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Josef Ackerman
Associate Dean

Faculty of Environmental Sciences

The Faculty of Environmental Sciences (FES) is dedicated to promoting education, research and outreach related to the environment. We are interdisciplinary in nature, combining the strengths of the natural, physical and social sciences. FES administers the Bachelor of Science in Environmental Sciences degree program, as well as environmental certificates

through Open Learning. We promote interdisciplinary research through the *Environmental Sciences Research Initiative*, and the *Guelph Institute for the Environment*. FES also presents the annual lecture series, *Kenneth Hammond Lectures in Environment, Energy and Resources*, as well as a monthly public discussion series, *Café Scientifique* in downtown Guelph and *Campus Café*

on campus. The Faculty of Environmental Sciences serves all seven colleges of the University of Guelph, and is housed in OAC - the Ontario Agricultural College. Strategic direction is provided by the Environmental Sciences Council, consisting of the deans of all the colleges of the University, and the associate dean of FES.

Message from the Associate Dean

2008 was a productive year for FES with ongoing and new, exciting initiatives in education, research, and outreach.

The *Guelph Institute for the Environment (GIE)* launched two initiatives in the fall, *Sustainability Day*, which drew more than 300 people from across campus and the community and *Water@Guelph*, which drew more than 100 people from Guelph faculty, government, industry and NGOs. One outcome of the meeting was a planned issue of the *U of G Research Magazine* devoted to Water.

We also launched *Campus Café* as a monthly seminar for our students on the third Thursday of each month in the Atrium of the

Science Complex. It has been a great success with over 70 people attending Verena Tunnicliffe's (UVic) talk in October and over 120 attendance at Maude Barlow's talk in November. Attendees include a cross-section of campus and the community.

Café Scientifique Guelph, presented in partnership with the *Bookshelf* in downtown Guelph continues to be successful. Cafés are held on the first Tuesday of each month from October through April and draw standing room only crowds often in excess of 120 people.

FES students continue to take leadership roles and receive awards across campus. Our student group, ESSE, held its *14th Environmental Sciences Symposium* on "Sustainable Future, Where do we go

from here?". Our alumni ranks continue to grow with each graduating class and we now have 1152 FES alumni! I encourage all FES alumni to become involved with the FES Alumni Network (FESAN).

I would like to congratulate everyone for all of the successes in 2008 including Dr. David Anderson, Director of the GIE. Welcome also to Dr. Jim Mahone, Acting Associate Director of GIE, Sue Shaw in my office, and to Dr. Rob Gordon, new Dean of OAC.

Dr. Josef Ackerman



Networking Luncheon Meeting

FES sponsored its first "Student Environmental group networking lunch". Invitations were issued to all student clubs that have environmental themes to send representatives to the meeting at The Bullring. Clubs discussed their various interests and man-

dates over pizza. They were also invited to participate in the *Sustainability Day: Greening of Campus* event. Over 30 people from clubs and groups attended including representatives from CASU, CSAHS-SA, SF-OAC, Tap In, Guelph Students for Environmental

Change, RETC, Renewable Energy Group, Environmental Science Student Executive, Eco-House, Roots and Shoots, Ontario Public Interest Research Group, Oxfam, CSA, GSA, and WUSC.

ESSE

Myths and truths about energy technologies, wild natural foods and urban environmentalism were some of the topics discussed at the 14th annual *Environmental Sciences Symposium* held on Jan. 12th, 2008.

Over 200 students, academics and members of the public attended the daylong event, which featured a number of workshops. Our goal was to "Develop awareness and understanding of current environmental issues that threaten the viability of human society"

Speakers included federal Green Party candidate Mike Nagy, David Anderson (GIE director), and Jonathon Forbes, owner of Forbes Wild Foods. For further details please see www.uoquelfh.ca/~esse/.



Colloquium/Project Course 2008 Client Reception (Project Students L to R): Bill Trenouth, Nicole Coupland, Evan Schneider, Ryan Hamelin, Jacqueline Gauthier, Aaron Phillips, and Jenni Vanos.

Student Awards and Scholarships Recipients

We would like to congratulate our students who have won awards and recognition this year.

In particular, Chris Zweerman received the Dr. William Winegard Volunteer Award in April. Chris was recognized for his involvement in Meals on Wheels, Green Impact Guelph, Project Torchlight, and the GIE.

