This month read about:

1. Welcome New Art and Design Center Administrative Assistant
2. Study Abroad Possibilities
3. Conferences/ Meetings/Events
4. Chatham Grad Student Info
5. Plan Ahead – Summer Class Dates Finalized
6. Chatham College Student Chapter ASLA
7. Thesis Opportunity
8. Design Awards/Competitions
9. Scholarship/ Internship Opportunities
10. Design Work Opportunities
11. Job Opportunities
12. News of Interest

New Administrative Assistant for Art and Design Division

Nimi Finnigan has been hired as administrative support for the Arts and Design Division. She will be working part-time (Mondays and Tuesday 9am-3pm and Wednesdays and Thursdays 9am-12:30pm). Nimi is a graduate of Chatham College and is currently working on her MFA in writing at Chatham.

When you have a chance, please stop by her office (#109) to say hello.
Study Abroad Possibilities

Several opportunities exist to study abroad this year:

Kary Arimoto-Mercer and Rick Mercer have found a program offered by the University of Florida to study in Paris:

**Two Week Tour of Historic & Contemporary Landscape Architecture in Paris** (LAA 4956, UF credits: 3) (May 7-20, 2006 during Chatham’s Maymester)

Program coordinated and taught by Professor R. Terry Schnadelbach

A two week tour of exemplary landscape architectural spaces that focuses on examples of gardens, parks and urban open spaces in Paris and the nearby region. Program includes: 14 activity-rich days in Paris with classes given on-site at the cultural, historical and political institutions you are studying, 13 nights in hotel with breakfast, numerous group meals, site visits, cultural activities, UF credit, and more! Cost: $1,900 not including round trip airfare; non-group meals and personal expenses.

Another opportunity during June:

Phyllis Katz, Vice President of Atlas Travel Service here in Pittsburgh presented a tour which may be of interest:

**Stately Houses and Gardens Tour of England** will be offered from June 8 – 19, 2006. Total tour cost $3,959 (double occupancy) includes airfare; 10 nights hotel accommodations; all breakfasts; 2 lunches; 7 dinners; private transportation throughout; special English Garden Guide and more.

Any study abroad course which is offered by another university or entity may be submitted for approved credit towards the Masters degree by completing the form: Application for Study Abroad found on the Chatham intranet under forms and The HUB. This is the same form used for undergraduate students, however the same process applies to graduate students.

For additional information please contact Lisa Kunst Vavro.

Conferences/Meetings/Events

**February 9–10, 2006**

2006 APGA Design and Planning Symposium hosted by Longwood Gardens. This symposium will focus on issues related to design and planning at public gardens.

Register Now to Guarantee Your Spot for upcoming Symposia!

**LIMITED SPACE IS STILL AVAILABLE FOR THE 2006 DESIGN SYMPOSIUM**

Space is limited for both the 2006 Design Symposium hosted by Longwood Gardens and the Best Business Practices Symposium hosted by Frederik Meijer Gardens. If you plan to attend, send your registration in as soon as possible.

The program for the Design Symposium features prominent public garden professionals and landscape architects from all over North America. If you are in the design process or expect to be in the next few years, you do not want to miss this opportunity!

If you have further questions or need more information, contact Sharon Malgire at 302-655-7100 ext. 18 or smalgire@publicgardens.org
February 13-18, 2006 Seminars
February 15-17, 2006 Trade Show
Mid-Atlantic Hardscaping Trade Show
Atlantic City Convention Center Atlantic City, NJ
www.ephenry.com\mahts

February 16, 2006  6:30 – 9:30 p.m.
EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR
DEER IN YOUR BACKYARD:
How To Deal With The Challenges of Overabundant Deer In Your Community
Regional Learning Alliance, Cranberry
850 Cranberry Woods Drive
Cranberry, PA 16066
724-741-1000

You are cordially invited to this FREE seminar on what many consider to be the most important ecological issue in Pennsylvania.

An overabundance of white-tailed deer in many communities can bring with it, Lyme disease, deer/vehicle collisions and vegetation destruction. The “Deer in Your Backyard” seminar is designed for the general public to provide pro-active information on how to manage the white-tailed deer population in their communities. Community representatives, homeowners, elected officials and others who are experiencing challenges from “overabundant” deer are encouraged to attend. Issues, concerns and ideas brought to light during this seminar will be presented to the Pennsylvania Game Commission which has requested public input on deer management. Topics to be discussed include Lyme disease, methods for managing deer populations within communities, examples of local management experiences and what an individual community can do to address deer management challenges.

Sponsored by: The Ecosystem Management Project and Audubon Pennsylvania, along with over 65 other organizations including the Sierra Club.

Saturday, February 18, 2006  8:30 am to 4:30 pm
"Beauty and Sustainability: Gardens for the 21st Century"

This one-day symposium features: Internationally known experts, who will share insights into the newest and best in garden design and ecological landscape solutions.

Featured speakers and topics to include:
  * Structures and Systems: A Sustainable Landscape is a Beautiful Landscape by Henry Hanson, Hanson Design Group in Pittsburgh
  * Dynamic Design with Maintenance in Mind by Wolfgang Oehme, cofounder of the world-renowned landscape architecture firm, Oehme, van Sweden & Associates
  * New Directions in the Landscape by a panel of regional experts

Partners: The Cleveland Botanical Garden and the Nature Center at Shaker Lakes, with sponsors, Doan Brook Watershed Partnership and Cleveland Metroparks
Cost: $85 members of sponsoring organizations; $95 nonmembers
Location: Cleveland Botanical Garden (http://www.cbgarden.org/), 11030 East Blvd. in Cleveland’s University Circle Who should attend: Landscape designers, architects, environmental professionals, educators, native plant enthusiasts and even the most novice home gardener To register/more information: You may register online with the Cleveland Botanical Garden http://www.cbgarden.org/ or by calling Kristen Ciofani at (216) 721-1600 ext. 141.
Wednesday, February 22, 2006  5:30 p.m.
Chatham College Student Chapter ASLA Meeting  Art and Design Center, Studio 204

Thursday, February 23, 2006  6:00 p.m.
PA/DE Chapter ASLA next Western section meeting at Klavon Design Associates, 915 Penn Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15222
Snacks & drinks will be provided.
A lot has been accomplished on the annual meeting so far, but there is still a lot to do! Please join us to help out in the effort.
Please RSVP to NOeler@gatewayengineers.com by February 16, 2006.
Hope to see you all there - Rachelle A Wolf, ASLA

Friday, February 24, 2006 6:30 p.m.
Beckwith Hall, Buhl Science Building, Chatham College
Ron Block’s Thesis Presentation:
**Wednesday, March 1st 7:00 p.m. Chatham College in Eddy Theater**

**Women's History Month kick-off event entitled LunaFest**

The program includes: Local women's organizations will be tabling at 7:00 p.m., with the film festival beginning at 7:30 p.m. The program will act as a fundraiser for local women's groups/shelters and for breast cancer awareness. Chatham community members are free (suggested donation of $3-5) and we are requesting $5 donation from external community members/guests. We are the only higher education institution in Western PA to host a LunaFest, so please help spread the word!

