields from developed and developing countries. Professors, researchers, students, and others affiliated with Harvard University or Resources for the Future are not eligible to participate in this competition. The Harvard Project will evaluate the submitted papers based on how effectively they address the following questions: (1) What incentives does the policy framework provide for participation and compliance? (2) Is the policy approach robust to various economic, political, and environmental shocks as well as the resolution of uncertainty over time? (3) Is it politically feasible to transition from the Kyoto Protocol to the proposed
policy architecture? How does the proposed approach address major issues raised in the Bali Action Plan, including mitigation, adaptation, technology, and financial mechanisms? (4) What are the equity implications of the proposal? (5) How does the proposal pursue cost-effective mitigation of climate change risks? (6) How does the proposed framework provide the basis for satisfying the ultimate objective of the Framework Convention on Climate Change (Article 2)? (7) What are the costs and benefits of the proposed policy architecture, to the extent these can be identified? For examples of climate policy architectures, please refer to the proposals described in: Architectures for Agreement: Addressing Global Climate Change in the Post-Kyoto World. Joseph E. Aldy and Robert N. Stavins, eds. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2007. Summaries of these proposals can also be found on the Harvard Project website at <http://www.belfercenter.org/climate>. The goal of the Harvard Project on International Climate Agreements is to help identify key design elements of a scientifically sound, economically rational, and politically pragmatic post-2012 international policy architecture for global climate change. We are drawing upon leading thinkers from academia, private industry, government, and non-governmental organizations from around the world to construct a small set of promising policy frameworks, and then disseminate and discuss the design elements and frameworks with decision makers. The Harvard Project on International Climate Agreements is co-directed by Robert N. Stavins, Albert Pratt Professor of Business and Government and Director of the Harvard Environmental Economics Program, and Joseph E. Aldy, Fellow at Resources for the Future, a non-partisan, non-advocacy research institute in Washington, DC. For news, research results, and more information, see the Project’s website at <http://www.belfercenter.org/climate>. To sign up for email alerts, please go to <http://belfercenter.ksg.harvard.edu/subscribe.html> and click on the Harvard Project on International Climate Agreements box. Major funding for the project has been provided by the Climate Change Initiative of the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation (<http://www.ddcf.org>). Additional funding has been provided by Christopher P. Kaneb, AB 1990, Harvard College and the James M. and Cathleen D. Stone Foundation.

Call for Papers in a Special Issue on Sustainability, The Journal for Peace and Justice Studies: Manuscripts and related correspondence should be sent electronically to the Managing Editor at <jpjs@villanova.edu>. Manuscript submissions should be accompanied by a cover letter containing all contact information and title of the essay. No identifying information may be in the submission itself. All manuscripts submitted for publication must be prepared for blind review. Articles should be double-spaced throughout, with notes gathered at the end. An abstract of 100 to 150 words must be included with the submission. Authors are advised to use inclusive language throughout the manuscript, and to follow the MLA Style Sheet. Essays accepted for publication must be prepared in Microsoft Word (.doc) format. Regular Mailing Address: The Journal for Peace and Justice Studies, Villanova University, Sullivan Hall - Lower Level, 800 Lancaster Ave., Villanova, PA 19085-1699. The deadline for submissions is October 30, 2008. For more information on this special issue, contact: <sally.scholz@villanova.edu>.

Call for Papers in a Special Issue on The Earth Charter, In Factis Pax, May 2008: In Factis Pax is a peer-reviewed journal published twice a year (December and May). This online journal is devoted to the exploration of the philosophical and theoretical foundations of peace, justice, and an education for peace. We seek papers that reflect on, analyze, illustrate, and educate about
the philosophical foundations of the Earth Charter as well as papers that explore its pedagogical and curricular implications. The Earth Charter is “a declaration of fundamental principles for building a just, sustainable and peaceful global society in the 21st Century” (Earth Charter Initiative 2000: Introduction). The Charter constitutes a framework of ethical principles for a sustainable global society. It is the product of a decade long cross-cultural dialogue. What is of particular significance is the Earth Charter is the product of global civil society. The Charter has been endorsed by the General Assembly of the United Nations and adopted by UNESCO as its educational framework for the Decade of Sustainable Development. **The deadline for submissions is March 1, 2008.** Please submit articles to: Dale Snauwaert, editor, <dale.snauwaert@utoledo.edu>. For more information, please visit the journal’s website at: <www.infactispax.org>.

**Call for Papers in a Special Issue on Ethical Implications of Social Determinants of Health,** *Bioethics*: *Bioethics* announces a special issue to be published in February 2009. Patricia Illingworth and Wendy E. Parmet will serve as guest editors. We invite submissions on all aspects of this general topic. Issues of particular interest include, but are not limited to: (1) the ethics of redistribution of wealth, (2) the effect of racial and ethnic disparities on health as an ethical issue, (3) the ethics of identifying relevant populations, (4) the moral obligations of governments to establish policies that reduce adverse social determinants of health, (5) the role of legal rights (domestic and/or international) as social determinants of health, (6) the applicability of informed consent to community-based interventions and possible ethical alternatives to it, (7) the role of property rights in creating and redressing social determinants of health, (8) analysis of how the recognition of social determinants changes conceptions of causation, and the role of individual agency in health and community welfare, (9) how the recognition of social determinants changes the duties and obligations of health care providers, and duties physicians and other providers might have to address social determinants, and (10) the ethical principles and limits that should inform public policy research and experiments designed to address social determinants of health. **The deadline for submissions is May 1, 2008.** The editors welcome early discussion of brief proposals and/or abstracts by email to both: <p.illingworth@neu.edu> and <w.parmet@neu.edu>. For further submission requirements, including format and referencing style, please refer to the Author Guidelines at: <www.blackwellpublishing.com/submit.asp?ref=0269-9702&site=1>. You can now submit your manuscripts to *Bioethics* online at: <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/biot>. Please ensure that you select manuscript type “Special Issue” and state that it is for the “Ethical Implications of Social Determinants of Health,” Special Issue, when prompted. Upon submission authors should include full contact details (especially an email address), a brief abstract (250 words), and a few lines of bibliographical information, all in a single electronic file. We discourage papers of more than 5,000 words.

**Call for Papers, Ethics & the Environment**: *Ethics & the Environment,* an international journal published by Indiana University Press, provides an interdisciplinary forum for theoretical and practical articles, discussions, and book reviews in the broad area encompassed by environmental philosophy. Possible topics include conceptual approaches in ecological philosophy, such as ecological feminism and deep ecology, as they apply to issues such as cloning, genetically modified organisms, new reproductive technology, war and militarism, environmental education and management, ecological economics, and ecosystem health. We encourage submissions.
offering new and imaginative conceptions of what counts as an “environmental issue.”
Manuscripts may be submitted as word files at any time via email to: <eande@uga.edu>. For matters of style, consult The Chicago Manual of Style. Upon acceptance, an abstract of 100 words will be required. To view recent issues, visit: <http://inscribe.iupress.org/loi/ete>.

Call for Papers, Population and Environment: The journal Population and Environment publishes articles, commentary and reviews related to the bi-directional links between population, natural resources, and the natural environment, with the purpose of deepening scientific and policy dialogue in this often complex area. The coverage is multidisciplinary, spanning a range of social, policy, life, and natural sciences. Work at all scales, local to global, is presented as are both theoretical and empirical contributions. Population and Environment reaches a wide readership of researchers working in academic and policy institutions in the fields of demography, economics, sociology, geography, environmental studies, public health, ecology, and associated sub-disciplines. For further information, please visit the journal’s website at <www.springer.com> or contact the editor-in-chief of the journal Lori Hunter at <lori.hunter@colorado.edu>.

Call for Papers, Ecopolitics Online Journal: We will accept abstracts (150 words) and completed articles (8,000 words) on themes relevant to our core areas of interest, including green politics, parties, lifestyles, and movements. Ecopolitics Online Journal provides an outlet for academics and researchers through its online environmental publishing website. Ecopolitics Online Journal is an international peer-reviewed, bi-annual academic journal which explores themes of environmentalism, sustainability, social movements, ecotopias, conservation, Green Parties, and environmental politics and policy. Dr. Liam Leonard (NUIG Ireland) and Dr. John Barry (QUB Northern Ireland) are the journal’s Senior Editors. Please visit the Ecopolitics Online Journal at: <http://www.ecopoliticsonline.com/index.cfm?action=journals>.

Call for Papers and Book Reviews, Green Theory & Praxis: The Journal of Ecopedagogy: We are proud to announce both a general call for papers for our upcoming June and December issues and our recent move from California State University, Fresno to a new home as the flagship journal of the Ecopedagogy Association International. Green Theory & Praxis represents a scholarly effort to present research papers and essays at the transformative nexus of ecological politics and culture, social structures, sustainability education, and ecocriticism. The editorial board of the journal takes the position that many human societies and their attendant political economy and cultural norms depart strikingly from what is needed to maintain ecological harmony and planetary/species flourishing. The journal seeks to offer a forum for careful study of the theoretical and rhetorical positions, political and economic adjustments, behavioral and institutional alterations, pedagogical and cultural mobilizations, and spiritual emergences that will or should emerge in response to increasing ecological damage of both a physical and psychic nature. We seek critical analysis of the root causes of various ecological crises and to link theory to concrete prospects for social change through pedagogy broadly conceived. Given the scope and complexity of our approach, we anticipate transdisciplinary research papers, and we invite scholars and activists from countries throughout the world to submit manuscripts for peer review. Please visit the journal’s website at <http://greentheoryandpraxis.org> to freely register, submit your work online, and receive more information. The editors of Green Theory & Praxis are Dr. Richard Kahn
PROGRAMS AND GRADUATE AND POSTGRADUATE OPPORTUNITIES
New Master of Science Program in Environmental Studies and New Master of Professional Studies Program in Environmental Studies, College of Environmental Science and Forestry, State University of New York, Syracuse: The SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry (ESF) has established two new graduate programs in environmental studies. These programs focus on the social and policy dimensions of environmental issues, and take an interdisciplinary approach to solving environmental problems. “These are programs that can make a real difference in the world,” said Dr. David A. Sonnenfeld, Chair of the Department of Environmental Studies at ESF. The new programs are a master of science (MS) and a master of professional studies (MPS), both in environmental studies. “The MS program is research-focused, offering students an interdisciplinary understanding of environmental issues, the problems that underlie them, and the paths that lead to sustainable communities,” said Sonnenfeld. It is intended for students with a wide range of undergraduate degrees. The MPS program is a non-thesis degree aimed at professionals already working in various environmental fields and others seeking a graduate program with less emphasis on research. Those choosing the MPS track will find a more career-focused program, often including an internship that adds real-world applications to the curriculum. Both graduate programs offer unique blends of social science, humanities and physical science, and allow students to take a hands-on approach to developing their own personal curriculum. “Working with a graduate advisor, students establish a plan of study, learning and career objectives,” said Sonnenfeld. “Students think systematically about what they want to accomplish.” At ESF, the Department of Environmental Studies is a well-defined, interdisciplinary academic unit with its own faculty members who are experts in their respective fields. This provides an important advantage over the more loosely defined programs found at many other colleges. The department is enhanced also by ESF’s diverse expertise in related environmental fields in the natural sciences and engineering, and by the focus and mission of the entire college. “There are few places with so many environmentally focused experts in one place,” said Dr. Susan Senecah, professor in the environmental studies program. Students in the environmental studies graduate programs also will benefit from ESF’s relationship with neighboring Syracuse University (SU). Students can take supplemental courses from SU in closely related social science areas, including energy and climate policy, environmental history, environmental and/or ecological economics, anthropology, religion, human ecology, management methods for public agencies and non-profits, and environmental law. In addition, environmental studies graduate students at ESF may work toward concurrent degrees at SU’s Newhouse School of Public Communications, or the Maxwell School of Citizenship & Public Affairs. ESF’s environmental studies programs identify several core areas. These include sustainability, policy, governance, conflict resolution, advocacy, ethics, and perception and behavior. For further information about the environmental studies graduate programs, visit: <http://www.esf.edu/es/graduate.htm>.

Ecosystem Restoration through Interdisciplinary Exchange (ERIE), University of Buffalo, New York: The University at Buffalo has recently launched a new initiative focused on
ecosystem restoration that may be of interest to prospective graduate students in environmental engineering, environmental sciences, environmental studies, environmental philosophy, and cognate disciplines. The ERIE initiative is designed to advance the science, engineering, and policy of ecosystem restoration, and contribute to the ecological recovery of the Great Lakes and Western New York. ERIE’s centerpiece is a new doctoral traineeship funded through the National Science Foundation’s IGERT Program. These traineeships pay $30K stipends for the first two years, but, in accordance with NSF guidelines, are limited to US citizens or permanent residents. For more information, and for application details, please visit the website: <http://www.erie.buffalo.edu/index.php>. You can also contact Ken Shockley (<kes25@buffalo.edu>) or Alan Rabideau (<rabideau@eng.buffalo.edu>).