Fall Awards recipients included: Trevor Heywood and Andrew O'Gorman (Alfred McInroy Cuddy Memorial Entrance

Scholarship recipients), Garrett Gauthier (William A. Brechin Scholarship and the W. Harold Minshall Scholarship recipients), Anne Morrison and Katarina Neufeld (J. Ross Cavers Semester Abroad Scholarship recipient), Daina Anderson (Foodland Hydro Scholarship recipient), Anna Best and Keum-Ah Kahng (Robert Harcourt Scholarship recipients), Evi Lansimaki (H. Paul Jolly Award recipient), Cecilley Carroll (Dr. Michael R. Moss Scholarship recipient) and

Karen Dam (Stantec Environmental Science Scholarship recipient). OAC Dean's Scholarships were awarded to Daina Anderson, James Bryan, Garrett Gauthier, Katarina Neufeld, and Kelsey Nickel.

June Convocation award recipients included: Jennifer Vanos (Land Resource Science Achievement Prize), and Jacquelyn Rutherford (T.K. Warley Agrifood Policy Prize).

Co-operative Education

Co-operative Education & Career Services celebrated their annual Co-op Awards Ceremony for 2008. Daina Anderson and Kim Ootjers, two senior level Environmental Sciences students, were recognized for their exemplary efforts through nominations by their employers: "The quality of Daina's work convinced me that I could trust her with assignments which were beyond the tasks for which I hired her."; "Kim made the most of the opportunity we provided: she made the position her own, and in the process, meaningful contribution to our program."

Notable Alumni



David Noble ('99) chats with the Hon. Stephane Dion at the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Bali.

It's been an incredible 10 years since I graduated from FES. I spent two great years working in leadership development and experiential education in Canada, US and Ecuador, before returning to Guelph for graduate studies in rural planning and international development. I spent a great summer in Texas working on environmental policy in the US-Mexico border region.

After a leisurely summer in 2003, I founded *2degreesC*, which started as a solo consultancy in the areas of climate change research and education, but which has since evolved into an organization with a core team in Guelph and networks with activities all over the world.

Our consulting work has been helping to build and advance institutional responses to climate change. It has spanned diverse sectors, including clean energy, health, water, cities, transport, First Nations and northern communities, and youth. It has been a rich learning experience.

For the past three years, we have had a strong focus on global youth empowerment. Working with incredibly talented and passionate young people from all corners of the world has been absolutely tre-

mendous. I dread the day I wake up and feel too old to keep working in this area.

Last year was very exciting. I got involved with Al Gore and *The Climate Project*, and have been an active presenter internationally. Later in the year, I joined an all-star cast of artists and scientists, including fellow Canadians Feist, Martha Wainwright and TreeHugger founder Graham Hill, on the Cape Farewell expedition to west Greenland. Our mission: to promote an artistic and cultural response to climate change. It was an incredibly experience that yielded some great art works that will help communicate the importance and urgency of the climate crisis.

I have realized how much I enjoy public speaking, and am looking forward to much more in the months and years ahead. It seemed a fitting way to mark the 10 years since my undergraduate days. As I reflect back, I am happily reminded of the diversity and quality of people and learning that shaped my experience then and that prepared me for what lay ahead.

Thank you FES!

FES '98 10th Alumni Celebration

The Class of '98 celebrated their 10th Anniversary on campus at Alumni Weekend in June 2008. The 10th anniversary celebration was held in Peter Clark Hall due to a late day rain shower that forced us to relocate from our usual venue – the Rutherford Conservatory and Water Gardens.

The FES '98 10th Anniversary classmates, dedicated FESAN planning committee and other FES alumni were joined by current and former faculty and staff including Dr. Alastair

Summerlee, University President, Dr. Josef Ackerman, Associate Dean of FES, Faculty and Staff FES Alumni, Dr. Michael Moss and Marilyn J. Metcalf, and Dr. Robert J. Gordon, Dean of OAC.

The class of '99 will be celebrating their anniversary at Alumni Weekend on **Saturday June 20, 2009**. Look for details in the alumni brochure in early **May**. Anyone interested in helping with planning please contact Kate Gillespie at kgille01@uoguelph.ca.



Celebrating Alumni Weekend with Kathleen Todd ('97), Kristin Thompson ('97) and Cher Brethour ('97).

FES Alumni Network (FESAN)

The Faculty of Environmental Sciences Alumni Network (FESAN) is an active group of FES alumni who meet regularly to support the students and alumni of the BSc (Env) program. This group has been instrumental in the planning of the 10th anniversary celebrations for the last three years at Alumni weekend. FESAN

has also worked closely with ESSE on hosting career nights.