Please see below for program details.

LUNAFEST, which celebrates its fifth anniversary this year as the only national touring festival of films by, for, and about women, will take place here this year on March 1, 2006. LUNAFEST, produced by LUNA®, the whole nutrition bar for women™, provides a national platform for emerging women filmmakers to share their stories.

As in previous years, the films shown at LUNAFEST embody a wide range of topics dealing with what it means to be a woman in the 21st century. Topics include:

- a short, animated documentary about senior citizens' sexuality;
- a woman soldier’s crisis to find someone to care for her children during her tour of duty in the Middle East;
- the dilemma of an Egyptian housewife living in Los Angeles, whether to follow tradition and circumcise her daughter;
- a daughter’s struggle to be understood by her mother;
- a mother’s search for her missing daughter;
- a young Asian girl’s internal battle to find herself or continue to try to be “perfect;”
- the healing power of friendship between an old woman and a troubled young woman; and
- a humorous look at menopause.

Thank you for your support

LUNAFEST also raises awareness of, and contributions for, the Breast Cancer Fund. In total, over $75,000 has been raised for the Breast Cancer Fund.

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**Saturday-Sunday, March 4-5, 2006**

**MDASLA LARE REVIEW – University of Maryland, College Park, MD**

SESSION ONE: Saturday March 4 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Exam sections A, B, and C.

SESSION TWO: Sunday March 5 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Exam sections D and E. Cost for each session is $70 for ASLA members, $100 for non-members. $40 late fee for registrations after February 27; no registrations after Wednesday, March 1.

Coordinator: David Myers, ALSA  <dnmyers@umd.edu>. Please contact Naomi Reetz, MDASLA Executive Director at <trinitynka@yahoo.com> if you have questions or for a registration form. See <http://www.larch.umd.edu/LARE/LARE2006.htm> for more information.

**Thursday-Friday, March 9-10, 2006.**

**2006 Conservatory Symposium hosted by The New York Botanical Garden**

Registration is now available

Space is limited to 100 registrants for the 2006 Conservatory Symposium Last year's symposium sold out. If you plan to attend, send your registration in as soon as possible to guarantee your spot.

The program for the Conservatory Symposium features prominent public garden experts from all over North America. The early bird registration deadline is Thursday, February 23. so register now and save! If you have further questions or need more information, contact Sharon Malgire at 302-655-7100 ext. 18 or <smalgire@aabga.org>. 
Saturday, March 11, 2006  8:40 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.  At Chatham College, Eddy Theater
Western Pennsylvania Garden and Landscaping Symposium
This year’s featured speaker will be Julie Moir Messervy.
Program information is available at Chatham College’s Art and Design Center or by calling
Phipps Garden Center at 412-441-4442.
$90.00 Early registration must be postmarked February 17, 2006
$100.00 after February 17, 2006
Scholarship application forms are available from Lisa Kunst Vavro.

Thursday, March 30, 2006  8:00 p.m.  At Chatham College, Eddy Theater
Art and Architectural Historian, Mitchell Abdul Karim Crites
Illustrated Presentation and Reception:
Jaipur, City of Artists – Three Hundred Years of Creativity
Free and open to the public

For future consideration:
Chautauqua Institution’s summer lecture series will feature in their fourth week, the week of July
17, 2006, the theme of: Landscape Architecture and Community Design. Dennis Carmichael,
ASLA, Principal of EDAW; along with James van Sweden, FASLA, founding partner of Oehme,
van Sweden & Associates; Charles Birnbaum, FASLA, landscape architect preservationist; and L.
Azeo Torre, AIA, president of Torre/Design Consortium in New Orleans are all speaking.

If anyone is interested maybe a group of landscape architecture students and faculty could rent a house on Lake Chautauqua for July 17-22, 2006?
Any other ideas are welcome.
Let Lisa Kunst Vavro know if you are interested, it is not too early to make reservations.

Chatham Grad Student Information

First Fridays: A Mixer for Graduate Students
The First Friday of Every Month
Friday, March 3rd

5:00 p.m. Graduate Council Meeting
All graduate students are welcome to attend

6:00 p.m. Graduate Student Happy Hour
Hors de ouevres and alcohol will be served free of charge
All graduate students, faculty and staff welcome!

McCready Café (Smoothie Bar level, AFC)
Sponsored by your Graduate Student Council
Contact Angie Lusk for details x1527 or alusk@chatham.edu
PLAN AHEAD - Summer Term Dates Finalized

12-week session:
Monday, May 22 – Tuesday, August 15
No classes on Monday, May 29 (Memorial Day)
No classes on Tuesday, July 4

7-week session:
Monday, May 22 – Tuesday, July 11
No classes on Monday, May 29 (Memorial Day)
No classes on Tuesday, July 4

8-week session:
Tuesday, June 20th – Tuesday, August 15
No classes on Tuesday, July 4

Apply for Tuition waiver-work study in Chatham’s Arboretum for summer term
4 positions available – See Lisa Kunst Vavro for details

Graduate Commencement Ceremony: Saturday, August 19, 2006
Hope to have several landscape students in participating!

Chatham College Student Chapter ASLA

NEXT MEETING WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22ND AT 5:30 P.M.
IN STUDIO 204
Student ASLA Chapter Plant Sale Committee will be part of this meeting as well as
a discussion about the composting effort with the undergraduate ecology group,
Green Horizons, on campus.

