

Environmental Science and Policy

Fall Newsletter

October 2012

Welcome back!

2013 Courses

Keith Summerville:
ENSP/BIO 125 Conservation Biology
ENSP/BIO 125 Lab
ENSP 191 Capstone

David Courard-Hauri:
ENSP 135 Global Change
ENSP 50 Sustainable International Development

Kathryn Szramek:
ENSP 41 Principles of Geology
ENSP 41 lab
ENSP/PHY 51 Energy and the Environment

Joanna Mosser:
ENSP/POLS 156 Environmental Politics and Policy
POLS 155 American Politics and Policy

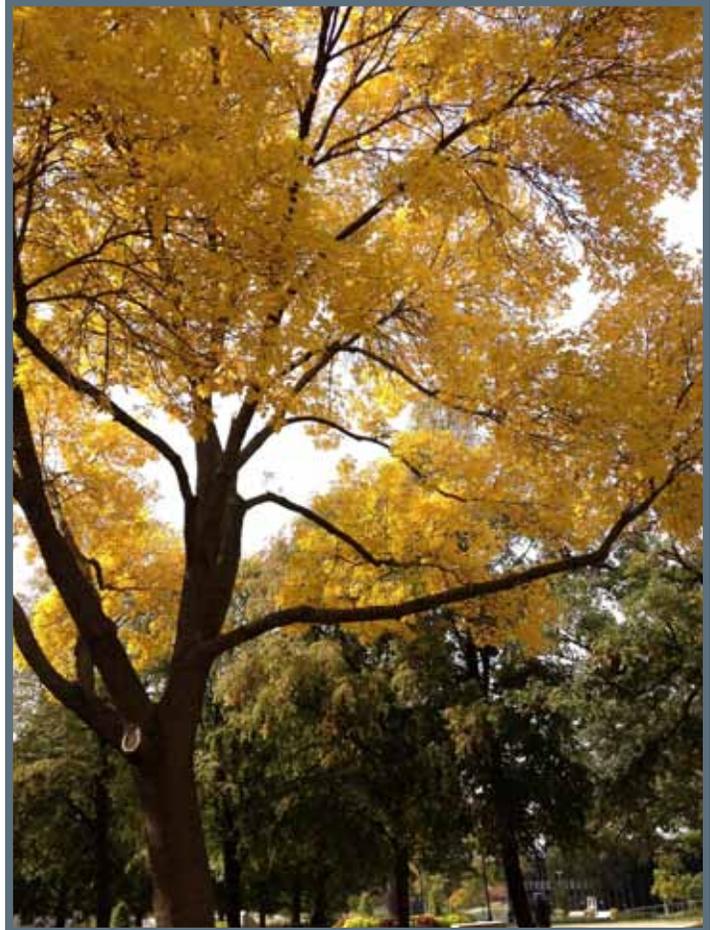
Amahia Mallea:
HIST 194 History of the Environment

Michael Haedicke:
ENSP/SCSS 71 Environmental Movements

Tom Rosburg:
Fire Management
BIO 168 Limnology
BIO 168L Limnology Lab

Jennifer McCrickerd:
ENSP/PHIL 157 Environmental Justice

Adam Kiel:
ENSP 165 Advanced GIS



ENSP Reunion

All Environmental Science and Policy alumni are invited to the ENSP reunion that will be taking place over Relays weekend this spring. Events will take place on Friday, April 26 and Saturday, April 27.

Some events include:

1. A formal discussion between current students and alumni will take place Friday.
2. Saturday will include a tour of the science buildings and a camping trip. The location of the camping trip is to be determined.

For more information, contact David Courard-Hauri at 515-271-3812 or david.courard-hauri@drake.edu

What's Coming Up...

State Farm Learning Garden

Last year's Capstone Project students worked with Urban Ambassadors and Boys and Girls Club to raise money to begin a learning garden to make a better connection with the community.

"The purpose of the project," Associate Professor of Environmental Science and Policy David Courard-Hauri said, "is to combine education and urban gardening for both Drake students and the underserved."

Drake students will tend to the garden during the school year, and during the summer, The Boys and Girls Club will be tending the garden.

The garden is planned to have multiple levels and a large variation of food.

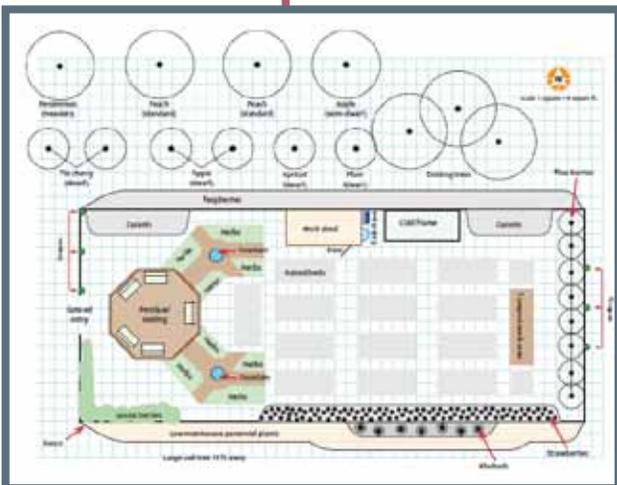
There will be fruit trees, asparagus, berries, grapes, and more typical garden foods such as tomatoes and peppers. The garden will also have enough room for an outdoor classroom.

