

EcoNews

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September 1995

The Ecology Graduate Student Association *What is it, who is it, and why.*

The Ecology Graduate Student Association (EGSA) is run by and for ecology graduate students. The executive committee members of EGSA are elected by the ecology graduate student body. EGSA serves many functions; most notably, it provides student representation at many levels within the university.

EGSA has three voting members on the Graduate Group in Ecology (GGE) Executive Committee. These voting members take part in all decisions that affect Group organization and policies. For example, these past several years the GGE Executive Committee has made changes in the curriculum, oral exam policies, course requirements, and has executed an overall restructuring of the Areas of Emphases (AOE's); ecology graduate students were directly involved throughout the entire process. EGSA also has representatives in the UCD Graduate Student Association (GSA), a student advocacy group on campus which functions at the level of the university as well as the state level. GSA provides many services to graduate students. EGSA is also a member of the Environmental Alliance, a campus forum comprised of student groups interested in promoting advocacy, awareness, and action concerning environmental issues.

Involvement in these organizations has empowered EGSA to act as a source of information on what is happening within the group, on the UCD campus, and at the UC Regent's level. We disseminate this information through our meetings, email list groups, the use of monthly newsletters and periodic mailings. EGSA also serves as a unifying force for ecology students who are housed in over 30 different departments. EGSA helps organize and financially supports many activities such as the new student orientation and the retreat, cross-country skiing trips, pelagic boat trips, parties, etc. EGSA sponsors an annual Student Colloquium allowing participants to bounce ideas off of fellow students. We publish a student directory each year to increase within-group awareness of the research that goes on and who's doing it; this facilitates networking and provides group cohesion.

EGSA is the way to see the fruition of ideas through to working projects. Because EGSA is student run it does as much as the ecology graduate student body wants it to do; we are powered by people willing to invest time and energy. Get involved today!

***EcoNews* --Your Source for Information**

EcoNews has various columns including a monthly report on GSA and EGSA meetings and news from the graduate group. We will be coming out with three newsletters a quarter. Any item/editorial/information that you would like to have in the newsletter can be sent to Ecology Graduate Student Association at Division of Environmental Studies or you can drop it off at our mailbox at DES. We hope all of this information will make your lives as graduate students easier.

Next Month in *EcoNews*:
an update on the status of GGE,
admissions and award stats,
and all the news that is news.

Mail to:

The next *EcoNews* deadline is October 11, 1995

1995-1996 EGSA Officer Roster

EGSA Co-Chairs.....Gail Dethloff (WFCB) 8-5096
Lara Hansen (EVE) 9-9617
Treasurer.....Julie Reynolds (WFCB)
Retreat Coordinator.....Harry Spangler (DES)
Newsletter and Directory Editor.....Emily Schwalen (ARS)
GSA representative Coordinator.....Craig Kirkpatrick (Anthro)
GGE Executive Committee Reps.....Kama Almasi (DES)
Barney Caton (DES)
Gail Dethloff(WFCB)

AOE Representatives:

Agricultural.....Barney Caton 2-2843
Conservation.....Martha Hoopes 2-3940
Chris Wilcox 2-3940
Ecotoxicology.....Steve Detwiler 485-5451
Environmental Policy.....Brian Roach 2-6182
Human.....Lore Ruttan 2-5145
Integrative.....Becky Post 2-4326
Restoration.....Andy Dyer 2-1701
Systems&Landscape.....Jeff Kennedy 510-658-4083
Awards Committee.....Becky Post
Admissions Committee Representatives:
Overall.....Lara Hansen
Conservation AOE.....Theo Light
Integrative AOE.....Jim Biardi
Restoration AOE.....Cini Brown
Landscape&Systems AOE.....Emily Schwalen

Positions to be filled:

Rolling Thunder Colloquium Coordinator
Outstanding Professor Award Coordinator.Peter Hodum
Functional AOE Representative
Several AOE Admissions Representatives

GIS INTEREST GROUP

Informal gatherings of graduate students from UCD and other professionals from the Sacramento region are facilitated by Karen Beardsley over in the Dept. of Environmental Studies (2120 D Wickson Hall) just about every six weeks. This informal group has active participation from both researchers, government agency personnel, and commercial consultants with extensive experience in the use of GIS and related technologies. Those of us who participate in this social networking find it a satisfying and enjoyable to keep up with GIS work in this area. To become a part of the group, contact Karen at 2-0532 or through email: kbeardsley@ucdavis.edu

BE THERE OR BE UNSUSTAINABLE!

The Ecology Graduate Group has it's first social event of the academic year September 27th at Putah Creek Lodge from 5 to 9 pm. We think some of you old timers should come dressed as your favorite ecosystem and the newcomers should judge your efforts. Ah well, perhaps we will all be demonstrating just what serious academicians we are instead. At any rate, the welcome back party is always fun. To find out more, especially about returning students and faculty potluck items, contact Silvia Hillyer 2-6752.

First 95-96 EGSA Meeting

All Ecology graduate students are invited to our EGSA meeting which will be held September 27th, 4pm before the Ecology party at Putah Ck Lodge.

THE GRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION -- WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME?

GSA is the official voice for UCD graduate students. Through GSA, we have a number of formal and informal avenues for communication with each other, the UCD administration, as well as with UC system-wide administration, and with graduate students at other UCs.

Ecology students have the opportunity to be well-represented at GSA. The rules provide for one representative for every 30 members of a graduate department or group. Since we have around 200 students in Ecology, that means that we are eligible to send about 6 voting representatives to GSA meetings. (Ecology is the largest graduate program at UC Davis.)

If you are interested in an easy way (one evening per month) to keep yourself informed and give yourself a voice in University affairs, consider becoming a representative. Contact Craig Kirkpatrick (752-0745) for details.

GET ON THE HIWAY... Want to know about new job prospects, helpful hints about bureaucracy hoops, reminders about upcoming deadlines, and Ecology graduate student events??? Then contact Silvia Hillyer to learn more about the GGE email group for graduate students. The best way is to complete everything you need to do to get an email address on campus first. You can get help with this at the ITCAP center in Shields Library. Then send Silvia a note via email: shillyer@ucdavis.edu and let her know you are interested. She will let you know how to subscribe to the list. Several AOE's have their own group lists for group mail as well. Ask your AOE rep about this.