The Student ASLA Chapter is gearing up to help the Western Section of PA/DE
Chapter ASLA in the planning and execution of the PA/DE Chapter ASLA annual
meeting to be held in April 6-8, 2006 here in Pittsburgh. Volunteers are needed.
Trisha Crowe will be coordinating volunteers. Please contact her at
tcrowe@paconserve.org

For additional information about becoming a member of the ASLA Student
Chapter at Chatham please contact Student Chapter President, Lisa McGoogan at
lmcgoogan@chatham.edu for more information.
A CONTINUOUS REMINDER:

PA/DE Chapter ASLA Western Section Student Extracurricular Grant

Look at the seminar and conference opportunities listed above. Think about how you could use this grant money and apply!

The PA/DE ASLA Chapter has established a Chatham College Student Extracurricular Grant of $1,000.00/year for landscape students. These grant monies are open for application to all Chatham College students in the landscape programs. Individual applications will be awarded for a maximum of $100.00 each toward an event, conference or field trip the student would like to attend but may not have the necessary funding to do so.

To apply, a student must write at least one paragraph to one page explaining how the grant would be used, as well as, explaining what the applicant’s needs are. These applications should be submitted in a sealed envelope to Director Lisa Kunst Vavro, which in turn will be submitted to PA/DE ASLA Chapter’s Western Section Chair, Rachelle Wolf, for review and determination.

To date eight students have been awarded grants:
Carol Weston for the North American Landscape History field trip to D.C. May 2004.
Gary Cramer for the Environmental Writers Conference at CMU in October 2004.
Lisa McGoogan to attend LABASH at Ohio State University in March 2005.
Jane Heatherington and Susan Parker to supplement the expenses to attend Mike Lin’s graphic workshop in San Francisco.

There is $1,235.00 remaining to be awarded, carried over into this academic year 2005-2006. These grant monies are available for application NOW and should be available until the funding is depleted for the 2005-2006 year.

Think about how you could use these funds and apply!

Please note this grant money may be changing in allocation according to Western Section. Stay posted for more information.
Thesis Opportunity

Is there a Graduate LA Student that would like to do his/her final design project in Blairsville?

A grant received for Your Town Workshop with the National Park Service will involve both Chatham College Landscape Programs and PA/DE Chapter ASLA. There is now a request to get someone started ASAP, especially since the possibility exists of working with PA Downtown Center to do four community visioning meetings over the next four months.

Please inquire with Lisa Kunst Vavro.

Design Awards/Competitions

ASLA 2006 Professional and Student Awards Call for Entries

It's not too soon to start thinking about entering the ASLA 2006 Professional and Student Awards. The Call for Entries is now available online, and many entries have already been received. Don't miss out on this valuable opportunity to showcase your work—enter today!

Please note that the Professional Awards schedule has changed this year.

Student Awards deadlines:
Entry forms must be received by Friday, May 19, 2006
Submission materials must be received by Friday, June 2, 2006.

The program features:
- General Design category;
- Residential Design category (in partnership with Garden Design magazine);
- Analysis and Planning category;
- Research category (in partnership with CELA and Landscape Journal);
- Communications category;
- The Landmark Award (in partnership with the National Trust for Historic Preservation);
- Student Collaboration category; and
- The Student Community Service Award.

Award recipients will be featured in Landscape Architecture magazine and other industry and general media publications. Winning projects in the residential category will also be featured in Garden Design magazine. The awards will be presented in a ceremony followed by a luncheon honoring award recipients, their clients, and faculty advisors during the ASLA Annual Meeting & EXPO, October 7-10, 2006, in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Need inspiration? Check out the 2005 Professional Awards video and Student Awards PowerPoint on the 2006 Call for Entries
2006 ASLA Annual Meeting & EXPO and 43rd IFLA World Congress
October 6-9, 2006 Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA
Theme: Green Solutions for a Blue Planet
For more information please contact:
http://www.asla.org/meetings/am2006/minneapolis.html

IFLA International Student Design Competition

DAMAGED LANDSCAPES: AIR, WATER AND LAND IN CRISIS

This competition is sponsored by the International Federation of Landscape Architects (IFLA) and is directed by the Department of Landscape Architecture, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN 55455 USA.

The objective of this competition is to encourage and recognize student environmental design work that addresses critical ecological issues and that redefines the boundaries of landscape architecture.

The competition invites submissions from individual students and teams of students in landscape architecture and allied disciplines.

Please visit the congress website:
http://www.asla.org/meetings/am2006/minneapolis.html to view this call for submissions, other details of submission, and with links to the meeting agendas for IFLA World Congress and the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA), which will be meeting jointly in Minneapolis.

AWARDS
First Award
IFLA Prize: US $3,500 & Certificate

Second Award
ZVI Miller Prize: US $2,500 & Certificate

Third Prize
Merit Award – MASLA/ASLA Minnesota: US $1,000 & Certificate

Prizes will be awarded by the jury on the bases of the following criteria:

- Thoughtful investigation of the project topic in the context of resource management, ethics, shared values, and consideration of multiple public functions of landscape;
- Integration and/or coordination of ecological, environmental, historical, social, and programmatic systems;
- Demonstration of methodologies for the improvement of the practices of and innovation in landscape architecture; and
- Demonstration of innovative and practical solutions to project challenges, resolution of physical context.

COMPETITION BRIEF: DAMAGED LANDSCAPES: AIR, WATER AND LAND IN CRISIS

In the course of the 21st Century humans will have to reckon with dwindling and damaged water, land and air resources; the result of the ways in which we have inhabited the world. At the root of the causes and solutions to these challenges are ethical questions about how we should manage and distribute shared resources.

Jared Diamond in his book Collapse: How Societies Choose to Fail or Succeed, points to specific environmental problems that are "portents of doom," and that are all too familiar to landscape architects, including deforestation, soil erosion, habitat destruction, and freshwater pollution. Diamond also emphasizes that the way in which a society responds to its environmental problems is crucial to its success or failure.

Design, in all of its modes, may influence the way the society it serves responds to environmental problems. Design is a process of representing ideas, imagining futures, and transforming the built environment. Design representations can encourage us to imagine different systems for dealing with damaged landscapes. Design shapes physical places.