**Dissertation Imitative for the Advancement of Climate Research (DISCCRS):** DISCCRS (pronounced “discourse”) is an interdisciplinary initiative for recent Ph.D. graduates conducting research related to climate change and its impacts. The goal is to broaden research interests and establish a collegial peer network extending across the spectrum of natural and social sciences, humanities, mathematics, engineering and other disciplines related to climate change and its impacts. The initiative includes a public webpage, electronic newsletter, and annual symposia funded through 2008. Register NOW at <http://www.disccrs.org/register.html> to have your Ph.D. dissertation abstract archived on the DISCCRS webpage and receive the weekly electronic DISCCRS Newsletter. The application deadline is April 30, 2008. For eligibility, Ph.D. requirements need to have been completed between April 1, 2006 and March 31, 2008 in any discipline related to climate change and impacts. Although the focus is on the United States, recent Ph.D. graduates from all countries are invited to join the DISCCRS network and apply to be a DISCCRS symposium scholar. Thirty-six applicants will be selected by an interdisciplinary committee of research scientists to attend the DISCCRS IV Symposium, November 2-8, 2008, Saguaro Lake Ranch, Arizona. During the week, participants will provide oral and poster presentations in plenary format, hone interdisciplinary communication and team skills, and discuss emerging research, societal and professional issues with each other and with established researchers invited to serve as mentors. Airfare and on-site expenses for symposium participants are provided through NSF grant EAR-0435728 to Whitman College. DISCCRS is jointly sponsored by the following societies: AAG, AGU, AMS, ASLO, ESA, ESS-ISA, STEP/APSA and USSEE. Funding: DISCCRS is supported through US National Science Foundation Collaborative Grants EAR-0435728 to Whitman College, C.S. Weiler PI, and EAR-0435719 to University of Oregon, R.B. Mitchell PI. Contact: <disccrs@whitman.edu>. For more information, visit the DISCCRS website at: <http://www.disccrs.org/>.

**Masters Program in Ethics and Public Policy, Department of Philosophy and Department of Government, Suffolk University, Boston, Massachusetts:** Suffolk University will be launching this new, interdepartmental graduate program in the fall of 2008. The Ethics and Public Policy Masters Degree, offered by the Department of Philosophy and the Department of Government, will train leaders, executives, professionals, and aspiring scholars to think through the tough moral problems arising in policy making. Students will explore topics such as the significance of genetic engineering for our understanding of human nature, the social responsibility of corporations, and the dilemmas faced by state and federal government employees, from the war on terror to health care reform. The program is unique in bringing humanistic and social scientific perspectives together to tackle the tough questions of public
policy. Our curriculum combines rigorous training in ethics and policy evaluation with hands-on internships, thus preparing students to meet the growing demand for professionals and scholars who can navigate the ethical challenges arising in government, business, healthcare, and non-profit sectors. In addition, we will provide excellent preparation for students interested in applying to law school or those who wish to pursue doctoral degrees in philosophy, political science, and public policy. Our new website can be found at: <http://www.suffolk.edu/epp>.

The director of the program is Nir Eisikovits (<neisikov@suffolk.edu>)

One-Year Postdoctoral Researcher, Sustainable Resource Use in China, Mansholt Graduate School for Social Sciences (Wageningen University, The Netherlands) and Nanjing Agricultural University (China):

Mansholt Graduate School for Social Sciences (Wageningen University) and Nanjing Agricultural University (China) are searching for a postdoc researcher for the execution of the five year research program “Institutions, Policies and Markets for Sustainable Resource Use in Rural China.” Funding is provided by the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW) and the Chinese Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST). The purpose of this program is to study the impact of (in)formal institutions on the sustainability of land, water and energy use in rural areas and to analyze how these institutions change due to globalization, market liberalization, and the increasing pressure and competing claims on these (scarce) natural resources. Fieldwork takes place in research sites in Jiangxi, Yunnan, Ningxia, Gansu, and Inner Mongolia. The research will be carried out by eight Ph.D.s and three postdocs. One of the three postdocs will be based in The Netherlands, the other two postdocs will be based in China. The postdoc based in The Netherlands will have the following tasks: (1) support of Ph.D. students in developing analytical frameworks and survey design, and coordination of these activities among Ph.D. students, (2) coordination of overarching activities, including network construction and maintenance, organization of workshops and conferences, data base construction of projects of institutional innovations across China on the sustainability of land, water and energy use, and (3) coordination of interactions and collaboration with relevant policy institutions, also in terms of data exchange, site selection, research coordination. The postdocs in China will carry out research, integrate the results of various Ph.D. studies, generalize the findings and draw program-wide conclusions. Suitable candidates must possess the following qualifications: a doctoral degree in one of the relevant social sciences (sociology, economics, political sciences, social geography), a publication record of articles in internationally refereed journals, experience with field research in China, proven skills with quantitative and qualitative research methods, experience with multi-disciplinary cooperation and working in a team, student supervision and management experience, knowledge of (rural) China and the Chinese language. This position is central in a large, ambitious and prestigious five year project, in which two Dutch institutions (Wageningen University and the Institute of Social Studies) and three Chinese institutions (Nanjing Agricultural University, Tsinghua University, and the Chinese Academy of Sciences) cooperate. We offer a stimulating, international, and dynamic work environment, where, via multidisciplinary work, some of the key environmental challenges are investigated. The job begins with an appointment period of twelve months. Continuation of the appointment with another forty-two months will be based on performance evaluation. Additional information about the vacancy can be obtained from: (1) Prof. Arthur P.J. Mol (telephone number +31317-482495, email: <arthur.mol@wur.nl>). (2) Dr. N. Heerink (telephone number: +31317-485117, email: <nico.heerink@wur.nl>). Please visit the website at: <www.enp.wur.nl>. The job application deadline is February 28, 2008.
Send your application to: Wageningen Universiteit, dep. Maatschappijwetenschappen, afd. HRM L. Verkerk, Hollandseweg 1, 6706 KN Wageningen, Nederland (<lenie.verkerk@wur.nl>). When applying for this job always mention the vacancy number AT MW 2008-08. The short URL code for this job opening is: 00363-2437.

Tufts University Master of Science in Animals and Public Policy: The Center for Animals and Public Policy at Tufts University was founded in 1983. Its guiding vision is an institute for higher education and policy reflection that investigates the ethical, legal, social and scientific dimensions of human-animal relations. Today the Center and its faculty are leading voices in ethics, human-animal studies and public policy. The Center’s Master of Science in Animals and Public Policy (MAPP) is an interdisciplinary, one-year degree program focusing on the theories, methods and topics of human-animal studies and public policy. The program is interdisciplinary with a curriculum that balances theory, methods, topics, and research. The program welcomes students from the natural and social sciences, as well as the arts and humanities, giving due attention to both qualitative and quantitative modes of research. The application deadline is April 1, 2008. A detailed description of MAPP, frequently asked questions, and information on applying are available at: <www.tufts.edu/vet/cfa/mapp_overview.html>. The Center for Animals and Public Policy’s website is: <http://www.tufts.edu/vet/cfa/index.html>.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES
Assistant or Associate Professor, Environment, Policy and Sustainable Energy, University of Waterloo, Ontario: Applications are invited by the University of Waterloo for a tenure-track position in environment, policy and sustainable energy at the level of Assistant Professor or Associate Professor (for an exceptional and appropriately experienced candidate) in one of the five academic units in the Faculty of Environmental Studies. More information about the Faculty of Environmental Studies may be found at: <http://www.fes.uwaterloo.ca/>. Applicants should have research expertise in the business, political, behavioural, and/or built-environment aspects of sustainable energy (for example, renewable energy, conservation and demand management, or design and planning community energy systems). Applicants should also have an interest in placing their research expertise and activities within a broader interdisciplinary setting that examines the policy, planning, and governance of energy systems in an integrated manner. Applicants should have a Ph.D., a demonstrated record of excellence in research in environment, policy and sustainable energy, and the potential to develop a nationally and internationally recognized interdisciplinary research program. This position will add to the existing and growing expertise at the University of Waterloo in areas related to sustainable energy. A senior Ontario Research Chair in Public Policy for Sustainable Energy Management was recently established. The Faculty of Environmental Studies is a partner in the Waterloo Institute for Sustainable Energy (<http://www.wise.uwaterloo.ca/>) and has significant ongoing research in sustainable energy, including residential energy efficiency, “green power,” and conservation and demand management strategies. Applications must include: (1) a curriculum vitae and the names (with contact information) of four referees, (2) a research statement outlining the applicant’s approach and specific plans, and (3) a teaching portfolio summarizing the applicant’s relevant experience and teaching philosophy. The first stage in the review of applicants will be based on the application documents. Referees will be contacted for those being considered in the second stage of the review. Applications will begin to be reviewed on
March 1, 2008, and will continue to be accepted until the position is filled. Applications should be sent to: Dr. Ian Rowlands, Chair of Faculty Search Committee (Environment, Policy and Sustainable Energy), Faculty of Environmental Studies, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, ON N2L 3G1. Email: <irowland@fesmail.uwaterloo.ca>. The University of Waterloo encourages applications from all qualified individuals, including women, members of visible minorities, native persons, and individuals with disabilities. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadians and permanent residents will be given priority. This appointment is subject to the availability of funds.

**Director, Environmental Mission Initiatives and Rachel Carson Institute, Chatham University, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania:** Chatham University (the alma mater of Rachel Carson), is a thriving dynamic institution with three colleges—the Chatham College for Women, the coeducational College for Graduate Studies, and the College for Continuing and Professional Studies—that seeks a dynamic and experienced leader for its environmental mission and the Rachel Carson Institute. This outreach center, located in the University Arboretum, guides the University’s participation in events on environmental issues of global and regional impact. The Director is the leader of all University environmental initiatives, developing curriculum and providing educational and co-curricular programs that will marshal university resources and interest in environmental issues by creating study sites abroad, excellent and innovative interdisciplinary programs at the undergraduate and graduate levels, and partnerships with national and international entities. Candidates must have an earned doctorate in a relevant field, a substantial record of at least five years as teacher, scholar and advocate, and proven administrative and fundraising skills. Expertise in and experience with international issues and developments is preferred. This is a twelve-month, renewable term appointment with teaching responsibilities and faculty rank. Chatham University offers a competitive salary, an excellent benefits package (including tuition remission for qualified personnel), and a generous retirement plan. All interested candidates should send a cover letter with salary requirements, resume and names of three professional references to: Chatham University, Attn: H.R. Dept., Pos. #1024, Woodland Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15232. E-mail: <chathr@chatham.edu>.

**Non-Tenure Track Assistant/Associate Research Assistant/Associate, Ecosystem Workforce Program, Institute for a Sustainable Environment, University of Oregon, Eugene:** The Ecosystem Workforce Program (EWP) is inviting applications for a new grant-contingent, non-tenure track faculty position. The EWP is a grant-funded program within the Institute for a Sustainable Environment at the University of Oregon that serves rural forest communities and other people that face limited economic opportunity, political exclusion, and/or degraded landscape through applied research, technical assistance, and policy education. EWP’s applied research is wide ranging, and includes analysis of federal forest policy, political institutions, community-forest relations, social and economic equity, collaboration, labor markets, and other political, economic, and social processes which impact the well-being of rural communities in the American West. More information about the EWP can be found at: <http://ewp.uoregon.edu>. This is a grant-contingent career non-tenure track faculty position. The successful candidate will be an Officer of Research with the rank of Research Assistant or Research Associate. Initially, this position is full-time for approximately one year, with potential of longer-term extension depending on funding availability. This position will involve conducting social science research to support community-based forestry and sustainable rural
development, particularly in the American West. The successful applicant will participate in a wide variety of social science research to support sustainable rural development in forest-based communities. The position will involve developing, securing funding for, and conducting applied research, policy education, and other activities with the program director. It will also include assisting with the management of a community-based forestry research consortium and other activities. Job duties will also include supervising students. It may also include conducting outreach to natural resource policy makers, and development and dissemination of tools and resources to assist rural forest communities with collaboration and sustainable natural resource-based economic development. This position will also require the incumbent to actively generate funds to support the position on an ongoing basis beyond the initial contract period. A Minimum of Master’s degree is required, with a strong preference for a Ph.D. in applied natural resource social science in fields such as forestry, environmental studies, public policy, geography, political science, rural sociology, history, planning, anthropology, or other related fields. The candidate must: (1) have a minimum of three years of professional or educational experience with some combination of public lands policy and management, community-government relations, collaborative natural resource management, sustainable rural development, forestry or natural resource management, collaborative environment, or related field, (2) have knowledge/experience with a variety of qualitative and quantitative social science research methods and willingness and ability to learn new methods as need arises to conduct a wide variety of applied research projects, (3) be willing and able to participate in grant writing and fund raising to fund the position after the first year, (4) be willing and able to travel regionally and nationally, (5) have excellent writing and communications skills, including the ability to publish in academic and lay publications, (6) demonstrate self-motivation, (7) have strong organizational skill, and (8) have the ability to manage multiple projects and maintain the overall program mission. A Salary is commensurate with experience and will likely be in the range of $45,000 to $55,000, plus competitive benefits. The anticipated start date is June 1, 2008. To apply, please send a cover letter and curriculum vita/resume, writing sample, and the names, affiliations, phone numbers, and email addresses of three references via postal mail to: Dorothy Bollman, Institute for a Sustainable Environment, 5247 University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon 97403-5247. For questions about the position, please contact the search committee chair Cassandra Moseley at: <cmoseley@uoregon.edu>. The job position may be viewed at:<http://ewp.uoregon.edu/jobs.html>. To assure full consideration, applications must be received by March 17, 2008, but the position will remain open until filled. The University of Oregon is an equal-opportunity, affirmative-action institution committed to cultural diversity and compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Visiting Assistant Professor or Instructor in Environmental Science and Visiting Assistant Professor or Instructor in Environmental Studies/History (two positions), Franklin & Marshall College, Lancaster, Pennsylvania: Applications are invited for two one-year faculty appointments as Visiting Assistant Professor or Instructor, beginning in August 2008. The successful candidates will teach undergraduate courses in (1) introductory environmental geology, global change, hydrology, GIS, or other upper-level courses and (2) environmental studies, environmental policy and/or environmental history. Teaching load is 3/2; it may include participation in the College’s general education “Foundations” or First Year Seminar programs. A Ph.D. in hand or near completion, teaching experience, and an ongoing program of scholarly research are required. Please send letter of application, curriculum vitae, graduate transcripts,
(undergraduate transcript optional), three letters of recommendation, teaching statement, research statement and teaching evaluations to: Roger D. K. Thomas, Chair of Department of Earth and Environment, Franklin & Marshall College, P.O. Box 3003, Lancaster, PA 17604-3003. Application materials may be sent electronically to <envjobs@fandm.edu> or by fax to 717-291-4186. **Review of applications will begin on February 29, 2008 and continue until the positions are filled.** Franklin & Marshall College is a highly selective liberal arts college with a demonstrated commitment to cultural pluralism and is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