FESAN encourages anyone who is interested in participating to contact them. Please visit the FES alumni website at www.envsci.uoguelph.ca/alumni/ for further details.

Environmental Science Research Initiative (ESRI)

The Environmental Science Research Initiative (ESRI) is designed to promote and enhance the University of Guelph's strengths in environmental research and to provide the ability to take advantage of new research opportunities. The quality of the proposals are assessed on: Interdisciplinary nature; Linking the natural, physical, and social sciences and/or humanities; Involving innovative environmental science research; Potential to address or relevance to

societal needs; Potential for internationalism; and Likelihood of providing research deliverables/ outcomes. Two new projects received funding:

(1) *From Concept to Policy: Disciplinary Perspectives in Biodiversity*, led by Dr. Stefan Linquist (Philosophy); and

(2) *Pharmaceuticals in the Environment: Lessons Learned*, led by Dr. Andreas Heyland (Integrative Biology).

Corporate Social Responsibility (ESRI)

A CSR Symposium was held on October 31st. It was led by Prof. Nonita Yap, Dr. Tim Dewhirst, and Prof. Francesco Braga. The symposium used a *World Café* approach with discussions at the different tables facilitated by faculty researchers from the University of Guelph, University of Waterloo, Wilfred Laurier University, as well as CEOs of local industry

and local non-governmental organizations.

CSR guides the allocation of resources, assignment of responsibilities and the evaluation of practices, products, and processes.

CSR is an expression of the company's need to integrate environmental and societal concerns into its core business.

FES Across Campus

FES is proud to co-sponsor events, seminars and workshops with departments and colleges across campus and in the community. The following events were sponsored in 2008.

An extremely successful community anthology entitled "Guelph Speaks!: Re-Storying the City". Multimedia submissions were gathered from across the community to create a tapestry of stories to represent our city. In March, FES and the De-

partment of Physics co-hosted a colloquium featuring Prof. Jesse Ausubel, (Rockefeller University) who discussed "Fallout From Renewable Energy Systems."

FES was a sponsor of *The Ontario Ecology & Ethology Colloquium* held in April. This annual conference drew over 100 faculty, undergraduate and graduate students from across Ontario to present their research.



The Eastview Landfill Site is the future site of the Guelph Pollinator Park.

Pollinator Park (ESRI)

"People doing positive, progressive things to promote and preserve places to permanently protect pollinators in perpetuity on the planet."

A workshop for the Guelph Pollination Initiative was held on March 7 and 8. It attracted over 120 people including beekeepers, Master Gardeners, environmental consultants, academics, researchers, representatives of non-governmental organizations, government, and many interested citizens. The workshop was led by Peter Kevan (Env Biology), Karen Landman (SEDRD), Vernon Thomas (Integrative Biology) and was co-sponsored by the City of Guelph.

The focus was on plans to turn Guelph's 100-acre Eastview landfill (see photo above) into an urban habitat for pollinators by including specially chosen plant species. University experts in Landscape Architecture, Plant Agriculture, Integrative Biology, Geography and Environmental Biology will work with city planners and landfill management engineers on this project. The goal is for the site to be a model for future pollinator parks.



CHANGING LIVES
IMPROVING LIFE

Environmental Science Research Directory

The university has considerable breadth and depth in terms of research capacity in the environment. Unfortunately, it is often difficult to know "whom is working in what area" in the next department or college. The Environmental Science Research Directory was created as tool to help identify environmental researchers at the University of Guelph.

Anyone can query the directory located at <http://www.gie.uoguelph.ca/people/research-directory/> by subject, keywords, or name to locate researchers across campuses. The directory is designed to be dynamic and can be updated easily through an email request to fescoord@uoguelph.ca.

www.envsci.uoguelph.ca



Faculty of
Environmental Sciences

GIE Guelph Institute for the Environment

The GIE led two new initiatives on Campus and launched a new website that highlights events and profiles U of G researchers working on environmental issues.

The *Environmental Science Research Directory* allows searches by category, keyword, name or department. This will help government policy makers search for research at Guelph and help researchers across campus to learn about each other's research.

WATER is a theme that runs through the U of G involving all colleges and disciplines. With over 20 centres, institutes, and working groups and 11 research chairs involved in the nature, delivery or quality of water, the GIE has taken the lead in linking these somewhat disparate groups together.

We hosted Water@Guelph Colloquium at the Arboretum Centre on November 27 to link water researchers on campus with government, industry and NGOs. This event drew more than 100

The GIE sponsored *Sustainability Day: Greening the Campus* on October 28, with the aim of promoting realistic ways of living a sustainable life. It was organized in partnership with a variety of student groups.