These places in turn shape the physical experiences of those who move through and occupy them. Design makes certain kinds of activities possible and others difficult. Designed places, if based on sound ecological and technical research, can improve ecological function and present new options for human habitation. Design is also a process of uncovering, questioning, affirming and promoting values. Might design help to bridge the gap between what we think is good and right, what we need to live well and how we actually inhabit the environment?

The call for proposals is intended to embrace a broad scope of landscapes and a broad range of ecological challenges. Projects may address regions, watersheds, cities, neighborhoods, parks or gardens. Projects may deal with waste treatment, water conservation and treatment, air quality, and/or site reclamation.
For example:
- a community garden that is also a site of new or redesigned site-specific storm or waste water-treatment infrastructure;
- a park or neighborhood, new or existing, that is (re)designed to improve infiltration or storage of stormwater runoff or re-establish a patch-and-corridor habitat for migratory birds and that improves pedestrian systems;
- a town, new or existing, that adopts a systemic approach to waste reduction or power generation involving multifunctional public landscapes; or
- a design for a regional landscape that has a history of resource extraction such as mining, agriculture, or deforestation in which re-vegetation could have a significant positive impact on habitat, temperature, and air quality

**Eligibility**
The competition is open to all students of landscape architecture. Both individual and team submissions will be accepted. Each student is permitted only one entry; i.e., multiple participation by an individual across teams is not permitted. These problems are fundamentally seen as landscape architecture and submissions must have a landscape architecture lead, although engineers, architects and/or other collaborative team members are encouraged. Teams shall not exceed five (5) members. Associates, relatives and others connected with the jury members may not enter the competition.

**Submission Requirements**
The submissions must adhere to the following specifications or they will be disqualified:

1. Entries must take the form of four (4) board PDF (Portable Document Format) files which when printed at 100% size would be 45 cm x 90 cm. These PDFs may be sent in one of two (2) ways:
   a. as submitter to a web-based drop box linked to the IFLA World Congress website. The four board PDF’s shall not identify names, faculty sponsors, or schools of teams. Please enclose a fifth PDF file identifying the names, faculty sponsors, and schools of teams.
   b. as a CD/DVD with a separate PDF file identifying the names, faculty sponsors, or schools of teams. Please also include the CD with your name, school, and project title.

2. PDFs must be titled to indicate a numerical left-to-right order in which they are to be seen if mounted. (for example, Site Sections and Images 1, Master Plan 2, Axonometric and Sketches 3, Construction and Infrastructure Details 4)

3. The PDFs must include all project information including text, which shall be in English.

4. Prints and three-dimensional objects will be disqualified

**Send Submissions to:**
Department of Landscape Architecture University of Minnesota http://www.cala.umn.edu
CALA (College of Architecture and Landscape Architecture) will develop a web-based drop box which can be linked to the IFLA website

**Closing Date**
All submissions must be received at the College of Architecture and Landscape Architecture, University of Minnesota by Monday, 19 June 2006. Any submissions received after this date will be disqualified.

**Jury**
The jury members will consist of five members drawn from the membership of IFLA and ASLA.

**Competition Rules**
Participation in the competition requires unconditional acceptance of the rules.

All competition entries are copyright property of the IFLA and the College of Architecture and Landscape Architecture, University of Minnesota until October 9, 2006 at which time competition entrants may publish their work independently of the competition, the IFLA and the College of Architecture and Landscape Architecture, University of Minnesota. CD Entries will not be returned to their authors.

The winning works and a selection of others will be exhibited at the IFLA World Congress, Minneapolis, October 6-9, 2008

The IFLA and College of Architecture and Landscape Architecture, University of Minnesota retain rights of duplication and publication of submission materials, with no obligation to the entrants other than citation of their authorship.

Submissions received after Monday, June 20 will not be admitted. All postage and/or delivery charges for CD submissions are the responsibilities of the entrants.

The jury shall preside over the competition and is the sole arbiter of the decisions pertaining to awards. Decisions of the jury are final, and there are no appeals of their decisions.

The winners of the prizes shall be announced by the IFLA President and presented at a ceremony on October 7, 2006 at 2:00 pm in Minneapolis.

Any disputes arising from issues out of the control of the jury will be resolved through arbitration of the 43rd IFLA World Congress Executive Committee, who shall appoint an arbitration tribunal to settle such disputes.

Entrants are forbidden to contact the members of the jury at any juncture in the competition, until after October 6, 2006.

Download the IFLA DECLARATION Form from the website
The University of Minnesota College of Architecture and Landscape Architecture (CALA) http://www.cala.umn.edu Department of Landscape Architecture International Federation of Landscape Architects (IFLA) www.iflonline.org
Scholarship / Internship Opportunities

Western Pennsylvania Conservancy
2006 Community Conservation Internships
Application Deadline is March 15, 2006

To Apply:  Send resume and letter of interest, including availability dates to: Nancy Bassett, SPHR, Senior Director Human Resources, Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, Box R, Mill Run, PA  15464

Community Conservation Intern (April/May through September)
Support office and landscaping aspects of the Community Conservation garden season.  Office-related duties will involve collecting and managing data related to gardens, hanging baskets, etc.; some design of landscaping projects; tracking flower deliveries, assisting in scheduling and coordination of volunteers. Landscaping-related aspects of the internship will include assisting with garden planting during May; assisting with monitoring gardens, test sites and baskets for quality control; assisting with maintaining contact with garden stewards.  Landscaping/horticulture experience preferred.  Position will work in the Pittsburgh office and will travel to various garden sites, as required.  Pays an hourly wage.

Landscaping Interns (2 positions) (May through October)
These internships will be involved in all aspects of landscaping work related to community gardens.  Work is almost entirely physical (grass cutting, pruning, repairing irrigation systems, responding to garden issues throughout the growing season).  Entry level landscaping interest; with general working knowledge of annual and perennial plants preferred.  Positions will travel to various garden sites, as required.  Positions pay an hourly wage.

2006 Fallingwater Landscape Architecture Internships
Application Deadline is March 15, 2006

To Apply:  Send resume and letter of interest, including availability dates to:  Nancy Bassett, SPHR, Senior Director Human Resources, Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, Box R, Mill Run, PA  15464

Fallingwater Landscape Interns (2 positions) (May through August)
Unique opportunity to work at a world-renown architectural site.  The interns will be involved in a variety of landscape projects at Fallingwater, the masterpiece designed by Frank Lloyd Wright.  Two interns will work closely together under the guidance of Professor Emeritus George Longenecker of West Virginia University’s Department of Landscape Architecture.

