

mes/mpa

# Update

Published by the MES and MPA programs at The Evergreen State College

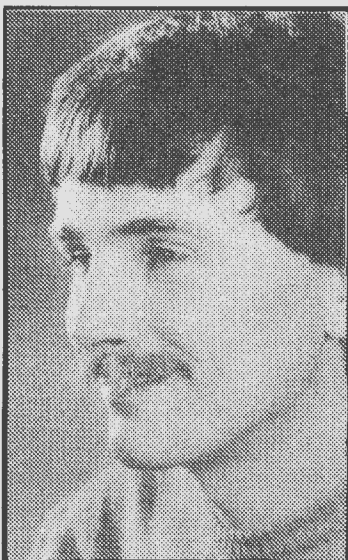
## Tragedy Strikes MES Family

Fourth-year MES student Ron Smithrud died in an auto accident on Tuesday, March 6th in Coquille, Oregon. Family and friends gathered in North Bend this past Saturday to remember and celebrate his life.

Ron was finishing his degree in wildlife management, and for the past year had worked as a wildlife biologist for the Bureau of Land Management in North Bend. He previously was employed as a Park Service ranger in the Ozette area.

A Bellevue native, Ron was also coordinator of the Environmental Resource Center during his first year at Evergreen.

Ron's family suggests memorial donations be made to the Black Hills Audubon Society, Box 462, Olympia 98507. The MES program will be making a donation, and Bonita will be collecting individual contributions until April 5th.



## MPA Lounge Gets Makeover

by Peter Moulton

Thanks for the efforts of first-year MPA student Colleen Ray, MPA students and faculty members will soon have lounging facilities to rival the MES program's renowned chambers. By the end of the month, the reception area just inside the door to the third floor offices of LAB I will be transformed by a photo collage, plants, coffee pot and more comfortable furniture.

The photo collage is the most noticeable and exciting feature of the lounge improvements. According to Colleen, the collage will address, "the cultural diversity of Washington State's public sector — what Public Administration is, and who we are administering too." The idea for the lounge evolved out of a discussion she had with MPA Director Lucia Harrison in February.

Two dozen or so photos were selected with the assistance of recently retired faculty member Sid White (known for his Centennial publication "The Peoples of Washington"), Susan Parish (owner of the Jeffers Collection) and Drew Crooks (curator at the State Capitol Museum). After Photo Services prepares the color and black/white prints, Colleen will begin the creative process of building the collage. "I'll arrange them, rearrange them, go hmmm, and the artwork will emerge."

Colleen received her BA from Evergreen in 1977 in Museology and Native American Studies. She has worked with the State Capitol Museum and Henderson House.

### UPDATE Needs Your Submissions!

Spring Deadlines: April 5\*, 19; May 3\*, 17, 31\* (\*alumni mailings)

This is the last day for submissions. Please place them in the newsletter mailbox in Lab I Room 3023.

Personal contract, internship and alumni updates are strongly encouraged! Please feel free to also submit:

News Releases	Poetry	Event Reports
Feature Articles	Photography	Editorials
Quotes	Illustrations	Resource Listings

All submissions **must** have legible names, phone numbers, and references when needed. It would be extremely helpful to have submissions entered on a Mac computer disk.

Editors: Allen Pleus (MES), Peter Moulton (MPA)

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## Letter to the Editor

"There are more things in heaven and earth, Horatio,  
Than are dreamt of in your philosophy." - Hamlet I.v

March 3, 1991. I am sitting in the Evergreen Library. The rain has gathered me once again into its fold, where presently it is holding court. Inside, the bleached white bones of my thought, so long full of winter, have been splayed and are turning back upon themselves.... Oh, excuse me - I was just reading the latest issue of "MES/MPA Update," learning about moral courage, and I must have lapsed into a poetic delirium.

Since I can only spare a few minutes away from the "hard, cold world of reality," which is fraught with corrupting homework assignments, I will get right to the point. Eli Sterling's assertion that a graduate program has a responsibility to "teach honesty" seems to me absurd. His original claim, that there is a difference between the "straight scoop," and "honest advice" is one thing; but teaching honesty is another.

We all know what it means to be honest. Being honest is saying and doing in accordance what one believes. You do not have to dwell in a so-called "alternative reality" to learn that. I came into this program with my integrity intact and I plan to leave it just as bright and shiny and honest as the day I got here. To assume that the requirements of the program somehow make people dishonest because doing the work requires "jumping through hoops" makes assumptions about others that I don't believe Eli is in the position to make. It may be a valid piece of introspection, but certainly no more than that.