Drake students ran and organized the project and they will continue to have control over the garden.

Two paid positions for students will be associated with the garden. There will be a position to work with The Boys and Girls Club and another to work with the logistics of the garden.

The Learning Garden was made possible through the first State Farm Youth Grant in Iowa. \$44,544 was given to get the garden started said Courard-Hauri.

The enclosed garden will be located on the corner of 25th and Forest Ave.



Faculty Spotlight

Thomas Rosburg



About:

Department: Biology

Courses Taught: Ecology, Ecosystem Ecology, Botany, Field Botany, Biological Research and Statistical Methods, Iowa Birds, Nature Photography, and more.

Years at Drake: 16 years

Education: Iowa State University: B.A.: Fish and Wildlife Biology; Masters: Plant Ecology; Ph.D.: Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

Tom Rosburg, a biology professor at Drake University for 16 years, has had research-filled summer.

The first project of the summer for Rosburg was finishing photography for a wetland plants book. He traveled all over the Midwest from Minnesota to Missouri to find elusive wetland plants to photograph.

Rosburg's second research project was at White Rock Conservancy in Western Iowa. The conservancy is a 5,000-acre land trust along the Raccoon River.

Rosburg has focused on the future construction of trail and its effects. Four research plots were set up to observe the biodiversity in the area where the trail is going to be constructed.

"Basically getting an inventory of what's all there right now before the trail is constructed," said Rosburg.

After a few years, they will

collect data to see if the trails have had any effects on the biodiversity in the area.

This research is revolutionary.

"That kind of work has never really been done before," said Rosburg.

They are also focusing on the effects of horse riding trails versus mountain bike trails.

The third research project Rosburg has been involved in is the implementation of cattle grazing in Kirchner Prairie in Northwest Iowa. Rosburg is setting up plots to observe what vegetation and animals are there now. After the cattle graze the prairie for a few years, Rosburg will analyze the data to determine any effects from the cattle.

Similar to the Kirchner Prairie project is Rosburg's final project. Also observing cattle grazing effects on prairie biodiversity, this project is at the end rather than the implementation stage.

At Chichaqua, Rosburg and others have gathered the data and although they have not begun analyzing it, there seems to be strong effects.

"It is very clear that the cattle have had an affect on the vegetation," said Rosburg.

The cattle seem to have removed an overabundance of warm season grasses and helped create heterogeneity.

Rosburg also taught Ecology at the Iowa Lakeside Lab in Okoboji, IA for four weeks. Rosburg encourages Drake students to take classes at Lakeside Lab.

"Lakeside Lab courses can change your life experience," said Rosburg.

"It's a great place to take courses over the summertime." Despite his busy summer, Rosburg is back at Drake teaching his hands-on science courses.

Alumni Profile

Anson Bonte

Name: Anson Bonte

Age: 27

Year Graduated: 2003

Degree: BS
Environmental Science,
BA Secondary Science
Education

The picture below is the 100 Discovery Star Educators at the summer conference in Montana. Bonte is at the far left of the picture, holding a water bottle.

LB: What have you been doing since you graduated?

AB: The first year after I graduated from Drake I moved to Marquette, Michigan where I was a Resident Director for Northern Michigan University. After a year working in the far northern United States, I decided to move back to Des Moines and take a job working for Des Moines Public Schools. I taught 10-12th grade science at East High School for 3 years. Last year I transferred to Callanan Middle school where I now teach 7th grade science.

LB: You recently won a teaching award, can you tell me more about it?

AB: Last year I applied to become a Discovery Star Educator. After being accepted into the program I applied for their summer DEN (Discovery Education Network) award conference. Luckily, I was 1 of 100 teachers that were awarded this honor.

The conference location this summer was in Bozeman Montana. At the conference, teachers learned how to implement new and innovative technologies in their classrooms.

We also took a day and traveled through Yellowstone park with a few Discovery T.V. stars.

LB: Future plans?

AB: I am in the process of applying to Graduate school in Educational Leadership at Drake. I hope to start that program in the Fall of 2013.

LB: Advice for current Drake students?

AB: Work hard and keep your options open. You never know what opportunities may present themselves to you.



Internships



ENSP student, Patrick Bradley shared these pictures from his summer internship as a Small Mammal Research Technician for the Lab of Lakeside Ecology and Conservation Biology, which works in association with Northern Arizona University.

Top Left: A young Greater Short Horned Lizard. Top Right: Bradley holding a Greater Short Horned Lizard. Bottom Left: Bradley lactating a 13 lined ground squirrel. Bottom Right: Bradley viewing a typical meadow in which they trapped.