Job duties will include:  Identifying native and invasive plant species; removal of invasive plant species, leading and teaching volunteers native plant identification and invasive species removal; design and installation of native plant gardens; development of a cyclical maintenance program for invasive plant species removal; planting native plant species; creating interpretative aids for public education programs; monitoring rhododendrons and removing fungus; pruning; working in the cutting garden; and miscellaneous landscape tasks centering around Fallingwater and the nearly 10 acres of the Bear Run Reserve that surrounds the house; other tasks as required.

Qualifications:  Seeking qualified students who are either in their junior year of a four-year program or fourth year of a five-year program or a graduate student in Landscape Architecture, Horticulture, Parks and Recreation or related fields of study.  Must be able to work well independently and with others; able to effectively manage time throughout the day; able to perform daily physical labor, including occasionally lifting up to 50 pounds; able to work out of doors for long periods of time in all weather conditions; computer, design, drawing and presentations skills helpful.  Internships provide housing and pay an hourly wage.

Scott Arboretum at Swarthmore College has a one-year curatorial internship available for those interested in public horticulture.
Apply by March 1, 2006
Contact Claire Sawyers, Director at csawyer1@swarthmore.edu
Telephone 610-328-8025
Summer Program Project Leader  
The Student Conservation Association  
www.thesca.org

Currently recruiting an intern to work in the SCA-Three Rivers office in Pittsburgh to support regional programming this spring and summer. If interested, please send your resume and a letter of interest to Sara Ahrens, Program Manager, SCA Three Rivers, 239 4th Ave. Suite 1007, Pittsburgh, PA 15222, or forward this posting to others who may be interested. This is a 6-month stipend position. There may be other SCA opportunities opening up in the fall, and this could be a great way for someone to start with SCA.

Also, for those of you who may only be available in summer, not spring, we are also currently recruiting summer crew leaders for both regional and national commuting and camping positions.

LAF 2006 Leadership in Landscape Scholarship Program  
February 15, 2006 - the application deadline for submittals.

New scholarships and fellowships have been added and several existing scholarships have been enhanced. Due to these changes, the total of scholarship awards available has increased significantly—from $20,500 in 2004 to $ 81,500 in 2006.

Scholarship details and application requirements are available at:  

Sincerely,
Ron Figura  
Landscape Architecture Foundation  
Scholarship Manager  
202-331-7070 ext 10  
rfigeria@lafoundation.org

NATURE AND ECOLOGY NETWORK ANNOUNCES A NEW STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP FOR EDRA 37 IN ATLANTA

EDRA's Nature and Ecology Network is offering a $150 scholarship to help students present their research paper at next year's EDRA 37 Conference in Atlanta, Georgia. This scholarship will be awarded to the best student paper under the broad topic of nature and ecology. See the network web-site at www.mindspring.com/~edra-ne/ to learn more about the Nature and Ecology Network. The scholarship is intended to encourage students to present their research work at EDRA and is open to both undergraduate and graduate students.

To apply for this scholarship, please e-mail a letter of intention along with a copy of your paper that has been submitted to the EDRA Conference to the co-chair of the EDRA Nature and Ecology Network, Robert L. Ryan (rfryan@larp.umass.edu). This award will be presented at the EDRA/Places Awards ceremony at the conference.

The Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation, a program of the National Park Service, is currently accepting applications for its 2005 Internship Program.

The Olmsted Center promotes the preservation of cultural landscapes through research, planning, stewardship and education. Based at the Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site
in Brookline, Massachusetts, the Center provides cultural landscape technical assistance to parks and historic properties throughout the Northeast.

The internship program provides participants with an opportunity to broaden their understanding of landscape preservation practice through project experience, educational programs and self-study. Working with Olmsted Center staff, interns assist with preparing cultural landscape reports, developing preservation maintenance plans, documenting existing conditions, and participating in field projects to improve the condition of cultural landscapes.

Two 6-month internships are currently available. 3-month positions may be considered. Preferred candidates will have education and skills in: landscape architecture/horticulture, graphic, writing and computer skills including familiarity with Microsoft Word, Excel and Access, AutoCAD, and/or Geographic Information Systems (GIS). Also desired, proficiency in Adobe Photoshop, and Illustrator and a willingness to travel.

Interns will work at one of four office locations: Boston, Brookline, or Waltham Massachusetts or Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Public transportation is available to each office with the exception of Waltham. A stipend is provided. Start dates for internships are flexible and will be determined based on selected applicant's availability.

To apply, please forward a resume, dates of availability, and two references by February 28, 2005
to Amy McDermott, Administrative Manager
Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation,
99 Warren Street, Brookline, MA 02445.
National Park Service, Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation
Boston, MA

Amy McDermott, Administrative Manager
tel (617) 566-1689 x263
fax (617) 232-4073
amy_mcdermott@nps.gov
http://www.nps.gov/oclp/

Phipps Conservatory Internships
Phipps offers a variety of paid internship opportunities for students studying horticulture, education and earth science. Get hands-on experience in the greenhouse, gardens and displays while using your knowledge in botany. Education interns can get experience in the gardens as well as outreach activities in conservatory Discovery Areas. For more information visit www.phipps.conservatory.org

The Renewable Natural Resource Foundation (RNRF) has developed a new tool for students interested in a career in natural resources. This new resource includes:

- **Internship information** for students interested in natural resource internships in the federal government and at and through natural resource societies.

- Educational opportunities in the natural resource fields including over 1000 schools offering programs in natural resources along with some other helpful tools in choosing the appropriate source of higher education.

- Career tools will help students identify various natural resource fields and determine which fields interest them.

These new tools are easily accessed from RNRF's website (http://www.rnrf.org) by selecting "Internships/Education" from the toolbar. RNRF's website also offers other information of interest
to the natural resource community including upcoming meetings and workshops, international news, information about Renewable Resources Journal, and news from our member organizations.

Still a Question:
Would any landscape students be interested in Urban Agriculture internships if these were available to you???

Design Work Opportunities

An upcoming project sponsored through Oakland Planning and Development Corporation is scheduled for late March in Oakland and they need some additional assistance.