**Visiting Assistant Professor in Environmental Policy, Environmental Studies Department, Macalester College, St. Paul, Minnesota:** Macalester College’s Environmental Studies Department invites applications for a full-time, one-year appointment in environmental policy at the assistant professor rank beginning fall 2008. A Ph.D. in environmental studies or political science is preferred, and teaching experience is desirable. Macalester’s Environmental Studies Department emphasizes a fully interdisciplinary approach to environmental issues, drawing on contributions from the natural sciences, the social sciences, and the humanities. An attractive application will show strong teaching interests in and commitment to such interdisciplinary approaches to environmental policy with an emphasis in the area of political science. The successful candidate will teach five courses, including two sections of Environmental Politics and Policy (one of the department’s required introductory courses for majors), Sustainable Development, and two elective topics courses in environmental studies and/or political science related to the candidate’s field of expertise. Geographical focus and field of specialization within the environmental policy area are open, but research and/or teaching experience relating to issues of international environmental policy is desirable. Send a letter of application, CV, three letters of recommendation, course syllabi, a pedagogical statement, and student evaluations if available to: Dr. Daniel J. Hornbach, Chair, Department of Environmental Studies, Macalester College, 1600 Grand Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55105. **Applications received by March 15, 2008 will receive first consideration.** Macalester College is a selective, private liberal arts college located in the Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area, whose vital and diverse urban communities offer multiple opportunities for engagement as an integral part of the student experience. The college enrolls over 1,800 students from 50 states plus the District of Columbia and almost 80 countries. As an Equal Opportunity employer supportive of making affirmative efforts to achieve a diverse workforce, the college strongly encourages applications from women and members of underrepresented minority groups. We are especially interested in applicants who are dedicated to excellence in both teaching and research in a liberal arts setting and who are committed to working with students of diverse backgrounds. All faculty at Macalester are expected to help sustain the college’s distinctive mission of educational excellence with a special emphasis on internationalism, multiculturalism, and service to society as they pursue their individual research programs and engage with students in and out of the classroom.

**Faculty Professors at All Ranks, Department of Environmental and Occupational Health, Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia:** The Department of Environmental and Occupational Health at the Rollins School of Public Health of Emory University (<www.sph.emory.edu/eoh>) announces a major faculty expansion. The department seeks scholars for faculty appointments at all academic ranks and in all areas of environmental health, with particular emphasis on global environmental health (including climate change, public health ecology, indoor air, water and sanitation), risk assessment, environmental
biostatistics and modeling (including PBPK modeling), biomarkers, gene-environment interactions, toxicology (including neuro-, nano-, in silico-, and molecular), geographic information systems, environmental medicine, children’s environmental health, built environment, and environmental health policy. Candidates for senior positions should have excellent training, a strong record of research and teaching (particularly at the graduate level), a demonstrated capacity to secure external funding, and an established research program. Candidates for junior tenure-track positions must demonstrate the potential to become independent investigators and graduate-level teachers. Non-tenure track research faculty positions are also available. The Department of Environmental and Occupational Health consists of ten primary faculty with an additional ten joint faculty members holding primary appointments in other departments (e.g., Epidemiology, Global Health, Medicine) and thirty-two adjunct faculty, many affiliated with the neighboring Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The departmental faculty have active research programs in the areas of environmental epidemiology, toxicology, exposure assessment and risk analysis focusing on pesticides, air pollutants, and other exposures. The department offers joint degree programs with the departments of Epidemiology and Global Health and with Emory College’s Department of Environmental Studies. Multiple opportunities for interdisciplinary collaboration in environmental health exist with other academic departments and with nearby institutions, including the CDC. The Rollins School of Public Health, founded in 1990, has rapidly emerged as one of the nation’s leading schools of public health and currently enrolls over 900 graduate students in its masters and doctoral programs. The Rollins School is located on the Emory University campus, adjacent to the CDC, Emory’s Schools of Nursing and Medicine, and a number of laboratory and clinical facilities. A second School of Public Health building with state-of-the-art-laboratory facilities is under construction, scheduled for completion in 2010. Applicants should email a letter of interest accompanied by a curriculum vita to: Kyle Steenland, Ph.D., Professor and Search Chair, <nsteenl@sph.emory.edu>, with a copy to Robin Thompson, Administrative Assistant, <rthom10@sph.emory.edu>. Please include the Job Vacancy # in your application: Assistant Professor # 4229BR, Associate Professor # 4230BR, or Professor # 4231BR. Review of applications will begin March 1, 2008 and will continue until the positions are filled. Starting dates are negotiable. Applicants may request that their applications be handled confidentially.

WEBSITES OF INTEREST

How to Live a Low-Carbon Life: <http://lowcarbonlife.net> The purpose of this site is to help individuals in the United Kingdom and elsewhere do something about greenhouse gas emissions. Because governments have been dilatory and ineffectual in dealing with climate change, people need to take action themselves. This website will provide regularly updated information and commentary on low-carbon products. It accompanies Chris Goodall’s book How to Live a Low Carbon Life, published by Earthscan in March 2007.

Ethical Dimensions of Climate Change: <http://rockethics.psu.edu/climate/index.htm>

The Story of Stuff: <http://www.storyofstuff.com/> From its extraction through sale, use and disposal, all the stuff in our lives affects communities at home and abroad, yet most of this is hidden from view. “The Story of Stuff” is a 20-minute web video that examines the underside of
our production and consumption patterns. The video exposes the connections between a huge number of environmental and social issues, and calls us together to create a more sustainable and just world.

**The E-Newsletter of Solidarity, Sustainability, and Non Violence:**  
<http://www.pelicanweb.org/solisustv03n12.html> The mission of this independent newsletter is to provide a commented digest on current research and emerging issues related to human solidarity, ecological sustainability, and both religious and secular non-violence. The United Nations Millennium Development Goals are used as a point of reference.

**World in Transition: Climate Change as a Security Risk by the German Advisory Council on Global Change:**  
<http://www.wbgu.de/wbgu_jg2007_kurz_engl.html#Heading6> The core message of this report is that without resolute counteraction, climate change will overstretch many societies’ adaptive capacities. In some regions of the world, this may result in internal destabilization processes and state failure with diffuse conflict structures, inter-state conflicts and an overstretching of the international system. Classic security policy cannot respond adequately to these new threats to international stability. Climate policy and strategies for adaptation to climate change are thus emerging as key elements of preventive security policy.

**RECENT ARTICLES AND BOOKS**
—Adams, Jonathan. *The Future of the Wild: Radical Conservation for a Crowded World*. Boston: Beacon Press, 2006. Adams, with the Nature Conservancy, argues that most conservation needs to be on private lands, since the government-preserved areas are but a fraction of the landscape. He advocates creating a world where farmers, ranchers, loggers, and other intensive users of the landscape participate in a civil community conversation about resources, where the continent’s surviving megaflora are allowed to return and roam unmolested among the corridors on private land that connect core conservation areas. One of his examples is Arizona rancher Warner Glenn, a lion hunter, who put down his gun and took the first photograph of a jaguar in the United States, and is now a lion hunter and jaguar (and lion) conservationist.

—Adams, Michael, and Angelo Carfanga. *Coming of Age in a Globalized World: The Next Generation*. Bloomfield, CT: Kumarian Press, 2006. The authors discuss globalization and the case for world citizenship through global education, while reconciling the contrast between national bonds and global interests.


Routley, Christopher Stone, and Paul Taylor. This is a welcome addition to the literature of environmental ethics in French.


—Alperovitz, Gar. “Squeezed Out: The Plight of the Middle Class.” *Christian Century* Vol. 124, no. 1 (2007): 26-9. This is a critical review of Norton Garfinkle’s *The American Dream vs. the Gospel of Wealth: The Fight for a Productive Middle-Class Economy* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2006) and Thom Harrington’s *Screwed: The Undeclared War Against the Middle Class* (San Francisco: Berrett-Kohler, 2006). Alperovitz himself is the author of *America Beyond Capitalism: Reclaiming our Wealth, Our Liberty and Our Democracy* (Hoboken, NJ: J. Wiley, 2005). “Long-term trends toward relative and absolute inequality have not been, and are unlikely to be, reversed until major changes in the political context occur. Long-term trends of environmental decay also have not been, and are unlikely to be, reversed.” Capitalists are equally enthusiastic about exploiting both labor and nature. A major factor is “the enormous economic problems caused by globalization—or rather, caused by the way in which corporate and other political elites have dealt with globalization.” “The U.S. remains the wealthiest nation in the history of the world,” yet “the U.S. is by far the most unequal of all the advanced nations.” For wealth ownership: “[A] mere 1 percent owns just under half of all corporate and other productive business wealth. A mere 5 percent owns 70 percent of such wealth.” Alperovitz teaches political economy at the University of Maryland.

—Andersson, Petra. *Humanity and Nature: Towards a Consistent Holistic Environmental Ethics*. Göteborg, Sweden: Acta Philosophica Gothoburgensia, no 20, 2007. Andersson completed and has now published this Ph.D. thesis in the Department of Philosophy, Göteborg University (Box 200, SE-405 30 Göteborg). Within the theoretical framework of holistic environmental ethics, moral status is ascribed to biotic wholes, such as ecosystems, species and landscapes. The purpose of holistic environmental ethics is not entirely clear, since the framework contains conflicting ideas about which properties of the biotic whole contribute to moral status, and to which moral reasons this moral status gives rise. The aim of this thesis is to investigate the prospects of an internally consistent version of holistic environmental ethics. On the basis of an initial analysis, the tensions are organized in three themes—human-centered, integrity-centered, and nature-centered ethics—and are then analyzed with regard the claim that naturalness is an important contributor to the moral status of biotic wholes. If naturalness is seen as a binary property, it creates a grave incoherence. If naturalness is instead understood in more nuanced terms (so that naturalness can be a question of different degrees or senses), some of these problems become less serious, but new problems emerge. In particular, the question whether a version of holistic environmental ethics that incorporates nature-centeredness may allow human beings a reasonable space remains. If nature-centeredness is rejected, however, several internal tensions within a holistic environmental ethics may be resolved. It is therefore argued that a plausible ethics should abandon the nature-centered theme, i.e., reject the idea of “natural nature” as being morally significant in itself. The idea that integrity gives rise to moral status of a biotic whole is more fruitful, and can also be combined with most of the particular opinions that might
motivate nature-centeredness. Integrity-centeredness may also be consistently combined with human-centeredness, and a holistic environmental ethic may thus provide reasonable room for human beings in nature. Keywords include biotic communities, biotic wholes, denaturalization, ecocentrism, environmental ethics, holism, human membership in biotic communities, moral status, naturalness, nature, nature knows best, and the end of nature.


