



mes/mpa

# Update

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

## Thesis Assistance Offered

by Mark Papworth

There is a significant need on this campus for a module providing aid and direction for those stymied by their senior, Master's or Ph.D. thesis. I have developed a program which meets that need.

I intend to offer instruction, aid and abetment to such poor souls during the coming summer quarter. Since this is a trial run and has no tested format, I intend to do this via Individual Contracts, although there will be several occasions (seven) when meetings of all those involved will be helpful.

I would appreciate your help in spreading the word of this unusual opportunity to those in need. You may contact me in Lab II - Room 3260, or at 866-6000 ext. 6757.

## MPA Lounge Remodeled

by Colleen Ray

On February 7, I was given the responsibility and challenge of making the MPA Lounge a more hospitable area. In response to a question raised in Alanna Hein's seminar addressing cultural diversity, "What does the public look like?," the collage on the wall of the lounge was compiled.

The choices and combinations were endless and deserve further attention evidenced by the book and exhibition *Peoples of Washington*. An extension of the project is offered to MPA students and faculty to bring in photos of themselves and their families to show we are all a part of the PUBLIC. I then constructed the lattice-work room dividers, copper boxes, and the MPA lounge placard. My acknowledgments of those who contributed to the project will be in the next edition of *Update*.

## Galeano to Speak at Unsoeld Seminar

Every year, Evergreen's Willie Unsoeld Seminar fund sponsors a distinguished humanist to visit the campus and make a presentation to the Evergreen community. This year's guest is Eduardo Galeano from Uruguay. Senor Galeano is a journalist, novelist and essayist.

Perhaps his most well-known book is *Venas Abiertas de America Latina* (Open Veins of Latin America). His trilogy *Memory of Fire*, which took nine years to write, uses an anecdotal poetic style to illustrate and portray the human history of the Americas. His newest book, *El Libro de los Abrazos* (Book of Embraces), will be published this Spring.

Senor Galeano will give a public presentation on May 7th at 7:30 pm in the Library Lobby. The MPA program will hold a reception for students, faculty, staff and friends immediately preceding Senor Galeano's presentation, from 6:15 to 7:15 pm in the MPA Lounge. The reception will also give us the opportunity to thank Colleen Ray and others who recently remodeled the lounge into a more hospitable place.

## Rachel Carson Seminar

*"Why the Earth Can't Wait: Race, Poverty & Environmental Justice"*

Saturday, May 18th, 6 pm  
Anna Bachmann's House

There will be three articles by Victor Lewis (this year's Rachel Carson Environmental Forum speaker) placed in student mailboxes by May 6th. We will be having a seminar/potluck to discuss these readings and issues of racial justice to prepare for the forum itself on Wednesday, May 22nd. We hope all can attend. For more information, call Anna at 866-6000 X6479.

### UPDATE Needs Your Submissions!

Spring Deadlines: **May 3\*, 17, 31\*** (\*alumni mailing)

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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# Jobs vs Owls: How Did it Happen?

by Eli Sterling

During the Nature Writing Workshop a couple of weeks ago, guest writer Mary Ann Gwinn of the *Seattle Times* was queried why newspapers always frame the spotted owl controversy in the context of "Jobs vs Owls" when in fact the real issue is old growth ecosystems. Although it has been frequently asked over the past couple years, the question has rarely received a satisfactory reply. Interestingly, Mary Ann's response was not much different than her predecessors': "Your right, the papers really haven't done a very good job in making that distinction, but I believe we're getting better."

Yet if this is the best we can ever hope for, perhaps the question should be rephrased. Perhaps we should begin to ask ourselves whether speaking about "Ecosystems vs Jobs" would have truly made a difference. Personally, I'm not convinced that reframing the debate in such a context of would have done the trick; I still feel the present crisis between loggers and environmentalists would not have been averted.

True, old growth ecosystems are the issue. And true, the spotted owl was selected by the US Forest Service in 1976 as an indicator species to measure the effects of "forest management activities" upon that ecosystem as required by the National Forest Management Act of 1976 (NFMA). But it is also true that there is no definition in NFMA describing what an old growth ecosystem is. Nor are there any guidelines defining the role of the spotted owl in determining an old growth ecosystem's health.