Through the "Keep It Clean, Oakland!" program, Oakland Planning and Development Corporation have been making great strides at cleaning up and beautifying the neighborhood. Besides litter pickup events, they have also gotten involved in planting community gardens and wildflower lots (only 2!). This March, on Friday, March 24th, they have 40 volunteers slated to help plant a parklet on a vacant lot at 361 Lawn Street. Basically, they would like to plant some trees and shrubs (flowers later), perhaps install a bench, a couple birdfeeders, and a gravel walkway.

“ We really are not skilled in landscape architecture at all, so we are looking for any help we can get to come up with a design for the parklet. And thought this may be a potential project for one of Chatham’s landscape students.”

Anyone interested, please contact Lisa Kunst Vavro, ASAP.

The need is pretty simple - want some help in designing the community parklet in South Oakland, on a vacant lot at 361 Lawn Street. Desire the parklet to have the following elements: bird feeders, a bench for the public's use, trees, shrubs, a gravel walkway, flowers, and signage.

Is anyone interested in this design project?

A local homeowner and real estate agent was reading a copy of this newsletter on the Chatham website and noticed design opportunities for students involving parcels needing help. She has a problem area on her property and would like some help solving the problem. She will be taking photos and will send a description of the design opportunity with dimensions of the area. Stay posted for upcoming details if you are interested in this design opportunity.

Job Opportunities

CTAC (Community Technical Assistance Center) is Hiring!
http://www.ctaconline.org/home.asp#news

The Herb Society national office located in Kirtland OH beside the Holden Arboretum in Kirtland OH is looking for a new executive director, preferably a woman who is attuned to plants but would need to have fiscal and administrative skills.

Amy M. Core (past president HSA)
SUMMER EMPLOYMENT

The Heritage Documentation Programs (Historic American Buildings Survey/Historic American Engineering Record/Historic American Landscapes Survey), a division of the National Park Service, seeks applications from qualified individuals for summer employment documenting historic sites and structures of architectural, landscape and technological significance throughout the country. Duties involve on-site field work and preparation of measured and interpretive drawings and written historical reports for the HABS/HAER/HALS Collection at the Prints and Photographs Division of the Library of Congress. Projects last twelve weeks, beginning in May/June. Salaries range from approximately $5,800 to approximately $10,700 for the summer, depending on job responsibility, locality of the project, and level of experience.

Applications Due: February 13, 2006 (postmark date)

Chatham College’s Office of Residence Life is pleased to announce five 
Graduate Residence Director 
position openings for the 2006-07 academic year!

Applications received by March 3rd will receive priority consideration.

Please contact the Office of Residence Life, x1518, with questions.

A team of six Graduate Resident Directors (GRD) serve as part-time professional staff members in the Office of Residence Life within the Division of Student Affairs at Chatham College. The GRDs work closely with the Director of Residence Life as a supervisor, resource person, counselor, manager, and a role model to residents. The GRD is responsible for promoting the general welfare of campus residents while encouraging individual growth and development. GRDs must be enrolled in full-time graduate study and can not hold additional employment while actively supporting the College community and the Division of Student Affairs: its missions, goals, policies, and regulations. GRDs receive a room, board and a quarterly stipend as part of their compensation.

News of Interest

If you missed the Alternative Spring Break Information Session but are interested in ASB opps, here's the scoop:

Cool Conference: The C.O.O.L. Conference is sponsored by Idealist.org, the absolute coolest resource for non-profit jobs, programs, and organizations. It will be held in Nashville, Tennessee at Vanderbilt University. They expect more than 1,500 college students and offer 150 workshops plus non-profit activity fairs and an Oxfam Hunger Banquet. There will be discussions of volunteer and program opportunities for topics of homelessness, children and education, the environment and health issues. The trip will take place March 3-5. Participants will leave campus on Thursday evening, March 2 and will be return on Monday, March 6. Trip can host between 4-8 students on a first come, first served basis. Register your spot on the trip with your $30 commitment. Rest of the expenses will be subsidized through Student Activities. The trip will be coordinated by Steph Erdice and Amie Fox, so contact afox@chatham.edu for more information and/or to register. Deadline for conference registration is soon, apply now.

Hurricane Katrina Relief Trip to Jackson, Mississippi in conjunction with University of Pittsburgh

Participants will travel via Greyhound to Jackson to commit themselves to a week of service to support Hurricane Katrina relief efforts. Approximately 15 spots are still available on a first come, first served basis and a deposit of $25. Remaining expenses will be subsidized through Student Activities. Trip departs Saturday, March 4 and arrives back to Pittsburgh on Saturday, March 11. Trip is in conjunction with Chatham Interfaith Council (IFC) and University of Pittsburgh Christian Outreach organization.
Contact Megan Balsley, Chatham IFC representative, at mbalsley@shadysidepres.org for more information/registration.

Wilderness Experience: Big Bend National Park in Texas
Camp out, hike and enjoy warm weather near the border of Texas/Mexico by challenging yourself to a team/group outdoor adventure from Saturday, March 4th to Sunday, March 12th. No camping experience necessary; equipment will be supplied for you. Trip can host 8 students plus gear on a first come, first served basis with a $30 deposit/commitment. Tom O'Rourke, Asst. Director of Intramurals and Outdoor Adventure is hosting the trip; please contact torourke@chatham.edu or at 412.365.1649 for more information and/or to sign up. Trip is sponsored by Recreation.

Women, Leadership, and Social Change: Trip to New York (1 1/2 days) and Boston (2 days) + travel time
Participants will spend a week exploring women’s past, present, and future through various learning experiences, service projects, and reflection. Learn about and be inspired by Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Susan B. Anthony, Harriet Tubman, Lucy Stone, Dorothea Lynde Dix, among others, and their contributions to the Underground Railroad, Women’s Rights Movements, and the Labor Movement. Alternative Spring Break participants will return from this trip with a greater understanding and appreciation for the women that pioneered social movements in the United States. Trip will take place during spring break week (M-F likely). Trip can host 5 students on a first come, first served basis. $30 commitment on participants' part; rest will be subsidized through Student Activities. Cynthia Weiman is the VISTA volunteer and trip coordinator; contact cweiman@chatham.edu for more information and/or to register.

Logon to CADdetails.com today for unlimited access to thousands of CAD drawings, product photographs and CSI-formatted specifications, FREE!