—Arnold, Craig Anthony (Tony). *Fair and Healthy Land Use: Environmental Justice and Planning*. Chicago: APA Planning Advisory Service, 2007. Arnold offers a systematic evaluation of the relationships between environmental justice and land use planning. After summarizing the rise of the environmental justice movement, Arnold discusses the promise and failure of land use planning to achieve fair and healthy land use and environmental conditions in low-income and minority communities, including empirical evidence of zoning and land use disparities. He then lays out principles and tools of land use planning and regulation to achieve environmentally just communities: environmental justice planning principles, the relationship between environmental justice and smart growth, regulatory tools (e.g., zoning, discretionary permits, impact fees), community participation principles and methods (emphasizing robust and meaningful deliberative participatory processes), environmental impact assessments, inherent limits on land use planning and regulation (e.g., private property rights, state preemption, and politics), and community infrastructure, housing, redevelopment, and brownfields.


—Barcott, Bruce. “Kill the Cat that Kills the Bird?” *New York Times Magazine* (December 2, 2001): 46-51. Jim Stevenson shot a feral cat that was about to kill a piping plover, an endangered species on an estuary in Galveston Bay, Texas. He was taken to court on charges of cruelty to animals. But the case resulted in a hung jury and was dismissed. Barcott’s article cites J. Baird Callicott and Holmes Rolston III, siding with the endangered species and against the cat lovers.
The main concern of environmental philosophy has been to find value for nature. This thesis links a theory of nature, a theory of human nature and a theory of value. A definition of nature is explored, requiring a brief history of the concept of nature. There has been a decline of teleological explanations and the development of two main contemporary explanations of human nature in relation to nature: Ultra-Darwinism (a reductionist explanation of human nature) and postmodernism. An analysis of these two positions shows that neither has an adequate metaphysics for finding value in nature, and this is revealed by an examination of two different types of environmental philosophy influenced respectively by the two opposing views. The problem of values is discussed with particular emphasis on moral values. An argument for objective values based on objective knowledge is put forward as well as a theory of human nature which leads to the conclusion that teleological explanations link a theory of nature, a theory of human nature, and a theory of value more satisfactorily than the non-teleological explanations of Ultra-Darwinism and postmodernism. This conclusion is relevant to the problems of the environment. The advisor was Robin Attfield.

Chickadees develop new neurons before the stress of winter, hiding food before onset of winter and needing new neurons to remember where to find it. Interestingly, chickadees living in the wild produce double the number of neurons of chickadees that are kept as captive birds. Does wild nature builds better brains, or at least better bird brains? Similar studies have found that the brains of lions kept in zoos have much degenerated. The authors are in the Field Research Center for Ecology and Ethology at Rockefellow University.

Barry explores the contested character of the environment and nature within social theory. He examines the way the nonhuman environment plays roles in past thinkers such as Rousseau, Malthus, Marx, Darwin, Mill, Freud, and Horkheimer (and the Frankfort School), as well as contemporary people such as Habermas, Dawkins, Diamond and Lomborg. Barry also discusses the relationship between the environment and gender, postmodernism, risk society schools of thought, and orthodox economic thinking. He concludes with an argument for an interdisciplinary green social theoretical approach to environmental issues.

Bauer brings together eight case studies of industrial pollution and nature protection in China, Japan, India, and the US, along with commentary articles. The case studies include: air pollution in Benxi (China), wetlands preservation in the Sanjiang Plain (China), industrial water pollution in Minamata Bay (Japan), power generation versus nature preservation at Lake Biwa and the Nagara River (Japan), industrial air pollution in Delhi (India), fisheries management in Kerala (India), hazardous oil pollution in Grand Bois (US), and the development of the eco-community of Civano (US). The commentaries on the case studies represent an attempt to understand values cross-nationally in China, Japan, India, and the US and include: (1) “The Value of Legality in Environmental Action” by Sheila Jasanoff, (2) “Environmental Transformation and the Values of


—Bhattacharjee, Yudhijit. “A Sluggish Response to Humanity's Biggest Mass Poisoning.” *Science* Vol. 315, no. 5819 (23 March 2007): 1659-61. In India, in the region of Chandalathi, a series of wells were drilled to provide water, since the surface water had become increasingly polluted and in short supply. However, the well water proved to have high levels of naturally occurring arsenic, and more than 40 million people live in areas where such drilled wells have elevated levels of arsenic. In neighboring Bangladesh, over 82 million people are potentially affected. Drinking well water results in disease and death. The Indian government’s response has been slow and uncertain. Filters are an option, but filters are not well maintained. Drilling deeper wells produces clean water, but is expensive. Cleaning up the surface water is another option, and also is expensive. When such arsenic-laden aquifer water reaches the surface in springs and is exposed to air for a few days, the metal binds to iron oxides and other compounds and precipitates out of the water, but this does not happen in an enclosed tube well.

—Biro, Andrew. *Denaturalizing Ecological Politics: Alienation from Nature from Rousseau to the Frankfurt School and Beyond*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2005. Biro begins with a critique of deep ecology—which supposedly prioritizes nature over culture. He then explicates structuralist and poststructuralist social theorists who claim that nature is solely an effect of social human social structures. Biro then discusses Rousseau, Marx, Adorno, and Marcuse to develop a starting point for a denaturalized rethinking of ecological politics. He argues that an adequate understanding of human ecology must see human beings not as biologically separate from nature but as historically differentiated through their self-conscious transformation of the natural environment. After we grasp the complexities of how nature and the social are intertwined, we can work toward a liberatory human ecology by disentangling social relations and processes that serve to reinforce relations of domination.

—Boime, Eric. “Environmental History, the Environmental Movement, and the Politics of Power.” *History Compass* Vol. 6, no. 1 (2008): 297-313. While environmental history subsumes much more than the environmental movement, this movement remains standard, not to mention depressing, subject fodder in environmental history courses. Boime examines two emerging patterns in the historiography of environmental politics. The first is a vigorous focus on local, non-traditional, grassroots endeavors; these works spotlight unique and innovative coalitions that challenge the inevitability of class, race, and regional wedges. The second pattern examines the
field’s new cultural emphasis, particularly its concentration on hybrid landscapes and the explicit attack on preservationist ideology. Both patterns offer unique challenges to traditional depictions of the environmental movement as well as to each other.

—Boone, Randall B., Kathleen A. Galvin, Philip K. Thornton, David M. Swift, and Michael B. Coughenour. “Cultivation and Conservation in Ngorongoro Conservation Area, Tanzania.” Human Ecology Vol. 34, no. 6 (2006): 809-28. Ngorongoro Conservation Area, containing Ngorongoro Crater, one of the prime African wildlife habitats, as well as surrounding areas, is not a national park but designated as a conservation area to permit its use by Masai agro-pastoralists. This research examines the extent to which cultivation (in addition to grazing) impacts wildlife. There is no cultivation in the Crater, though there is some grazing. The authors conclude that the present cultivation patterns on surrounding lands (less than one percent of the area) is not overly detrimental to wildlife (or livestock) populations. But they express concern that increased cultivation increases the Masai population, non-Masai peoples are immigrating into the area to take advantage of cultivation, and cultivation cannot increase proportionately to population increase without both stressing wildlife populations and making the people increasingly dependent on relief aid. Boone is in the Natural Resource Ecology Laboratory at Colorado State University.

—Borgmann, Albert. Real American Ethics: Taking Responsibility for our Country. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2006. Borgmann discusses the institutions and tangible structures that Americans have built to create the United States and what kinds of life these make possible, as, for example, the Jeffersonian agrarian democracy. This backdrop that we have built is not neutral, passive, but is infused with moral content that shapes who we are and how we live. Today “ours is a decent country,” but one with troubling features, particularly its waning support for values of equality, dignity and justice, and for traditional American concerns for the poor and the environment. Increasingly these values are displaced by the focus on production, consumption, and affluence. Moral malaise and indifference more and more mark U.S. society. “The ground of contemporary culture must be so compacted and barren that a rich and grounded moral vision has a hard time taking root and gaining public support.” The urgent moral task is to recognize this relationship, take responsibility for it and ask what kind of life expresses our deepest shared values. Borgmann hopes to “widen the circle of well-being until it includes everyone in this country and on earth.” Borgmann’s book is reviewed by Dan Spencer, “What Consumes Us: The Deformation of American Values, Christian Century Vol. 124, no. 7 (April 3, 2007): 39-42.

“Compensation for Environmental Services and Rural Communities: Lessons from the Americas” by Herman Rosa, Deborah Barry, Susan Kandel, and Leopoldo Dimas, (10) “Certification Systems as Tools for Natural Asset Building” by Michael E. Conroy, (11)


—Buell, Lawrence. The Future of Environmental Criticism: Environmental Crisis and Literary Imagination. Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishing, 2005. “Ecocriticism is an umbrella term … used to refer to the environmentally oriented study of literature and (less often) the arts more
generally, and to the theories that underlie such critical practice” (p. 138). Buell traces the ecolcritical movement back to its roots in the 1970s to its proliferation and diversification today. He shows how ecocriticism has moved from the genres of nature writing and nature poetry to all of literary history and discourse, and he addresses issues such as the ecocriticism move from nature preservation to environmental justice, the meaning of place in a globalizing world, and the interaction of ecocritical aesthetic, ethical, and political concerns. Buell concludes by arguing that the discourses of the environment will become a permanent part of literary and cultural studies.


—Bulliet, Richard W. Hunters, Herders, and Hamburgers: The Past and Future of Human-Animal Relationships. New York: Columbia University Press, 2005. Bulliet explores four stages in the history the human-animal relationship—separation, predomesticity, domesticity, and postdomesticity. He begins with the question of when and why humans began to consider themselves distinct from other species and concludes with the human use of species as raw materials for various animal-product industries. He discusses changing philosophical, religious, and aesthetic viewpoints, as well as different ways various cultures have reinforced, symbolized, and rationalized their relations with animals.


—Campbell, Martha, John Cleland, Alex Ezeh, and Ndola Prata. “Return of the Population Growth Factor.” Science, Vol. 315, no. 5818 (16 March 2007): 1501-02. Between 2005 and 2050, the world population is projected to grow by 2.6 billion—a number roughly equal to the total global population in 1950. Decisions made now can influence the growth rate. Some nations have some success; most do not. In 1950 Sri Lanka had the same population as Afghanistan, but Sri Lanka implemented a realistic set of fertility regulation choices and as a result will have one-quarter of the population of Afghanistan a century later. In 1970, there were 5 million more people in Bangladesh than Pakistan, but Bangladesh focused on making family planning available in culturally acceptable ways, while Pakistan did not. As a result, by 2050 Pakistan will have 62 million more people than Bangladesh. Sir David King notes that “the massive growth in the human population through the 20th century has had more impact on biodiversity than any other single factor.”

—Cannavò, Peter F. The Working Landscape: Founding, Preservation, and the Politics of Place. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2007. Cannavò uses case studies of the debate over the logging of old-growth forests in the Pacific Northwest, the problems of urban sprawl, and the redevelopment of the former World Trade Center site in New York to discuss zero-sum conflict between nature preservation versus economic development, resource exploitation, and commodification as a contemporary crisis of place. To resolve this crisis, he offers theoretical and practical alternatives built upon an approach that unifies democratic governance and ecological values and that embraces both change and stability to create a “working landscape” in rural, suburban, and urban areas.

Chermak, David S. “Theoretical Environmental Philosophy Is Not Environmental Activism.” M.A. Thesis, Colorado State University, 2007. J. Baird Callicott claims that theoretical environmental philosophy is environmental activism, with a strong sense of how by offering good reasons justifying ethical beliefs, ethicists may affect the actions of individuals. Callicott’s ethic is grounded in an evolutionary-ecological worldview, which understands humans as a part of the greater biotic community, which leads to the realization that we ought intrinsically to value nature, expanding our moral sentiments. Callicott believes that his environmental ethic demonstrates why individuals ought to value the natural world, and he asserts that his ethic is genuinely normative. Callicott’s claim to normativity fails, however, as he is unable to bridge the is/ought gap. There does not seem to be a rationally compelling argument from the evolutionary-ecological worldview to an environmental ethic. Though Callicott’s ethic lacks normative force, it remains important in a descriptive sense. Humans naturally grant broaden their identification to include family, friends, and community. Viewing humans as a part of a large biotic community further broadens their identification to include the natural world, as is promoted by deep ecologists. Such an outlook has been a powerful source of motivation for committed environmental activists, although it is not rationally compelling. Bernard Rollin and Holmes Rolston were advisors.

Christofferson, April. “Setting the Record Straight: Native Americans and Yellowstone, Past Present and Future.” Yellowstone Discovery. Publication of the Yellowstone Association, Vol. 22, no. 3 (Fall 2007). Some new data counter the numerous early records that found few Native Americans in Yellowstone. Christofferson gives a more politically correct account of the Native Americans in Yellowstone, particularly the Bannock. One account now revised is that the American Indians stayed away because they feared the spooky geothermal features.

Cohen, Jon. “The Endangered Lab Chimp.” Science Vol. 315, no. 5811 (26 January 2007): 450-52. A decline in the number of chimpanzees available for biomedical research in the U.S. has sparked a growing debate on the opportunities and costs of studies with our closest relatives. Most primate researchers now consider invasive experiments with chimps unethical, in most circumstances. But medical researchers reply that, nevertheless, primate research has led to enormously valuable medical advances in the past and may well do so in the future. It may also be unethical to forego such research.