As a consequence, the controversial debate over what constitutes an old growth forest remains within the fences of the Forest Service and the NFMA. The spotted owl however, having flown the coop, is now in the hands of the US Fish and Wildlife Service and the Endangered Species Act (ESA). Unfortunately, what has been lost in the shuffle for many of us, is the "political understanding" that definitions of "old growth ecosystems" and "spotted owl habitat," while similar, are not synonymous. (This is one reason why the timber industries have cried foul over the use of the ESA by environmentalists: forest definitions can be manipulated -- owl populations, at least so far, cannot.)

Even so, the conflict over old growth definitions is but one of several seams intensely stitched upon a political football pitting the loggers against the environmentalists. It is not, in the words of a wildlife biologist, a "win-win" situation.

The question remains however, was there any other way? Perhaps. But if the conflict was to be avoided, it would have taken much more than simply a clearer cause for ecosystems over owls as Jim Pissot, Director of Washington State Chapter of the National Audubon, and Steve Fluke, President of the International Woodworkers of America in Chehalis, point out.

Both were guests on a recent edition of "Mouthing Off" and I had the good fortune of being able to ask them both why it was that environmentalists and loggers have come toe to toe and head to head.

*Jim Pissot*

"When trying to understand why it is that environmentalists and loggers don't line up on the same side, I go back and look at the last 10 years and I see a number of revealing things. In the early 1980s, industry, in my estimation, was facing and predicting a number of challenges they would have to deal with in the next decade. They knew there would be modernization that would ultimately result in the laying off of workers.

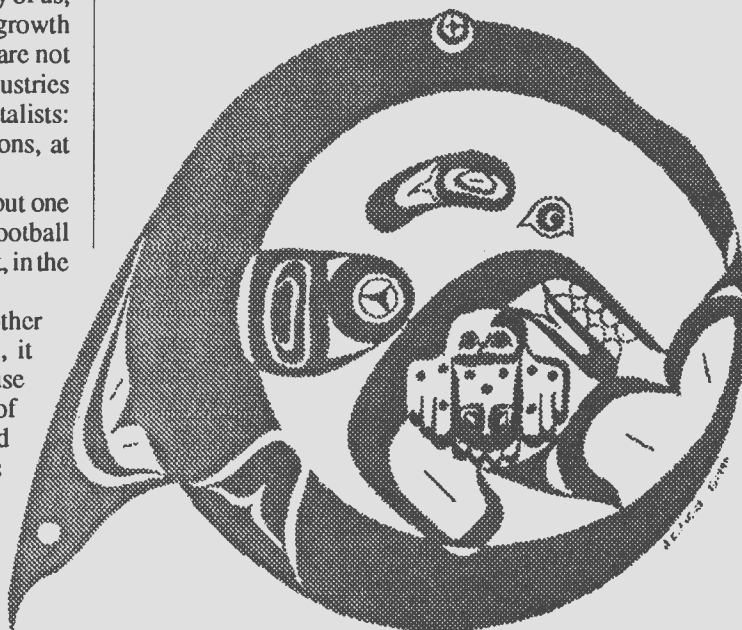
"They also knew that they could not modernize every mill, especially those that cut old growth logs. They knew too, that those mills not modernized, those mills that did not receive any capital investment, were going to be allowed to just work, run, and rust, and eventually most of the mill workers would be laid off when the big logs ran out.

"They understood too, that because of forecasted lows in housing starts and the harvest cycles, that manufacturing would tail off and result in bitter disputes and strikes in the middle part of the 1980's by workers seeking higher wages. They were becoming increasingly aware that during the same period of time there would be a more lucrative log export market and a relationship between the dollar and the yen that favored log exports.

"In response to these forecasts, big industry would begin diversifying. As we see now, Weyerhaeuser, to mention just one example, has a major finance and real estate division that goes beyond just raising and cutting and milling trees. They, like other big industries, are able to diversify and are continually looking for other opportunities to make a profit.

"Finally, we have all the cynical headlines we have seen from Wall Street involving corporate take overs and junk bonds where a new company takes over an old, family and community oriented timber company like Pacific Lumber in the NW California and immediately doubles triples and quadruples the cut to pay off the investment and the junk bonds used to buy that company.