Grade Easy Available
Amy from Chatham’s Bookstore finally reached the publisher about Grade Easy. ASLA no longer has a bookstore but she can still fax an order to them if she pays first. The books will be $41.00. All students who would like to have this very valuable, handy learning manual for grading, please notify Lisa Kunst Vavro no later than February 20th so an order can be placed. NOTE these books are not returnable.

New Books are arriving all the time in Chatham College’s Library
Our Most Recent Additions Include:
Two more of the books requested are now available at the library:
Water: A Natural History by Alice Outwater
Jens Jensen: Maker of Natural Parks and Gardens by Robert E. Grese
Now located in the reference section of the library.

Taylor's Guide to Annuals and A Field Guide to Eastern Forests, North America (Peterson's Field Guides)

Chatham College also has subscribed to the Garden Literature Index, a link on the library’s intranet database page should be up shortly. For now, faculty and students can access it through any of the EBSCO databases; recommend clicking on the Academic Search Premier link scrolling to the bottom of the EBSCO list page, Garden Literature Index is the last database listed.

If there are more requests for books, journals, databases, etc., please let Lisa Kunst Vavro know. The Library would like to have all of orders in for the fiscal year by the end of April.

Thanks to Adjunct Bill Paxton for his recent donations of library: numerous back issues of Landscape Architecture magazine.

CHATHAM LICENSE PLATE OFFER EXTENDED

There is still time to reserve your Chatham license plate number with proceeds benefiting the Alumnae Scholarship Fund. Available to anyone with a valid Pennsylvania registration, the plates are only $25 for all current Chatham undergraduate and graduate students. You can also select a number under 100 for the reduced cost of only $50. For more information, visit: http://www.chatham.edu/licenseplate/

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Tuesday, February 7, 2006

WTC MEMORIAL FOUNDATION NAMES ALICE M. GREENWALD AS MEMORIAL MUSEUM DIRECTOR

Leading Museum Professional to Plan and Direct Memorial Museum

The World Trade Center Memorial Foundation, in cooperation with the Lower Manhattan Development Corporation (LMDC), today announced that Alice M. Greenwald will become the Director of the WTC Memorial Museum. In this position, Ms. Greenwald will create, program and direct the Museum, which will be adjacent to the Memorial. She currently serves as Associate Museum Director for Museum Programs for the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, DC.

As Director, Ms. Greenwald will be responsible for creating the Museum dedicated to telling the story of the events of September 11, 2001 and February 26, 1993. She will be in charge of developing programming, preparing exhibits, choosing artifacts, designing the educational components, organizing and coordinating all the operational details of the Museum, including overseeing the interior build-out and administration of the Museum.

“It is an extraordinary challenge and responsibility to build a museum at the very place where people died next to the Memorial which will honor them. I am confident that Alice is the perfect person to guide us there,” Foundation President & CEO Gretchen Dykstra said. “The Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, DC sets a high standard and Alice has helped shape its vision and implementation for nearly two decades. I know that with Alice’s experience, the September 11th story will be told in depth and with sensitivity.”

Alice Greenwald said, “I am deeply humbled by the privilege and responsibility of contributing to the realization of this essential museum. It will honor in perpetuity those whose lives were lost, and demonstrate to all who visit the World Trade Center site for years to come, the healing power of memory in re-telling their story.”
LMDC President Stefan Pryor said, “Alice Greenwald has the expertise and vision we need to create a truly powerful and meaningful experience at the Memorial Museum. Alice's accomplishments and skills are ideal for the job, and her standards are appropriately high, given the importance of this task to the nation and world. We are very pleased that Alice is joining the team.”

Metropolitan Museum of Art President and Foundation Board Member Emily Rafferty said, “Alice Greenwald is a highly regarded professional in the museum world. Her breadth of experience in both museum operations and curatorial affairs make her extremely qualified to direct the Memorial Museum.”

Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Cantor Fitzgerald, L.L.P and Chair of the Foundation’s Program Committee Howard Lutnick said, “Alice Greenwald is the right person to plan and direct the Memorial Museum. Alice’s dedication and understanding will undoubtedly ensure that the Memorial Museum becomes one of the world’s most respected museums.”

Ms. Greenwald will work with key stakeholders, including members of the Foundation program committee, victims’ families, survivors, residents, and museum professionals, to conceptualize the proper role and scope of the Museum, anticipate the integration of all parts of the visitor's experience, and lead the Foundation and creative team members on content, program, and design.

Ms. Greenwald will initially direct a small staff at the Foundation, including Senior Advisor Cliff Chanin, who founded the Legacy Project and Madeleine Blot, who worked on the 9/11 Commission Report. In addition, she will work collaboratively with staff from the LMDC, which has been coordinating the Museum’s design with Davis Brody Bond and managing the early curatorial and content development with Howard and Revis and Lord Cultural Resource Planning and Management. Ms. Greenwald will start working full time at the Foundation in mid-April.

Ms. Greenwald brings over 30 years professional experience to the job. In her current capacity as Associate Museum Director for Museum Programs at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, she oversees the Divisions of Collections, Exhibitions, Education, Library, and Museum Services, and supervises staff heading the Museum’s National Institute for Holocaust Education and the Wexner Learning Center. She has served as a technical expert and consultant for the Holocaust Memorial Museum since 1986 and was a member of the original “Design Team” for the Museum’s Permanent Exhibition.

From 1986-2001, Ms. Greenwald was the principal of Alice M. Greenwald/Museum Services, providing consulting experience to a variety of clients in addition to the Holocaust Museum. She served as guest curator for the Historical Society of Princeton’s exhibition, Old Traditions, New Beginnings: 250 Years of Princeton Jewish History (2002-01) and authored the historical essay in the companion catalogue publication (published 2002). Her other clients included the Baltimore Museum of Industry, the Pew Charitable Trusts, and the National Museum of American Jewish History.

Prior to the establishment of her consulting business, Ms. Greenwald served as Executive Director of the National Museum of American Jewish History in Philadelphia (1981-86); Acting Director (1980), Curator (1978-81) and Assistant Curator (1975-78) of the Hebrew Union College Skirball Museum, Los Angeles, and Curatorial Assistant at the Maurice Spertus Museum of Judaica, Chicago.