Cohen, Jon. “NIH to End Chimp Breeding for Research.” Science Vol. 316, no. 5829 (1 June 2007): 1265. The NIH will end chimp breeding for research, claiming care for the 650 animals is too expensive. There had already been a moratorium on such breeding. Animal welfare groups welcome the decision, even while NIH officials deny that they made the decision on ethical grounds. Many researchers decry the decision, claiming that much benefit to human medicine can yet be gained from chimp research. This captive population will die out, although private facilities also have about 500 chimps.


—de Waal, Frans. Primates and Philosophers: How Morality Evolved. Stephen Macedo and Josiah Ober, eds. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2006. Contemporary evolutionary biology takes far too dim a view of the natural world, emphasizing our “selfish” genes. Science has thus exacerbated our reciprocal habits of blaming nature when we act badly and label the good things we do as “humane.” De Waal is the Yerkes is at the Yerkes National Primate Center at Emory University.

—Deane-Drummond, Celia. Wonder and Wisdom: Conversations on Science, Spirituality and Theology. London: Darton Longman and Todd, 2006. Joining wonder and wisdom can lead to new understandings of the relation between science and religion including debates about the origin of the cosmos and the wonder arising from these discoveries, the way naturalists have come to appreciate the natural diversity on earth as charged with wonder, how evolutionary convergence and design in the natural world might mesh with a theological understanding of natural wisdom, the notion of God as wisdom, the paradox of Christ’s crucifixion demonstrating God’s wisdom, and wonder “chastened” in the light of the wisdom of God and the wisdom of the cross.

—Desmond, Kevin. Planet Savers: 301 Extraordinary Environmentalists. Sheffield, UK: Greenleaf Publishing, 2007. Desmond tells stories about 301 people who, between 1858 and 1997, have spoken up and/or taken action to defend the world from pollution, deforestation, species loss, and climate change.


—Environment Yale. The Journal of the School of Forestry and Environmental Studies Vol. 6, no. 2 (Fall 2007). This book contains discussions of bioenergy, cap and trade control of CO₂, the emerging alliance of religion and ecology, and conservation economy in indigenous culture in Australia.

—Erhard, Nancie. Moral Habitat: Ethos and Agency for the Sake of Earth. Albany: State University of New York Press, 2007. Environmental ethics, featuring “otherkind” and humankind, contributes to our moral imagination. Our moral imaginations and moral norms have been shaped by Earth in diverse biotic communities. Weaving together science and religion with indigenous and womanist traditions, Erhard uses examples from a variety of sources, including post-Cartesian science, the Old Testament, and the Mi’kmaq tribe of Eastern Canada. Each portrays the agency—including the moral agency—of the natural world. This radically undermines anthropocentrism. Erhard is in comparative religious ethics at Saint Mary’s University in Halifax, Nova Scotia.
—Feeley, Kenneth J., S. Josephy Wright, M.N. Nur Supardi, Abd Rahman Kassim, and Stuart J. Davies. “Decelerating Growth in Tropical Forest Trees.” Ecology Letters Vol. 10, no. 6 (2007): 461-69. The topic is climate change and tropical forests. One prediction has been that more CO2 in the atmosphere might act as fertilizer, speeding up photosynthesis, causing trees to grow faster and larger, sequestering more CO2 in woody tree tissues. To that extent, the problem might be self-fixing: more human-introduced CO2 leads to more sequestering in tree body mass. But in an extensive study of data from tropical forests just the opposite was found; growth rates have been declining. Scientists are unsure why the counterintuitive result. Some speculation is that local increases in rainfall lead to less sunlight for photosynthesis. In any case, contrary to the problem being self-fixing, it seems to be self-aggravating. This article is also summarized in “The Impact of Climate Change on Tropical Forests” by Robert E. Cook, Public Garden Vol. 22, no. 2 (2007): 10-11.


—Flannery, Tim. The Weather Makers: How Man Is Changing the Climate and What It Means for Life on Earth. New York: Atlantic Monthly Press, 2006. There is evidence that a runaway greenhouse effect has begun. Negative feedback mechanisms are being replaced by positive, feed forward ones. Earth is transitioning to a new equilibrium and humans may be powerless to halt this process. Before the end of this century, it is likely that 60 percent of all species on Earth will be extinct. Flannery is an Australian scientist, recently named “Australian of the Year.”

—Fothergill, Alastair. Planet Earth As You’ve Never Seen It Before. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2007. This is the companion book to the Discovery Channel/BBC series. The series was one of the most ambitious natural history projects ever undertaken, with the latest in state-of-the-art cameras and high-definition technology.

—Fox, Warwick. A Theory of General Ethics: Human Relationships, Nature, and the Built Environment. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2006. Fox develops an ethical “theory of everything” that encompasses interhuman ethics, the natural environment, and the built environment. He argues that examples in any domain of interest exemplify a quality of responsive cohesion, and it is the relational quality of such cohesion that represents the most fundamental value there is. From this “theory of responsible cohesion,” Fox develops a “theory of contexts” and a differentiated model of human obligations in respect of all beings. He tests his theory against eighteen central problems in ethics, including challenges raised by abortion, architecture, animal welfare, ecological management, euthanasia, invasive species, personal obligations, planning, and politics.

—Freinkel, Susan. American Chestnut: The Life, Death, and Rebirth of a Perfect Tree. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2007. Freinkel discusses the loss of a great American tree from an exotic fungus in the early twentieth century, one of the worst ecological upsets since the Ice Age,
and determined efforts to save and restore the chestnut, from classical plant breeding to gene
technology. Freinkel is a science journalist.

—German Advisory Council on Global Change. *Climate Change as a Security Risk*. London: Earthscan Publications, 2008. This new report is based on the findings of research into environmental conflicts, the causes of war, and of climate impact research. It appraises past experience but also ventures to cast a glance far into the future in order to assess the likely impacts of climate change on societies, nation-states, regions and the international system. The core message of this report is that without resolute counteraction, climate change will overstretch many societies’ adaptive capacities. In some regions of the world, this may result in internal destabilization processes and state failure with diffuse conflict structures, inter-state conflicts and an overstretching of the international system. Classic security policy cannot respond adequately to these new threats to international stability. Climate policy and strategies for adaptation to climate change are thus emerging as key elements of preventive security policy.

—Gibbons, Ann. “Spear-Wielding Chimps Seen Hunting Bush Babies.” *Science* Vol. 315, no. (23 February 2007): 1063. Chimps have been seen thrusting a pointed stick into a hole and pulling out a bush baby and eating it. They have been seen thrusting such sticks dozens of time, but only once with success (in 2,500 hours of observation). Chimps, of course, regularly thrust sticks (smaller ones) into termite mounds, draw it out, and eat the termites. Some wonder if they intend to hunt bushbabies, perhaps they only probe around with sticks and rarely luck up. Nevertheless, primatologists are excited about it.

—Gibbons, Ann. “Food for Thought.” *Science* Vol. 316, no. 5831 (15 June 2007): 1558-60. Did the first cooked meals help fuel the dramatic evolutionary expansion of the human brain? Brains take a lot of energy, especially human brains, and this takes food. Also the human brain in evolutionary history expands greatly in size and rapidly. Richard Wrangham, Harvard primatologist, has been arguing that as humans learned to cook food this gave them a new energy source which fueled the rapid expansion of their brains, compared with other primates, such as chimpanzees, who never learned to cook. But his critics say that the timing is wrong: humans had big brains long before there is any evidence they cooked their food. This has led to debate over how long humans have used fire and in what ways. Fire has been used by hominoids for perhaps 800,000 years but there is evidence for cooking over fires only for about 100,000 years.


—Grimm, David. “This Man Wants to Green Your Lab.” *Science* Vol. 318, no. 5847 (5 October 2007): 39-41. Allen Doyle, a soil ecologist at the University of California, Santa Barbara, finds that too many scientists, though they may be green at home, forget about whether their labs are green. Getting the research done and published takes top priority, with the ecological footprint of the lab ignored. Doyle lists many ways to save money, be more efficient, and “green” at the same time. He finds some scientists co-operative, but most still have no time to think about it. In his own lab building, he saved $16,000 a year just by turning off unused ventilation hoods. Some of the major issues include recycling plastic tubes and old electronics.


—Heyd, Thomas. *Encountering Nature: Toward an Environmental Culture*. Williston, VT: Ashgate Publishing, 2007. Heyd claims that an attentive encounter with nature is of key importance for the development of an environmentally appropriate culture. He argues that environmental degradation should be conceived as the consequence of a cultural mismatch—our cultures don’t seem to be appropriate to the natural environment in which we move and on which we depend in thoroughgoing ways. To address this, Heyd weaves together a tapestry of perspectives on human interactions with the natural world that includes chapters on topics such as environmental ethics in the workplace, environment and culture in Latin America, Basho and wandering aesthetics, rock art, mining reclamation, northern plains boulder structures, and Japanese gardens.

—Jamieson, Dale. *Ethics and the Environment: An Introduction*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2008. Jamieson presents both a sophisticated introduction to environmental ethics and his own positions on a number of issues. He begins by discussing the environment as an ethical question, including technological, economic, religious, and aesthetic considerations. Subsequent chapters focus on topics such as human morality, metaethics, normative ethics (consequentialism, virtue ethics, and Kantianism), animal ethics, biocentrism and ecocentrism, and justice.

—Jenson, Derrick. *Endgame: The Problem of Civilization (Volume 1)*. *Endgame: Resistance Volume 2).* New York: Seven Stories Press, 2006. Jensen begins this 900 page, two-volume set with twenty premises. Premise One is: “Civilization is not and never can be sustainable. This is especially true for industrial civilization” (p. ix). This premise is really the conclusion of Volume I—a long critique of what is wrong with human civilization and why the needs of the natural world are more important than any needs of human economic systems. In Volume II, Jenson argues that because human civilization will not undergo a voluntary transformation to live sanely and sustainably with the natural world, civilization needs to be brought down violently.

—Johnson, Michael L. *Hunger for the Wild: America’s Obsession with the Untamed West*. Lawrence: University of Kansas Press, 2007. Johnson provides a historical and cultural analysis of how wildness has shaped the ways Euro-Americans have perceived, reacted to, and acted upon the American West as waste, a promised land, a frontier, a region, and a postregion from the 1530s to today. He discusses a variety of historical topics such as conquistadors, Euro-American explorers and settlers, cowboys, myths of American Indians as noble savages and red devils, Wild West shows, and Dust Bowl woes, leading up the contemporary West’s overtaxed water supplies, sprawling suburbs, degraded wilderness areas, and Disneyfied frontier inhabited by everyone from UFO fanatics to postregional cowgirls. Johnson is an English professor at the University of Kansas and is the recipient of a number of awards, including the Western Writers of America Spur Award.

Good: Sustainability and Catholic Social Teaching” by Russell Butkus and Steven Kolmes, University of Portland (pp. 403-36), (12) “Educating Practically Wise Professionals: The Role of the Catholic Social Tradition in Catholic Universities” by Stephen Miles, Loyola College (MD), and Michael Naughton Deborah Ruddy, University of St. Thomas (MN) (pp. 437-57), (13) “Problematic Uses of Patristic Sources in the Documents of Catholic Social Teaching” by Brian Matz, Katholieke Universiteit, Leuven (459-85), (14) “What Is Happening to Our Beautiful Land? A Pastoral Letter” Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines (pp. 487-96), and (15) “A Bibliography on Ecology and Religion” by Christopher Janosik, Villanova University (pp. 497-99).

—Kauffman, Stuart A. “Beyond Reductionism: Reinventing the Sacred.” Edge (November 17, 2006). Edge is online at: <http://www.edge.org>. “National parks are valuable because life is valuable on its own, a wonder of emergence, evolution and creativity. Reality is truly stunning.” Kauffman argues that scientists should reinvent the sacred as this stunning creativity, which theologians have called God. Kauffman is in biology and physics at the University of Calgary and is also at the Sante Fe Institute.


—Kerr, Richard A. “Global Warming is Changing the World.” Science Vol. 316, no. 5822 (13 April 2007): 188-90. Another Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) declares in no uncertain terms that the world is warming and that humans are mostly to blame. Humans are altering their world and the life in it by altering climate. Looking ahead, global warming’s impacts will only worsen.

—Kerr, Richard A. “Mammoth-Killer Impact Gets Mixed Reception from Scientists.” Science Vol. 316, no. 5829 (1 June 2007): 1264-65. Some scientists claim that an exploding comet wreaked havoc on both humans and animals, including mammoths, some 13,000 years ago. But other scientists are unconvinced by the evidence. Kerr’s article is another in a series of “impact wars,” controversies over whether and how far extinctions and other disruptions on Earth can be attributed to extraterrestrial causes.