(see page 3)



## ***Environmental Careers: Current Growth Trends***

Wednesday, May 8th, 6:30 to 8:45 pm  
The Mountaineers, 300 Third Ave W, Seattle

A panel of five environmental professionals will focus on career opportunities in the environmental field. They will talk about their backgrounds (who they got where they are), current jobs (what their work involves), and the job opportunities in the field

Areas to be covered include Air Quality, Energy, Growth Management, Hazardous Waste Management, and Solid Waste/Recycling. The seminar is presented by the CEIP Fund, a national nonprofit environmental careers organization. Registration for students costs \$15. For more information, call 625-1750.

## ***Eco-City Forum***

Wednesday, May 8th, 7pm  
Lecture Hall 1

Chris Canfield, coordinator of the Cerro Gordo Town Forum, will give a progress report on projects discussed at the Ecologically Sustainable Cities Conference (ECO-CITIES) held in Berkeley, CA. Chris' talk is brought to you by the friendly folks at MES/GSA.

## ***Birds and Flowers of Spring***

Sunday, May 5

The Black Hills Audubon Society will be leading a field trip to the Scatter Creek area in southern Thurston County, and the public is invited. If you are interested, call the Black Hills Audubon office at 352-7299, or Janet Strong at 1-495-3950 for more information.



## **Jobs vs. Owls (cont.)**

"Each of these situations I've named is contrary to workers interests. It means lay offs, it means reduced wages, it means putting workers on the street. I feel that industry felt that they had to have a lightening rod so that the demonstrations that we are seeing now against the spotted owl would not be demonstrations against the Scott Papers, the ITT Rayonirs, the Plum Creeks and the Weyerhaeusers. And the lightening rod that was picked to force a wedge between the environmental community and the logging and milling local communities was the spotted owl.

**"The lightening rod that was picked to force a wedge between the environmental community and the logging and milling local communities was the spotted owl."**

"I attended a convention of the National Audubon Society in 1981, right after Reagan had come into office. And at that time John Crowel had just been named Deputy Secretary of Agriculture... the sort of Jim Watt of the Forest Service. He was in charge of Forest Service policy at the cabinet level. In the past he had been General Council to Louisiana Pacific, and General Council to Georgia Pacific, two timber industry giants. He explained to us the Reagan agenda on mining, grazing, oil and gas production and so on and so on. And when he got to forest management he went right to the ancient forests in the Northwest. And Crowel did not talk about the clear water that comes from old growth forests. He did not talk about salmon and steelhead fisheries. He did not talk about deer and elk. Nor did he even talk about sustained yield. Instead, he talk about the spotted owl right away.

"And in doing so, he created a lightening rod in that convention, pitting the spotted owl against jobs in 1981. That has been a theme of some members of industry, and of some members of the government ever sense. We, the environmentalists, did not invent or select the spotted owl. In 1981, John Crowel, at the head of the industry and the administration at that time, selected the spotted owl to drive that wedge... and we have been fighting over spotted owls ever since. Mean while, during the same period of time, all of these other events have occurred that have been detrimental to local mill workers and local loggers in the Northwest.

"Over the last 25 and 50 years the creation of national parks has taken some timber out of production, but very little. The same small amount has come from wilderness. Forest plans, responding to public demands on public demands, have reduced the cut as well. All of this has had an impact on small communities, on mill workers, and loggers. But there is an equal, if not larger impact, by the policy of exports; the policy of quick over-cutting to pay off junk bonds followed by a crash. All of this falls squarely in the lap of industry.

"What I think is a just and open discussion on this issue involves bringing all players to the table and holding all players accountable for some reductions and hardship located in those communities and seeing where each one can play a difference. What I am not seeing at this point is industry coming to the table and helping in that transition."

(see page 4)

## Jobs vs. Owls (cont.)

Steve Fluke

"If I could, I would like to use a little bit of a simpler analysis than Jim in trying to describe how environmentalists and loggers became adversaries. What I see, is this big owl flying in from the East toward the West. And as it flies from the East to the West, I see all these environmental groups getting on this big owl because they can't get into the West any other way. The reason they want to get on is because the owl gives them the ideal way to get what it is they really want...and what they want is to save some of the environment and to save some of the forest lands.