As a first year MES student I am offended that Eli goes on to associate our class with what he describes as the "call for mediocrity," where people don't "take risks" and don't try to integrate "moral courage" into their environmental problem solving. Despite the fact that he claims not to know what it is to have moral courage, Eli nonetheless recognizes that the 1st-year students lack it.

To my knowledge, Eli knows very little about us. I happen to know that we have a very dedicated and diverse group of people in our class - volunteers, health care professionals, social workers, philosophers, and at least three vegetarians who oppose the Klan (which no doubt elevates us in the "alternative world"). If I am not wearing the socially and politically correct badges, I assure you that I still practice honesty and integrity both in the classroom and throughout the workday.

What I am not accomplishing in the spare time that I do not have, I try to make up for by putting my skills and my values to work. I am sure you are accomplishing a lot yourself, Eli, and in your own way; but don't try to tell others what kind of character they have, or attempt to speak knowingly about what they are or are not willing to risk, because they may see and do things differently than you.

Fie upon thee, sweet Horatio.

*Gary Cooper*



# Politics

by Anna Bachmann, MES/GSA Coordinator

I was told that to take a stand was "too political." My question in reply is, "Can we even roll out of bed in the morning without making a political statement?" Sounds like a silly question particularly when so many of us seem to think we are apolitical. The word has a simple definition. Those things are political that are "of or relating to government, a government, or the conduct of government." That is the word according to Webster but there are realms of meaning to the word "political" only blithely referred to by this definition.



Let us restate it this way: Those things are political that are of or relating to power, the use of power, or the manipulation of power. For that is what government is, the institutionalized and structured use of power. Acting alone, individuals have very little influence or potency, but when individuals pool their energy and act together they can accomplish astounding things.



Produce more food to feed an expanding population, establish avenues for instant communication, develop religions to soothe the soul, invent advanced gadgetry to ease the passage through life, heal those who before were beyond healing and start wars to gain access to desired resources and assuage frail egos. Empowerment is what being political is all about. To *claim* that we are apolitical is merely to abandon our responsibilities and let others make decisions for us.



By the fact that we live, work and go to school in this state, we are political beings. When we turn the light on, raise the thermostat, eat a banana for breakfast, mail a letter to a friend, write a check, or drive our car to the market we are making political statements. Our life is intertwined in the pulse of society and our simplest decisions have lasting affects on the people we live with and on many we shall never see. It is impossible to disconnect ourselves from the web. Being apolitical is *not* an option. To believe so is to deny what your eyes see, your ears hear and your heart feels.



But it is also a denial of all that we have learned in Core. Our education should offer us the means to utilize power for effective social change. Ernest Boyer, a former American commissioner of education, states that "the two most fundamental goals in education for our rapidly changing world are, 1) personal empowerment, which requires people

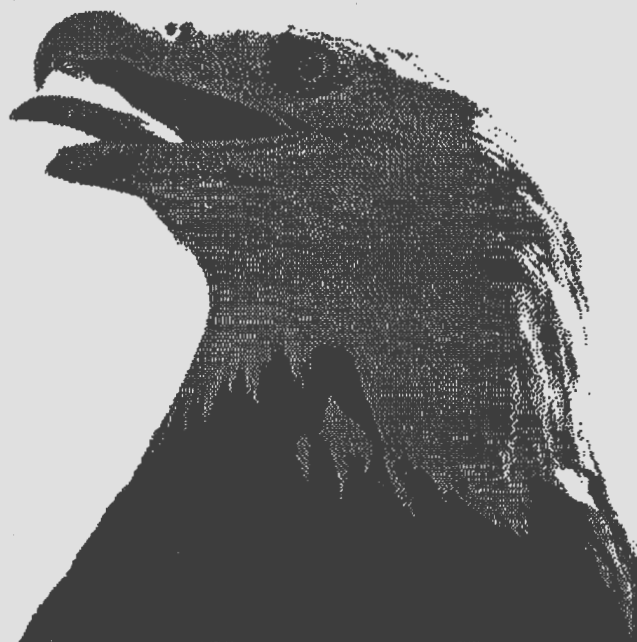


to think analytically, to examine information critically and creatively and to go beyond this analysis to imagine beyond where they are, so to act with a clear sense of integrity, and 2) civic engagement, which requires people learn

how to use this mental mapping patterning for application in the life of the larger community for the good of all" (How Not to Fix the Schools, Harpers, Feb., 1986).