—Kerry, John, and Teresa Heinz Kerry. This Moment on Earth: Today’s New Environmentalists and Their Vision for the Future. New York: Perseus Group, Public Affairs Books, 2007. This is a call to environmentalism by the former Democratic presidential candidate and his wife. The environment, and the movement that grew up to protect it, is under attack—concerted and purposeful. Yet the need for solutions to pressing environmental problems grows more urgent each day. These issues unite people across party and ideological lines. From the San Juan Basin to the Gulf of Mexico to the South Bronx, from mothers on Cape Cod to Colorado ranchers, the Kerrys find a vibrant coalition of people and communities deploying ingenuity, technology, and sheer will power to save the world they know and love. They focus on these new environmental pioneers.

—Kheel, Marti. *Nature Ethics: An Ecofeminist Perspective.* Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, 2007. Kheel discusses four representatives of holist philosophy—Theodore Roosevelt, Aldo Leopold, Holmes Rolston III, and Warwick Fox—and argues that their moral allegiance to abstract constructs such as species and ecosystems represents a masculinist orientation that devalues concern for individual animals. She develops an ecofeminist philosophy that stresses the importance of care and empathy for both individual beings and larger wholes. Her discussion of Fox as a transpersonal Self deep ecologist is somewhat dated, as Fox is no longer a deep ecologist.

—Kintisch, Eli. “Making Dirty Coal Plants Cleaner.” *Science* Vol. 317, no. 5835 (13 July 2007): 184-86. Worldwide and also in the U.S., coal plants produce about one-third of all carbon dioxide emissions. In the U.S., this greatly surpasses all the emissions produced by cars and all other industries combined. China is now the largest carbon dioxide emitter. But cleaning up the dirt plants is not cheap.


—Leopold, A. Carl. “Living with the Land Ethic.” BioScience Vol. 54, no. 2 (2004): 149-54. The son of Aldo Leopold looks at how the land ethic has developed since his father launched it, with some reminiscences about his father. “The entry of ethical concepts into ecological thinking has provided a powerful new guiding principle….. Aldo Leopold’s new paradigm of the land ethic—a new perspective on conservation ecology through ethical precepts—has lead to the appearance of new journals, new professional societies, and numerous new books concerned with environmental ethics.” The book includes a bush diagram of some examples of bioethical concepts that have emerged from the land ethic.

September 2007): 1513-16. Integrated studies of coupled human and natural systems reveal new and complex patterns and processes not evident when studied by natural or social scientists. Six case studies from around the world show that these couplings vary widely across space, time, and organizational units. These couplings also exhibit nonlinear dynamics with thresholds, reciprocal feedback loops, time lags, resilience, heterogeneity, and surprises. Past couplings have legacy effects on present conditions and future possibilities.

—Local Environment: The International Journal of Justice and Sustainability Vol. 12, no. 6 (2007). This is a special issue on environmental justice in Canada. Contents include: (1) “Environmental Justice in Canada” by Randolph Haluza-Delay (pp. 557-64), (2) “Where the Waters Divide: First Nations, Tainted Water and Environmental Justice in Canada” by Michael Mascarenhas (pp. 565-77), (3) “Support for First Nations’ Land Claims amongst Members of the Wilderness Preservation Movement: The Potential for an Environmental Justice Movement in British Columbia” by Joanna L. Robinson, D.B. Tindall, Erin Seldat, and Gabriela Pechlaner (pp. 579-98), (4) “Environmental Justice across the Rural Canadian Prairies: Agricultural Restructuring, Seed Production and the Farm Crisis” by Lorelei L. Hanson (pp. 599-611), (5) “Salmon Farming in First Nations’ Territories: A Case of Environmental Injustice on Canada’s West Coast” by Justin Page (pp. 613-26), (6) “Arctic Climate Impacts: Environmental Injustice in Canada and the United States” by Sarah F. Trainor, F. Stuart Chapin III, Henry P. Huntington, David C. Natcher, and Gary Kofinas (pp. 627-43), (7) “Environmental Racialization: Linking Racialization to the Environment in Canada” by Cheryl Teelucksingh (pp. 645-61), and (8) “‘British Columbia is Open for Business’: Environmental Justice and Working Forest News in the Vancouver Sun” by Mark C.J. Stoddart (pp. 663-74).

—Lohman, David J., David Bickford, and Navjot S. Sodhi. “The Burning Issue.” Science Vol. 316, no. 5823 (20 April 2007): 376. Widespread burning of using fire to clear land causes widespread air pollution in Southeast Asia. The burning is both by large scale commercial tree plantations and by numerous small farmers. Often illegal, the burning continues nonetheless, with both environmental degradation and harm to human health.

—Lomborg, Bjørn. Cool It: The Skeptical Environmentalist’s Guide to Global Warming. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2007. Cool the rhetoric, mostly, with some plans also to cool the planet. “The broader problem with the climate-change concern: once you look closely at the supporting data, the narrative falls apart” (p. 4). This is side-by-side with: “Global warming is real and man-made. It will have a serious impact on humans and the environment toward the end of this century” (p. 8).

—Lopez, Barry, ed. Home Ground: Language for an American Landscape. San Antonio: Trinity University Press, 2006. Forty-five journalists, novelists, poets, and essayists are here invited to reflect on the names, mostly topographic features—prairie, savanna, desert, forest, jackstraw timber, drumlin, esker, ceja, bogan—and sometimes proper names that people have given to features of the American landscape. This anthology contains more than 850 entries.


—Lytle, Mark Hamilton. The Gentle Subversive: Rachel Carson, Silent Spring, and the Rise of the Environmental Movement. New York: Oxford University Press, 2007. The DDT concern was serious and launched Carson’s thinking, but Carson became and was viewed as a threat because she was making a profound critique of a worldview that locates human beings at the center of the universe and the natural world at the periphery. She was calling into question the paradigm of scientific progress that defined postwar American culture. She advanced a biocentric paradigm, where humans are one among many species that interact in an intricate ecological web. Lytle also argues that Carson’s nature-centered perspective was nurtured by her Presbyterian mother who taught her to observe nature closely, to love the natural world, and to return to its natural habitat whatever specimen she brought home. As an adult Carson no longer held to the Christian faith, but resented being called an atheist. “As far as I am concerned,” she wrote, “there is absolutely no conflict between a belief in evolution and a belief in God as creator.”

—Malhi, Yadvinder, J. Timmons Roberts, Richard A. Betts, Timothy J. Killeen, Wenhong Li, and Carlos A. Nobre. “Climate Change, Deforestation, and the Fate of the Amazon.” Science Vol. 319, no. 5860 (11 January 2008): 169-72. The forest biome of Amazonia is one of Earth’s greatest biological treasures and a major component of the Earth system. This century it faces the dual threats of deforestation and stress from climate change. The authors summarize some of the latest findings and thinking about these threats, explore the consequences for the forest ecosystem and its human residents, and outline options for the future of Amazonia.

—Martin, Vance G. *The Wild Planet Project*, Special Publication of the WILD Foundation, in cooperation with the *International Journal of Wilderness*. Boulder, CO: The Wild Foundation, 2007. (See also <www.wild.org>.) The Wild Planet Project focuses on wilderness in international and global contexts, and here are a dozen short articles summarizing that experience over several decades, which has led up to the Wild Planet Project. Vance discusses the benefits of wilderness (especially in and to third world countries), policy tools for wilderness designation, ocean wilderness, private sector wilderness, wilderness and biodiversity, and more.


—McKibben, Bill. “Last Best Chance for Baby Boomers to Help the Next Generation.” *Earth Letter* (Spring 2007): 1, 12-13. The college movement against climate change is among the most sophisticated parts of the environmental effort. It could be yet more effective. This article appeared earlier in *Orion* (November-December 2006).

—Merchant, Carolyn. *American Environmental History: An Introduction*. New York: Columbia University Press, 2007. Merchant’s illustrated environmental history begins with precolonial land-use practices of Native American Indians and ends with the global ecological crisis of the twenty-first century. She discusses issues such as slavery, the expulsion of native peoples from national parks, population growth, suburban sprawl, wilderness preservation, the environmental justice movement, globalization, and the formative forces of race, gender, and class.


—Miller, Greg. “All Together Now—Pull!” *Science* Vol. 317, no. 5843 (7 September 2007): 1338-40. Miller researches social behavior in chimpanzees, particularly how far and when they will cooperate with each other to gain food that is out of reach by together pulling ropes that enables them to retrieve the food. Some do, some don’t, and some are more tolerant of collaboration than others. Behavior may depend on whether food is, or has been, shared. Most such behavior is with captive chimps in laboratory conditions. Little such behavior has been observed in the wild.

—Montgomery, David R. *Dirt: The Erosion of Civilizations*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2007. We are—and long have been—losing soil. Cultivated soils erode bit by bit, slowly enough to be ignored in a single lifetime but fast enough over centuries to limit the lifespan of civilizations. Montgomery is in earth science at the University of Washington.

—Morell, Virginia. “Can the Wild Tiger Survive?” *Science* Vol. 317, no. 5843 (7 September 2007): 1312-14. Wild tigers are on the verge of extinction in most of Asia, and perhaps 3,000 remain, reduced from 100,000 a century back. There are perhaps stable populations only in Nepal and Bangladesh. There are some 11,000 in captivity, often genetically depauperate. China is advocating reintroducing tigers into the wild from its breeding centers, but critics doubt
the wisdom of this, doubting the genetic integrity of the captive tigers, and arguing that habitat
loss and poaching is the main issue.

Performance of Voluntary Environmental Programs in the U.S., Europe, and Japan.*
The Challenge of Evaluating Voluntary Programs” by Richard D. Morgenstern and William A.
Pizer, (2) “The U.S. 33/50 Voluntary Program: Its Design and Effectiveness” by Madhu Khanna,
(3) “Japan’s Keidanren Voluntary Action Plan on the Environment” by Masayo Wakabayashi
and Taishi Sugiyama, (4) “Climate Change Agreements in the United Kingdom: A Successful
Policy Experience?” by Matthieu Glachant and Gildas de Muizon, (5) “Evaluation of the Danish
Agreements on Industrial Energy Efficiency” by Signe Krarup and Katrin Millock, (6)
“Assessing Voluntary Commitments in the German Cement Industry: The Importance of
Baselines” by Christoph Böhringer Manuel Frondel, (7) “Evaluating Voluntary U.S. Climate
Programs: The Case of Climate Wise” by Richard D. Morgenstern, William A. Pizer, and Jhih-
Programs in California” by Alan H. Sanstad, and (9) “Concluding Observations: What Can We

—Morris, Mary Hallock. “The Political Strategies of Winning and Losing Coalitions:
Agricultural and Environmental Groups in the Debate over Hypoxia.” *Politics & Policy*, Vol. 35,
no. 4 (2007): 836-71. This article presents a new typology that can be used to assess the political
strategies used by winners and losers, ranging from mobilization to venue shifts and issue
framing, of the debate over the dead zone of the Gulf of Mexico.

—Myers, M. D., M.A. Ayers, J.S. Baron, P.R. Beauchemin, K.T. Gallagher, M.B. Goldhaber,
D.R. Hutchinson, J.W. LaBaugh, R.G. Sayre, S.E. Schwarzbach, E.S. Schweig, J.
Thormodsgard, C. van Riper III, and W. Wilde. “USGS Goals for the Coming Decade.” *Science*
sets as major research goals “understanding ecosystems and predicting ecosystem change.”
Perhaps somewhat surprisingly, the geological agency, far from simply mapping rocks, mineral
deposits, aquifers, and rivers, says: “USGS will develop and convey a fundamental
understanding of ecosystem distributions and their components and dynamics…. USGS is the
primary governmental agency responsible for wildlife research and has, for example, been
heavily involved in tracking bird deaths from West Nile virus.” One wonders how this is shared
with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Meanwhile, the USGS concern for sustainability and
environmental health is welcome.

Society Report, released June 14, 2007. See:
<http://www.audubon.org/bird/stateofthebirds/CBID/>. There are alarming declines for many of
the most common U.S. native birds. Since 1967, bobwhites have decreased 82%, evening
grosbeaks 78%, northern pintails 77%, eastern meadowlarks 72%, loggerhead shrikes 71%, field
sparrows 68%, and whip-poor-wills 57%. A few species, those that do well in the suburbs, have
increased in number. The principal cause of decline is loss of habitat.

Northcott, Michael S. *A Moral Climate: The Ethics of Global Warming*. London: Darton, Longman and Todd, 2007. Responses to the challenge of global warming require very large changes, locally, globally, individually, corporately, and fundamentally. A central change is learning to put the common good ahead of selfish interests. That requires weaving together the physical climate and the moral climate. There are opportunities for relieving the worst from climate change, but equally for facing and solving other problems: world poverty, the rich/poor divide, overuse of resources, and the appreciation and conservation of the non-human creation. Northcott teaches Christian ethics at New College at the University of Edinburgh.