"So the environmentalists are here. They've arrived. And they want to save this big owl. But now all of the sudden, it becomes no different than what happened in 1986. In 1986 Weyerhaeuser came to the timber communities and said: "You know what we're going to do? We're going to reduce your wages. We're going to reduce any benefits you've had. And if you want to work for us, you're going to work for us a lot cheaper and you're going to lose a lot of the things you presently have."

"So what did the people that I represent in these communities do? Well, we fought back. We fought back in the form of a real tough six to eight week strike in 1986. And anybody who lives in Washington can remember what happened during that strike. It was very tough.

"People had to fight back. Why? Because they were scared.

They were scared they were going to lose their livelihoods. They were scared they were going to lose their way of life. So what's happened now from 1989 to 1991 is almost the same thing. But only this time the company doesn't come on as the bad guy. The bad guy now comes on, whether they deserve it or not, as the environmental groups. And what makes it even worse, is that the environmentalists aren't talking about just reducing wages. What they're saying is: "We're going to shut you down because we've got to save the timber. Sorry, but you can't have a job any more. And if you don't like it, go retrain and go out and find yourself another job."

"So what happens is that people immediately become scared. And when people get scared what's the first thing that they do? They fight back, and they fight back the only way they know how. And that is where I think we are right now. We're in a situation where people are afraid of losing their livelihoods and they see the environmentalists as the ones who initiated the whole thing. We're down to the nitty-gritty.

"To be honest, I'm scared for these people. These are people who are going to lose their homes, their traditions, and their sense of pride in their work. What do you think it feels like to be suddenly told that everything you've been doing all your life is wrong. What if we just say, that right now, all you people who drove to work on the I-5 corridor today, we don't like what you did... you polluted the air... get out of your cars, get retrained and find yourself another job where you won't ever drive on the freeway again. How many people do you think are going to go for that?

(see page 5)

## Student Advisory Board Potluck Results

by Anna Bachmann

The Student Advisory Board met for an evening potluck meeting on Friday, April 19th to tackle several issues concerning student internships and the core response. Though both proved to be long discussions the Board did make the following initial recommendations concerning these issues

- The Rachel Carson Internship position should be supported by the program with some additional refinement of its academic component.

- The MES program should foster faculty presentations and curriculum negotiations within the core program (i.e. PER faculty presentation of the course syllabus to students while they are still participating in PEEP). This is a common practice in the MPA program and has happened occasionally in the MES program. We feel that this would help ensure the success of the class for all concerned and is an important courtesy that should be promoted by the Program Director.

- The Case Studies Core class should be renamed Environmental Problem Solving to give added direction to the faculty and students. EPS should foster the application of skills learned in previous cores towards a solution-oriented focus within the class.

- The program should convene a meeting of all faculty who have ever taught Case Studies (aka Environmental Problem Solving) to discuss the approach and scope of the class in order to give it more definition within the program.

The next meeting of the Board will occur at 10 am on Saturday, May 4th in Seminar Building 3162. The main topic for discussion will be the elective offerings of the MES program. All are welcome to participate.

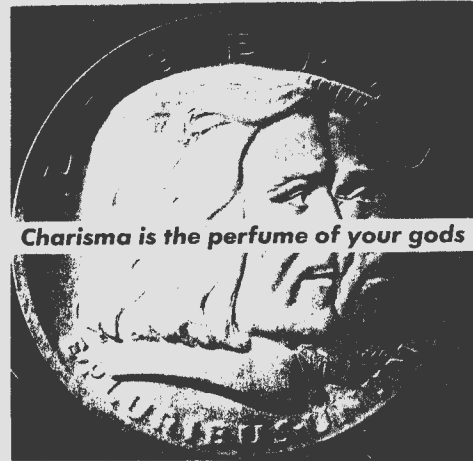
# Jobs vs. Owls (cont.)

"Personally, I don't know how the people in my communities are going to cope with it. If the timber communities and environmentalists are going to get together the first question that is going to have to be answered is where were the environmentalists during the strike of '86?"