Personal empowerment and civic engagement: these should be the reason why we are in the graduate program at Evergreen. But there is another reason and that is that we should finally learn that the only true fight *is* a political fight.



## Internships & Employment

If you are interested in pursuing an internship, complete an orange internship form from the bin outside my office and return it to me. Please keep me informed of your status — Bonita

Lab 1, Room 3022 — 866-6000 x5703

WHO: NW Assoc. of Marine & Aquatic Educators  
WHAT: Awareness to Action Conference Assoc Planner  
CONTACT: Laurie Usher @786-5445  
DURATION: Spring, Summer Quarters 1991  
SALARY: Volunteer, possible future stipend  
DEADLINE: A.S.A.P.

WHO: Thurston County Public Works  
WHAT: Administrative Intern/Assistant  
CONTACT: Cheryl Henderson @ 786-5485  
DURATION: 2 quarters min. - W/Sp/Su  
SALARY: \$6 +/-hr. DOE 10-20 hrs./wk  
DEADLINE: Open until filled

WHO: Dept of Ecology  
WHAT: Ass't to Education Coordinator  
CONTACT: Glen Alexander, Padilla Bay Estuarine Reserve  
1043 Bay View-Edison Rd, Mt Vernon 98273  
SALARY: Volunteer  
DEADLINE: Ongoing

WHO: Nisqually Reach Nature Center  
WHAT: Various projects  
CONTACT: Pam Miller @459-0387  
DURATION: Ongoing  
SALARY: Volunteer  
DEADLINE: None

WHO: WASHPIRG  
WHAT: Varied Internships  
CONTACT: Laura Reed @ 866-6000 x6058  
DURATION: Winter Quarter or check on Spring/Summer  
SALARY: CALL; 10-40 hrs/wk  
DEADLINE: CALL

WHO: Lewis County Public Works  
WHAT: Solid Waste Specialist Intern  
CONTACT: Melody Armstrong @ 1800-562-6130 x403  
DURATION: Spring/Summer quarters  
SALARY: \$7.00/hr  
DEADLINE: A.S.A.P.

WHO: Univ. of Washington - College of Forest Resources  
WHAT: 3 Faculty Positions: Forest Policy and Law; Forest Recreation and Amenities Management; Forest Soils  
CONTACT: College of Forest Resources, AR-10, U of W, Seattle, WA 98195  
DEADLINE: March 29, 1991

WHO: Discovery Park  
WHAT: Park Intern  
CONTACT: Gale Gruza @ 386-4236  
DURATION: Neg.  
SALARY: Volunteer  
DEADLINE: At least 2 wks before internship begins

WHO: Friends of the Earth - NW  
WHAT: Various projects  
CONTACT: David Ortmann @ 633-1661  
DURATION: neg.  
SALARY: Volunteer; after 10 wks - neg.  
DEADLINE: Ongoing

WHO: MEIP - Minority Environmental Internship Program  
WHAT: Minority Placement Service  
CONTACT: Bonita @ 866-6000 x5703  
DURATION: Summer and year-long  
SALARY: Unknown  
DEADLINE: Call

WHO: Nat'l Network for Envir. Studies (NNEMS) Div. EPA  
WHAT: Funding specific topics w/internships/fellowships  
CONTACT: Ginger Wandless @ 202-475-9477

WHO: Thurston Conservation District  
Dobbs Crk Model Farm  
WHAT: Insect Survey Intern; Benthic Organism Intern; Manure Composting Intern; & Watershed Topographical Model Intern; OR PROJECT PROPOSAL  
CONTACT: Chris Walline @ 754-3588  
DURATION: Neg. over Spr. Sum, & next Fall + quarters  
SALARY: N/A Call  
DEADLINE: Until filled

WHO: Washington State University  
WHAT: Avian Ecologist - Assist. Prof.  
CONTACT: Richard Shew, Dept. of Nat. Res. Sciences, WSU, Pullman, WA 99164-6410  
DURATION: Nine month, tenure track start Aug. 1 or later  
DEADLINE: March 15, 1991

WHO: Participation 2000 Campaign Program  
WHAT: Training & Placement of Staff/Staff intern  
CONTACT: (614)461-7193  
DURATION: Late July to Mid-November  
SALARY: F/T \$1500/mo + housing; P/T- \$1000/mo.  
DEADLINE: April 30th, 1991

The Evergreen State College  
Graduate Programs — Lab I  
Olympia, WA 98505

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