Norton, Bryan G. *Sustainability: A Philosophy of Adaptive Ecosystem Management*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2005. Beginning with his experiences as a philosopher working at the Environmental Protection Agency, Norton argues that the central problem of environmentalism and environmental protection is a lack of effective communication. Following his interpretation of Aldo Leopold as an anthropocentric holist, environmental pragmatist, and adaptive manager, Norton critiques both environmental economics and intrinsic value approaches to environmental ethics and, in their place, develops a theory of environmental values as community commitments and a normative vocabulary that will encourage interdisciplinary communication and social learning about environmental problems. Norton’s adaptive ecosystem management is an American pragmatist-inspired account of experience, truth, and language motivated by the social values of democratic communities. He defines sustainability as “a relationship between generations such that the earlier generations fulfill their individual wants and needs so as not to destroy, or close off, important and valued options for future generations” (p. 363). Environmental philosophers should no longer articulate values but instead should only offer heuristics and linguistic choices to help improve communication among the stakeholders of democratic communities. The field of environmental ethics becomes a subfield of adaptive management science.

O’Neill, John, Alan Holland, and Andrew Light. *Environmental Values*. London: Routledge, 2008. In order to address value conflicts, the authors begin with an explication and critique of utilitarianism which, through welfare economics and cost-benefit analysis, has dominated much public policy making. They find utilitarianism problematic for a number of reasons, including utilitarianism that relies upon moral monism. They also problematize nonanthropocentric approaches to environmental ethics that rely upon a form of moral monism—including biocentric moral considerability and realist accounts of intrinsic value. The authors defend a pluralistic alternative that is rooted in the everyday relations of humans to the environment; this allows human needs to be integrated with environmental protection through an understanding of the history and narrative of particular places. They conclude with the implications of their theory of environmental values for biodiversity conservation, sustainability, and public decision-making.

globally, its distribution and availability is problematic, and one-third of the people on Earth live in water-stressed environments, with either a lack of water or polluted water. This is a lead article in a series of water articles about pollutants in aquatic systems, waterborne infectious diseases (the authors are optimistic that such diseases can be eliminated on Earth), water in the Middle East, desalinization, and shifts in arctic and subarctic freshwater cycles.

—Oliveri, Paula, and Eric H. Davidson. “Built to Run, Not Fail.” *Science* Vol. 315, no. 5818 (16 March 2007): 1510-11. Networks of genes that control organism development are highly conserved across processes and species. There is often “overlayed” circuit engineering, with multiple fail-safe and backup circuits. “We may interpret this as we like—as over-engineering; or as design deluxe, replete with bells and whistles; or as the expected result of an evolutionary process in which individual regulatory modules have been added in and overlain at different times.” So it turns out that organisms are well designed after all, only this design is produced by the grim pressures of natural selection. The authors are in biology at California Institute of Technology, Pasadena.

—Olsson, I. Anna S., Axel K. Hansen, and Peter Sandoe. “Ethics and Refinement in Animal Research.” *Science* Vol. 317, no. 5845 (21 September 2007): 1680. Science journals that publish research resulting from animal studies should ensure that referees evaluating such manuscripts seriously consider whether submitted the studies were carried out with the smallest achievable negative impact on the research animals. If not, the papers should be rejected.

—Oppenheimer, Michael, Brian C. O’Neill, Mort Webster, and Shardul Agrawala. “The Limits of Consensus.” *Science* Vol. 317, no. 5844 (14 September 2007): 1505-06. The pressures to reach consensus (and scientific credibility) in the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), in its recent Fourth Assessment Report may mean that the report underestimates the risks. Consensus may now be less important than a full exploration of the uncertainties (which scientists de-emphasize with their consensus) and policies that result from facing such risks.

—Parry, Ian W. H. “Should We Abandon Cap and Trade in Favor of a CO2 Tax?” *Resources* (Resources for the Future) No. 166 (Summer 2007): 6-12. Parry discusses the pros and cons of controlling carbon emissions by a carbon tax versus the prevailing idea that emissions trading is better.


—Pearce, Fred. *When the Rivers Run Dry: Water—the Defining Crisis of the Twenty-First Century*. Boston: Beacon Press, 2006. Many rivers around the globe are overtapped and barely make it to the sea, especially where there are long dry seasons. Irrigation accounts for 70% of
water consumption globally, including 90% of water consumption in many Asian countries. There is already much abandoned land as a result of failed irrigation from lack of water, often where water no longer flows downstream. Water, as much as oil, may drive politics and crises in the Middle East. The bottom line is efficiency or else.

—Pedrós-Alió, Carlos. “Dipping into the Rare Biosphere.” *Science* Vol. 315, no. 5809 (12 January 2007): 192-93. Recent advances in microbial DNA sequencing are revealing huge dimensions of microbial diversity hidden in nature. This is especially true in marine microbial biodiversity. In the sea, there may be millions to hundreds of millions of species. Such species, surprisingly, may be rare. They reproduce by cloning, not sexually (since sexed rare species have difficulty finding a mate), and individuals can be long-lived. Pedrós-Alió is in marine biology at the Institut de Ciències del Mar, Barcelona, Spain.

—Peerman, Dean. “Unsportsmanlike Conduct.” *Christian Century* Vol. 124, no. 5 (2007): 10-11. Peerman laments “canned hunts.” There are some 1,000 canned hunt operations in the U.S., where, for thousands of dollars ($20,000 for an oryx, ibex, impala, rhino, jaguar) a “so-called” hunter can kill an animal, fenced in a (so-called) preserve. Many of the more exotic animals are aging or ailing castoffs from prestigious zoos. If one includes release and shoot bird operations, there are 3,000 such canned hunts.

—Pellow, David Naguib. *Resisting Global Toxics: Transnational Movements for Environmental Justice*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2007. Pellow uses his own research, interviews, and participant observations to build on environmental justice studies, environmental sociology, social movement theory, and race theory. He investigates global environmental inequality and considers the work of activists, organizations, and networks resisting it. He discusses the transnational waste trade in depth from the 1980s to today by examining global garbage dumping, the toxic pesticides that are the legacy of the Green Revolution in agriculture, and the dumping and remanufacturing of high-tech and electronics (e-waste) products in an attempt to develop a pragmatic path towards environmental justice, human rights, and sustainability.

—Peña, Devon G. *Mexican Americans and the Environment: Tierra y vida*. Tucson: University of Arizona Press, 2005. After beginning with an introduction to scientific and political ecology, Peña presents an environmental history of Mexican-origin peoples in the US and Mexico and shows how Norteño land use practices were eroded by the conquest of El Norte by the US. Peña offers critiques of mainstream American environmentalism (natural resources conservation, wilderness preservation, and professional environmentalism) and radical American environmentalism (deep ecology, social ecology, ecofeminism, ecosocialism, and bioregionalism) to develop an ecological politics of Mexican-origin peoples.

Pennisi, Elizabeth. “DNA Study Forces Rethink of What It Means to Be a Gene.” Science Vol. 316, no. 5831 (15 June 2007): 1556-57. Genes are more sprawling than once thought, with far-flung protein-coding and regulatory regions that overlap with other genes. Only about 2% of the human genome is protein-coding, but some 80% of the genes (once called “junk DNA”) are expressed. The genome is super complex. One researcher (Thomas Gingeras) says this means that “the gene” is no longer a useful concept. But Frances Collins, director of the Human Genome Project, says that the gene “is a concept that’s not going out of fashion” and that “we have to be more thoughtful about it.”


Peterson del Mar, David. Environmentalism. Harlow, UK: Pearson Education Ltd, 2006. Peterson del Mar examines the history of environmentalism as conservation and preservation movements and other forms of nature-loving. He argues that environmentalism has distracted us from creating a sensible and sustainable relationship with the environment.

Pollan, Michael. The Omnivore’s Dilemma: A Natural History of Four Meals. New York: Penguin Press, 2006. The “American paradox” is that we are a “notably unhealthy people obsessed by the idea of eating healthily.” Pollan eats four meals, following the origins and results of the food eaten. One is from an Iowa farm with confined animal feeding operation. One is a meal from an organic supermarket. One is on a small farm in Virginia run by a farmer who creatively exploits natural symbioses of plants and animals. The last is in the hunter-gatherer food chain. In closing he reflects on “the perfect meal,” with a true accounting of its benefits and costs.


—Pretty, Jules, Andy Ball, Ted Benton, Julia Guivant, David R. Lee, David Orr, Max Pfeffer, and Hugh Ward, eds. The SAGE Handbook of Environment and Society. London: SAGE Publications, 2007. This anthology is written from multi-disciplinary perspectives and is organized into seven sections: (1) environmental thought: past and present, (2) valuing the environment, (3) knowledges and knowing, (4) political economy of environmental change, (5) environmental technologies, (6) redesigning natures, and (7) institutions and policies for influencing the environment. Contributors include Ulrich Beck, Ted Benton, Warwick Fox, Amory Lovins, Mary Mellor, David W. Orr, Val Plumwood, David J. Rapport, Tom O’Riordan, and many others.

—Pruetz, Jill D., and Paco Bertolani. “Savanna Chimpanzees (Pan troglodytes verus) hunt with tools.” Current Biology Vol. 17, no. 5 (2007): 412-17. (With commentary from “Animal Cognition: Bring Me My Spear” by Richard W. Byrne, Current Biology Vol. 17, no. 5 (2007): R164-65.) Researchers in Senegal recently spotted wild chimpanzees biting the tips of sticks, which the chimps then used like spears to jab small primates called bushbabies. There are 22 such observations, though only once was a bushbaby actually killed, and critics wonder if perhaps the chimps were not more probing around than hunting with spears. But the researchers are convinced they used spears to hunt. Bushbabies are nocturnal and hide in holes in trees in the day. Chimps do regularly hunt mammals with their hands and teeth. See also the brief story: “Spear-Wielding Chimps Seen Hunting Bush Babies” by Ann Giddons,” Science Vol. 315, no. 5815 (23 February 2007): 1063.


—Redclift, Michael R. Frontiers: Histories of Civil Society and Nature. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2006. Redclift defines frontier areas as contested zones in which rival versions of civil society vie with one another, and he examines five case studies—the Spanish Pyrenees, the forest frontier of Canada, coastal Ecuador, the Yucatán peninsula, and the Mexican Caribbean coast—where civil societies emerged in frontier areas to either legitimize private holdings or manage common property. He argues that the frontier is a crucible where both civil institutions and nature develop and co-evolve in a dialectical fashion, and resistance to economic market pressures in frontier areas can create new avenues for political activity and the representation of cultural identity.

—Resources (Resources for the Future) Vol. 165 (Spring 1007). This is a themed issue entitled “Putting a Value on Nature’s Services,” mostly with attention to putting an economic value on nature’s services. The claims are of considerable success and simultaneously of much frustration.
about what values get left out or inadequately measured thereby. In “The Endpoint Problem,” James W. Boyd claims: “Look at an average refereed economic valuation of something in nature and what you’ll see is a very narrow view of nature” (p. 27).

—Revkin, Andrew. “Poorest Nations Will Bear Brunt as World Warms.” New York Times (April 1, 2007): 1, 6. While wealthy countries spend billions on themselves in preparation for global warming, they spend only millions on other nations, the latter of whom will bear the most damage from drought and rising sea levels caused by the wealthy nations.


—Rodrigues, Ana S.L. “Are Global Conservation Efforts Successful?” Science Vol. 313, no. 5790 (25 August 2006): 1051-52. Global conservation efforts have prevented the extinction of 31 bird species over the past century, but none of these are yet safe from extinction. Some 1,200 bird species are threatened or endangered. So global conservation efforts with birds have had limited success and have bought time for more adequate conservation measures.

—Rodriguez, J. P., A.B. Taber, P. Daszak, R. Sukumar, C. Valladares-Padua, S. Padua, L.F. Aguirre, R.A. Medellín, M. Acosta, A.A. Aguirre, C Bonacic, P. Bordino, J. Bruschini, D. Buchori, S. González, T. Mathew, M. Méndez, L. Mugica, L.F. Pacheco, A.P. Dobson, and M. Pearl “Globalization of Conservation: A View from the South.” Science Vol. 317, no. 5839 (10 August 2007): 755-56. Successful global strategies for biodiversity conservation require increasing reliance on local leadership and major investment in local capacity. There are doubts about the global conservation agenda of large NGOs, with their biodiversity hotspots, global ecoregions, etc. as being too “top down” and not “bottom up” from local peoples. “Generalized global approaches fail for biodiversity conservation at local scales because solutions … usually require a sense of community ownership.”