Students Gwen Dalton and Jenn McIntyre, help reward Green Behaviour.

"University teaching and research are foundations for developing a sustainable Canada, but the most important factor in achieving that goal is putting that knowledge of sustainability into practice," said director David Anderson. He added that, "U of G's Sustainability Greening the Campus Day is an opportunity for all of us to move forward in making sustainability a part of our campus life."

source fair in the UC courtyard included displays by dozens of community environmental organizations as well as U of G groups.

As part of Sustainability Day, Hospitality Services promoted locally produced food in campus cafeterias and handed out raffle tickets for prizes to students for "green behaviours".

Presenters included: Charles Simon (Eden Mills carbon-neutral project); Volker Thomsen (past president of St. Lawrence College); and Gillian Maurice (U of G's Sustainability Coordinator). There were hands-on workshops, a



Water@Guelph: David Anderson, Joel Weiner (IJC), Patricia Chambers (NWRI), Jim Mahone and Joe Ackerman.

Dr. David Anderson continued to represent the GIE at the Biodiversity Network's 2nd Science Symposium, on-campus at information and planning meetings, and at presentations in eight senior undergraduate and graduate courses across campus. He presented International House (Watson Hall) with the Residence Energy Reduction Challenge award; a competition aimed at reducing energy consumption on campus. He also mentored the Canadian youth delegation to the UNFCCC climate change conference in Poznan.

participants including the majority of the water researchers at the U of G. Additional activities involving water are planned next year.

Campus Café: Lecture Series for Students

FES launched a new initiative called *Campus Café*. This lunchtime series is directed towards students, but all are welcomed.

Campus Café is a way to bring speakers to the University of Guelph, who can speak to our students on important environmental topics and issues. Our hope



is to inspire students as they become the environmental leaders and citizens of tomorrow.

Speakers have included; Verena Tunnicliffe (UVic), and Maude Barlow (Council of Canadians).

Speakers for the winter 2009 semester include Bob McDonald (Quirks and Quarks), David Phillips (Environment Canada), and Jamie Benidickson (Univ. of Ottawa).



FES sponsored its second successful year of the *Café Scientifique* series. *Café Scientifique Guelph* is a place where anyone can come to explore the latest ideas on the environment, science, and technology outside a traditional academic context. It is a part of a world-wide network of cafés designed to bring science to

the public in familiar venues. It is much like bringing a professor into your living room rather than attending a lecture.

This year's line-up was held on the first Tuesday of each month (October through April) from 7 until 8:30 p.m.

All of our *Café Scientifique* events were well attended this year. Three of them were standing-room only. We saw a regular monthly draw of 75-120 people,

with the majority from the community.

Café Scientifique Guelph is run in partnership with The Bookshelf Cafe. This program helps to promote and showcase the U of G's research to the community. The Faculty of Environmental Sciences is committed to promoting public engagement with science and to making science more accessible to the public.

<http://www.uoguelph.ca/cafescientifique>



Dr. Vernon Thomas asking, "Has Conservation Failed Us?"

Kenneth Hammond Lectures in Environment, Energy and Resources

"Climate Atmosphere and Health" was the topic of this year's annual Kenneth Hammond Lectures held on March 21 and 22, 2008. The plenary speaker Thomas Lovejoy, is an internationally recognized ecologist and conservation expert who spoke on "Climate Change: Prospects of Nature". Speakers included: Kimberly Strong (U Toronto) who spoke on "Chemistry and Climate: Whither the Ozone Layer?"; Quentin

Chiotti, (Pollution Probe), discussed "Separating the Smog From the Fog: An ENGO Perspective on Air



Plenary speaker Thomas Lovejoy and Joe Ackerman.

Quality and Health in Canada"; and James Quinn (McMaster) spoke on

"Gulls, Germ-Line Mutations and Steel: Air Pollution Causes Genetic Change in Mouse and Gull Gametes."

U of G history student Jacqueline McIsaac spoke on "Confronting Tomorrow: Ken Hammond's Contribution to Environment Awareness in Guelph" as a tribute to Ken Hammond, who passed away last spring.

The lecture series created in

2000, was named for Mr. Hammond, a former member of the University's Board of Governors and an advocate of environmental and resource issues and environmental education.



Ken Hammond Jr., Jacqueline McIsaac and Jeremy Hammond (Ken's grandson).

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