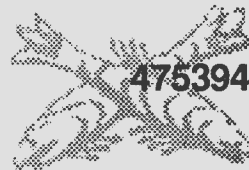
In January 1987, an environmental group called GreenWorld, from Cambridge, MA, officially petitioned the US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) to list the northern spotted owl under the ESA. The FWS rejected the petition and instead entered into an Interagency Agreement with the Forest Service to monitor the owl.

On November 17, 1988, the Federal District Court held that the FWS acted "arbitrarily and capriciously" in rejecting that petition and gave FWS until May 1, 1989 to list the owl or prove otherwise. On June 23, 1989, the FWS formally proposed listing the owl as "threatened" (not "endangered" which is a higher classification) throughout its range.

In July 23, 1990, the FWS interim regulations protecting the owl went to go into effect. On April 19, 1991, the FWS presented its first preliminary blueprint for saving the owl. Over four years have passed since the original petition to protect the spotted owl. The timber harvests in '87, '88, and '89 are among the highest recorded over the last twenty years.



*Charisma is the perfume of your gods*



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## Concerning Statistics

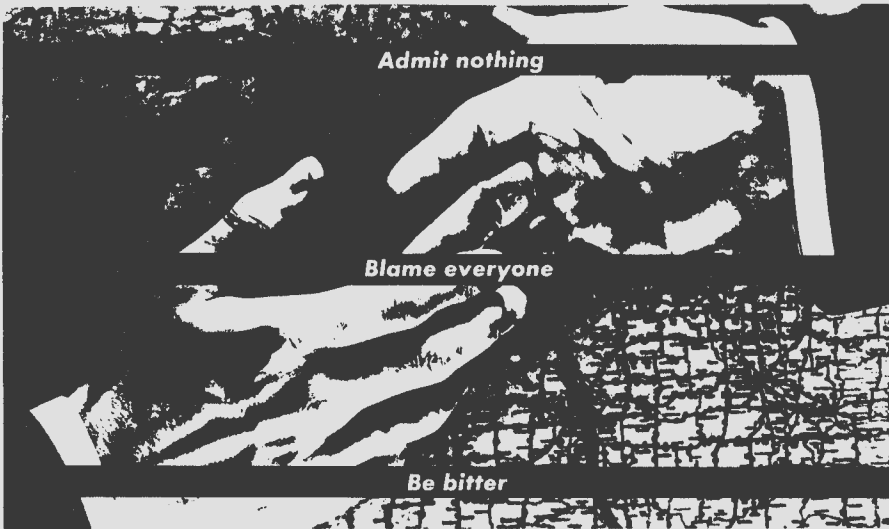
"Statistics are a tool upon which anglers rely so heavily that a fish story lacking numbers is just that: A Fish Story.

A fish without an exact weight and length is a non-entity, whereas the sixteen-incher or the twelve-pounder leaps out of the imagination, splashing the brain with cold spray.

The strange implication is that numbers are more tangible than flesh, fish without vital statistics are fish without being.

And this digital fisherman consciousness has seeped into most facets of life."

- David James Duncan,  
*The River Why*



# 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: Field trips, Education projects  
CONTACT: Lea Mitchell @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: Washington Governor's Internship Program  
WHAT: Research Associate (Exec. Fellow 1)  
CONTACT: Roxanne Lieb @ 866-6000 ext. 6380  
DURATION: June 1, 1991 to May 31, 1992  
SALARY: \$1789-2261 Range 37  
DEADLINE: May 2, 1991

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

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

WHO: Institute for Local Self-Reliance  
WHAT: Enviro/Econ Devel. Research Intern  
CONTACT: Pers. Mgr-Recycled Products @ (202)232-4108  
DURATION: 6mo. +  
SALARY: \$750/6mo - \$1000/6+mo.  
DEADLINE: Open

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: Institute for Local Self-Reliance  
WHAT: Communications Intern  
CONTACT: Pers. Mgr. - Communications @ (202)232-4108  
DURATION: 6 mo. +  
SALARY: \$750/6mo - \$1000/6+mo.  
DEADLINE: Open

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