—Sagoff, Mark. “Can Environmentalists Keep Two Ideas in Mind and Still Function?” Philosophy and Public Policy Quarterly Vol. 27, no. 1/2 (Winter/Spring 2007): 2-7. “An intelligent society can hold two opposed ideas of nature … in mind … without trying to make them commensurable or reducing or collapsing either into the other.” One idea is nature as creation, sacred, and a source of meaning; the other idea is nature as resources to be developed for human benefit. Sagoff essentially recreates the debate between Muir and Pinchot. Sagoff is at the Institute for Philosophy and Public Policy at the University of Maryland.
—Sagoff, Mark. “Environmentalism: Death and Resurrection.” *Philosophy and Public Policy Quarterly* Vol. 27, no. 3/4 (Summer/Fall 2007): 2-9. “Because it is now caught up in a debate among environmental scientists, environmentalism has slipped from a popular spiritual or cultural cause and has become an academic research program…. The belief that ecosystems exhibit a hidden design… unites theoretical ecology with the tradition of ‘Great Chain of Being’ cosmology associated with philosophers of nature from neo-Platonic mystics to ‘deep ecologists today…. More recently, however, many ecologists have come to question whether the concept ‘ecosystem or ‘ecological community’ refers to anything that has any general design ecologists can study…. The environmental movement is dying because it expects science to maintain our faith in the rightness of nature and wrongness of humanity.” Nevertheless, Sagoff expects a resurrection when environmentalists reach out to the populist constituencies who gave them support decades ago: birders, hunters, anglers, backpackers, and religious persons who recognize a religious duty to care for creation.

—Schlosberg, David. *Defining Environmental Justice: Theories, Movements, and Nature*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2007. Schlosberg has two main tasks: (1) an exploration of how environmental justice movements define justice, and (2) an exploration of how to discuss justice across the species divide. His main argument is that a similar set of languages, tools, and concepts—including distributive, participatory, recognition, and capabilities approaches to justice—can be used for both environmental justice for people and ecological justice for nonhuman nature.


—Sedjo, Roger A. “From Oilfields to Energy Farms: A Brief Look at the Environmental Consequences of Biofuels.” *Resources* (Resources for the Future) Vol. 166 (Summer 2007): 16-19. Rising energy demand for corn has already created serious land-use conflicts in the United States, prompting farmers to shift production of other essential food commodities, like soybeans, to corn. Biofuel from grasses or wood may be less disruptive than from corn.

—Sen, Amartya. “Why We Should Preserve the Spotted Owl.” *London Review of Books* Vol. 26, no. 5 (February 2004). “Our living standards are largely—or completely—unaffected by the presence or absence of spotted owls, but I strongly believe that we should not let them become extinct, for reasons that have nothing much to do with human living standards.”

—Service, Robert F. “A Growing Threat Down on the Farm.” *Science* Vol. 316, no. 5828 (25 May 2007): 1114-17. Farmers have become dependent on an herbicide called glyphosate (tradename “Roundup”) and on crops engineered to resist it—so-called “Roundup Ready crops.” The herbicide kills all the weeds but the resistant crops grow unaffected by it. Over 50% of all soybeans and about 40% of all corn in the U.S. are modified as Roundup Ready crops. But their
weeds are rapidly becoming resistant, and researchers are scrambling for new alternatives. Glyphosate is claimed to be environmentally friendly; it doesn’t readily leach into water systems. Instead it latches tightly to soil particles and degrades within weeks into harmless byproducts. Also farmers who use it plow less, with less soil erosion.

—Smith, Bruce D. “The Ultimate Ecosystem Engineers.” *Science* Vol. 315, no. 5820 (30 March 2007): 1797-98. “Ecosystems engineers” has become a buzzword for animals that behave in ways that result in changes in their surrounding environment, such as beavers and their ponds. Here humans are called the ultimate ecosystem engineers, due to their management of wild plants—sowing, burning, weeding, irrigation, transplanting, mulching, and also their use of dogs. But the word “ultimate” is a considerable overstatement, since humans often modified landscapes only locally, often failed, often did not realize the results of that they were doing, and often had to abandon landscapes they had modified and degraded. Also, it is difficult for landscapes to recover from the remaining effects of human modification in the remote past.


—Snell, Marilyn Berlin. “Bulldozers and Blasphemy: In Latin America, Catholics Are Standing Up to those who Covet their Gold and Timber.” Sierra Vol. 92 (October 2007): 36-43, 63, 76. Latin American rural peoples and villagers are being displaced by large mines, often operated by Canadian firms and sometimes by U.S. firms. Latin American governments may be as interested in the tax and other income from the mines as they are the welfare of local peoples. But there is a “liberation ecology” movement, similar to the liberation theology movement. A growing number of Catholic clergy throughout Latin America have come to see protection of the land and water as God’s work, their duty to the region’s 500 million Catholics. They are often quite effective in organizing protests, so much so that one priest in Honduras requires bodyguards.


—Speth, James Gustave, and Peter M. Haas. Global Environmental Governance. Washington, DC: Island Press, 2006. This is the first volume in the new Island Press series “Foundations of Contemporary Environmental Studies.” Speth and Haas present an introduction to global environmental politics and international environmental law by focusing on the problems of acid rain, regional air pollution, ozone depletion, climate disruption, deforestation, land degradation and desertification, freshwater degradation and shortages, marine fisheries decline, toxic pollutants, biodiversity loss, and excess nitrogen. The authors discuss the Stockholm, Rio, and Johannesburg conferences and treaty regimes, and sort through the United Nations system as it pertains to the environment.

—Spezio, Teresa Sabol. Mountains in Every Direction: A Place-Based History of the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness Area. M.S. Thesis, University of Oregon, 2000. In Chapter III, “The Nimípu (Nez Perce) Relationship with Their Homeland,” Spezio does extensive interviews with Native American elders and finds that, although they do not consider themselves “visitors” on the landscape they regularly inhabited, they do recognize "titoqanót wétes, peopleless land or wilderness,” a pre-contact word that has kept the same meaning throughout the years. The word has many parallels with the definition of wilderness in the U.S. Wilderness Act, “where man is a visitor who does not remain.” Such lands were often those high and relatively difficult to reach for the Nimípu for the much of the year. Young men were often sent into this wilderness for a week as a rite of passage to maturity to show their competence on their own. Spezio also cites Haruo Aoka, Nez Perce Dictionary (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1994), p. 763. Spezio is currently a Ph.D. student in environmental history at the University of California, Davis.

—Stokstad, Erik. “Deadly Wheat Fungus Threatens World’s Breadbaskets.” Science Vol. 315, no. 5820 (30 March 2007): 1786-87. New mutations have resulted in the devastating spread of a killer wheat fungus. Causing black stem rust, the fungus destroyed wheat crops in the 1950s, but resistant wheat varieties were found during the Green Revolution. Now that the fungus is back, new varieties that attack previously resistant wheat have appeared in Uganda and Ethiopia and are rapidly spreading into the Middle East, from whence they may spread to Asia.

—Stone, Richard. “Can Palm Oil Plantations Come Clean?” Science Vol. 317, no. 5844 (14 September 2007): 1491. Palm oil has recently surpassed soybean as the top-selling vegetable oil in the world and has become Malaysia’s number one crop. But a just-completed review by three dozen academics details species declines pinned on the oil palm, a native of Africa that has now become a dominant feature of Southeast Asia’s landscape. Some scientists and like-minded industry people hope to cut the destruction of wildlife with better palm oil plantation practices.
The Chinese government has begun a massive engineering project to divert water from three southern rivers to the parched north—a controversial scheme for rearranging nature moving river flows over 1,000 kilometers with unknown consequences.

Some of the questions include agriculture, marine fisheries, forests, climate change, ecosystem function, ecosystem services, aliens, invasive species, recreation, field sports, pollution, energy, carbon management, land management, restoration, and biodiversity conservation. Policy is driven by broad interests rather than specific ones, but scientists are often best equipped to answer specific questions. Applied ecologists need to feed into policy more carefully and emphasize the generic relevance of their work.

Thomas presents a tribute to the San people of the Kalahari Desert in South Africa, the “bushmen,” and a lament about how they have been decimated by modernity, poverty, alcoholism, and AIDS.

Thompson evaluates the title question by discussing consumer rights of exit with respect to consumption of GM crops, environmental risk from GM crops, and the effectiveness of the scientific community in addressing non-technical issues that have been raised by GM crops. Three key theses are argued: (1) U.S. labeling policy for GM crops provides only tenuous protection for consumers’ ethical right to eat a diet that conforms to religious, cultural or politically based values; (2) environmental risks, though real, have been overstated by critics of GM crops, who have ignored significant environmental risks from non-GM agricultural technologies; and (3) although scientific bodies have done a credible job of addressing many technical issues on GM crops, their poor handling of human, social and other non-technical issues has tended to undermine public confidence in their willingness or ability to engage even the technical issues. As such, skepticism about GM crops is neither surprising nor entirely unjustified.

—Troesken, Werner. *The Great Lead Water Pipe Disaster*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2006. In the early 1900s, drinking water contaminated by lead pipes was the main source of human-ingested lead in the U.S. and Europe, bringing illness and death to millions of people. In areas where the waters were corrosive, such as Massachusetts and northern England, tap water contained a hundred times more lead than modern standards allow. This work surveys the discovery of this problem, unheeded evidence, disputed links, social factors leading to denial of the problem, court compounded problems about who was responsible, and political neglect. A well-intended change in water treatment and supply had the undesired consequences of increasing the water contamination. There could be lessons for contemporary environmentalism. Troesken’s book is reviewed by Rebecca Renner in “Plumb Crazy,” *Science* Vol. 315, no. 5819 (23 March 2007): 1669.

—Troster, Lawrence. “The Mountain and the River Valley: Environmentalism as the Foundation of Dialogue between Civilizations.” *Earth Letter* (Spring 2007) 8-9. In a speech given in Tehran, Iran, a rabbi argues that the environment is a universal human crisis that demands a universal human response, and is an issue on which people of all faiths can and must start a dialogue.


—Van Til, Kent A. *Two Dollars a Day: A Christian View of World Poverty*. Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans, 2007. We cannot assume that the free market will provide basic sustenance for all. The problem with the free market is that it distributes goods on only one basis—desert. You get what you earn, or you get what you can pay for. Most goods should be exchanged via the free market, but the justice of the marketplace is not sufficient. To argue against every form of redistribution of goods based on justice and benevolence is to ignore both history and the reality of power. Van Til is in religion at Hope College, Holland, MI.


—Weatherall, David, and Helen Munn. “Moving the Primate Debate Forward.” *Science* Vol. 316, no. 5822 (13 April 2007): 173. This editorial is about the recent United Kingdom report *The Use of Non-Human Primates in Research* of an independent group of scientists and nonscientists outside the primate research community that attempt to provide a better-informed basis for the debate. This report available through the UK Academy of Medical Sciences at:
The UK public accepts the need for animals in medical research, but dislikes the use of primates. No great apes have been used in research in the UK since 1986, so the report deals mostly with monkeys and their use in research in neurosciences, communicable diseases, vaccines for HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria. Generally the conclusion is that blanket prohibition is unwise due to the complexity of developing research and uncertain needs for the future. Primate research needs to be minimized, but not ruled out. In a typically pro-science posture, the authors of the report say: “The public debate on nonhuman primate research needs to move forward on the basis of sound scientific reasons.” Yes, but presumably however, no amount of sound scientific research will answer the ethical questions.


—Williams, Erin E., and Margo DeMello. Why Animals Matter: The Case for Animal Protection. Amherst, NY: Prometheus, 2007. Williams and DeMello provide an up-to-date and extensive explication and critique of the meat industry, hunting, the fur and skins industries, the animal experimentation industry, the pet industry, and the animal entertainment industry.

(14) “Turning the Ship Around: A Victory against All-Terrain Vehicles in Adirondack Park” by Peter Bauer, (15) “Protecting the Path of the Pronghorn: The Motorized Threat to Wildlife Migration Patterns” by Meredith Taylor, and (16) “Miles from Everywhere: Roads, Off-Road Vehicles, and Watershed Restoration on Public Lands” by Bethanie Walder.


—York, Paul Francis. Respect for the World: Universal Ethics and the Morality of Terraforming. Ph.D. Dissertation, University of Queensland, 2005. York provides an examination of the morality of large-scale efforts to transform inanimate parts of nature—for example, proposals to terraform Mars. A universal ethics expands the class of entities regarded as morally considerable to include inanimate entities. York builds on the theory of Paul W. Taylor (Respect for Nature) and proposes two extensions: (1) an expansion of the scope of moral considerability to include all concrete material objects, and (2) the introduction of the concept of variable moral significance (the notion that all entities have inherent worth but some have more than others). He develops a universal ethics, an ethical framework whose key elements are a fundamental ethical attitude of respect for the world and a principle of minimal harm. Universal ethics regards all concrete material entities, whether living or not, and whether natural or artefactual, as inherently valuable, and therefore as entitled to the respect of moral agents. York concludes that terraforming Mars or any other celestial body at this point in our history would be morally wrong, and he also suggests that universal ethics provides an ethical foundation for efforts to protect Antarctica.

—Zimmer, Carl. “Predicting Oblivion: Are Existing Models Up to the Task?” Science Vol. 317, no. 5840 (17 August 2007): 892-93. Huge numbers of species may be at risk of extinction from climate change, but coming up with precise estimates is proving tough. One method is the climate-envelope model, which analyzes all the places an endangered species is found and looks for features of the climate that those places share. Then the likelihood of global climate change affecting such climates is estimated. But critics worry that the method is inadequate and uncertain.

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