Ms. Greenwald has served as Chairman of the Council of American Jewish Museums (1984-86), and was the recipient of several awards including a Fellowship for Museum Professionals (National Endowment for the Arts, 1981) and a Danforth Graduate Fellowship (1973). She is a graduate of Sarah Lawrence College and holds a Master of Arts in the History of Religions from the University of Chicago Divinity School.
The World Trade Center Memorial Museum will commemorate the events of September 11, 2001 and February 26, 1993 through multi-layered exhibitions. The Museum’s objective is to educate, inform, and inspire visitors by telling the individual stories of those lost in the attacks and the contributions from around the world toward the rescue, recovery, and relief efforts. Artifacts and exhibits in the Memorial Museum will range from personal objects marking everyday life in the Twin Towers to steel rescued from the wreckage of the site to witnesses’ accounts of the devastation. A central exhibition will weave together the story of September 11th and February 26th, drawing on multiple perspectives and documentation to recount life in the towers leading up the disaster, the events of September 11th, the immediate aftermath and the world-wide response.

ABOUT THE WORLD TRADE CENTER MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

The World Trade Center Memorial Foundation, Inc. is a not-for-profit corporation established to raise funds as well as build and operate the Memorial and Memorial Museum at the World Trade Center site. The Memorial, “Reflecting Absence,” will remember and honor the thousands of people who died in the horrific attacks of February 26, 1993 and September 11, 2001 and recognize the endurance of those who survived, the courage of those who risked their lives to save others, and the compassion of all who offered their support in the aftermath. “Reflecting Absence,” designed by Michael Arad and Peter Walker, was selected from among 5,201 submissions from 63 countries in what was the largest design competition in history. Donations can be made through the Foundation’s website, and more information on the Foundation can be found at http://www.buildthememorial.org/.

Construction on the Memorial and Museum is expected to begin in the spring of 2006, with completion slated for 2009.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
ASLA SUPPORTS URBAN PLANNING REPORT FROM THE BRING NEW ORLEANS BACK COMMISSION
Residents Deserve Best Information to Make Decisions About Rebuilding

WASHINGTON, DC, January 19, 2006--- The American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) released the following statement today in reaction to the Bring New Orleans Back Commission’s report:

“ASLA supports the comprehensive plan, drafted by Wallace Roberts & Todd, LLC, and recently presented by the Bring New Orleans Back Commission, which will create a safer, resilient and more vibrant New Orleans. The plan calls for the complete restoration of the wetlands surrounding the city, providing a vital, natural land barrier against storm surge and a comprehensive parks system putting open space in every neighborhood, creating greenways to connect neighborhoods, and reusing areas around canals and levees as open space. In addition, transportation corridors would be designed to better accommodate pedestrians and alternative modes of transportation. The Society is also encouraged to see plans for a citywide, high-speed light rail system to connect neighborhoods to the downtown area, as well as provisions for a heavy rail system that will connect New Orleans to neighboring cities. ASLA supports efforts to bring comprehensive planning to the city’s streets and neighborhoods through the Neighborhood Planning Areas initiative. The Society hopes and expects that landscape architects will play an integral role in this planning and rebuilding process.

“Citizens deserve to have the best possible information with which to make decisions about how and where to rebuild their lives. Unfortunately, critical information gaps exist, but many are working hard right now to fill those gaps. For example, leading landscape architects, architects,
engineers, and scientists are developing interactive maps of the Gulf region that will allow citizens and public officials to see first-hand those areas that are most at risk to flooding, hurricane damage, and coastal erosion. The maps will provide factual and objective analysis based on actual data. With these tools, individuals, families, and entire communities will be able to make informed decisions and better understand the choices they are facing. In the meantime, actions should be taken by the appropriate agencies to ensure that those displaced by the hurricanes and flood damage continue to receive the aid and housing they need while the assessment and planning process continues.

"While ASLA generally supports the Bring New Orleans Back Commission plan, the Society believes it is necessary to plan for the long-term. For example, any proposal for large-scale additions of parkland and open space must be coupled with strategies to ensure their maintenance so they remain safe and enjoyable places. At the same time, the city must plan for appropriate, sustainable pest control methods in reconstructed wetlands and buffer parks to guard against unintended consequences of these protective elements.

"In the end, rebuilding New Orleans must come about after a comprehensive planning effort—one that will take time and must consider not only rebuilding, but protection for the future. Rushing to rebuild without providing real security will only undermine the widely shared goal of making New Orleans and many other communities along the Gulf stronger and better than ever before."

About ASLA
Founded in 1899, ASLA is the national professional association for landscape architects, representing more than 16,200 members. Landscape architecture is a comprehensive discipline of land analysis, planning, design, management, preservation, and rehabilitation. ASLA promotes the landscape architecture profession and advances the practice through advocacy, education, communication, and fellowship. Learn more about landscape architecture online at www.asla.org.

Do You believe this one forwarded by Rachelle Wolf, ASLA!
Bradford pears are some of the hundreds of trees being removed from roadsides in Alabama to head off lawsuits from the motorists who hit them.

Hundreds of trees along Alabama roadways will be cut down by highway workers in order to protect the state from lawsuits from motorists who drive off of the road and hit them.

A Department of Transportation (DOT) told The Birmingham News that the agency has been sued over motorists hitting trees in the cities of Huntsville and Alexander City. The trees, officials said, were growing in non-permitted areas. According to urban planners, trees and green space can provide a calming affect on city drivers. However, federal and state requirements call for a "clear zone" that would enable motorists to leave the road and stop without hitting a tree or other solid object.

"Safety is a real issue, and then there is the problem of liability... we can't afford to do nothing," said Brian Davis, chief engineer with the Department of Transportation.

Alabama is not the only state trying to enforce these safety standards. The American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials said in a recent report that removing trees from a clear zone is the best option unless there an environmental or historical reason not to.

Sources: The Birmingham News, Associated Press
Organic vegetables not pesticide-free

When it comes to banned pesticides like DDT, organic root vegetables may harbor pesticide residues as high or higher than conventional vegetables.

As a nearly $8 billion business in the U.S. alone, according to 2000 data from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, organic fruits and vegetables have moved rapidly from a fringe business at the local food co-op to a mainstream supermarket staple. A key reason consumers buy organic is to avoid pesticide residues, but a small study suggests that organic produce may not be quite as clean as shoppers expect. Banned pesticides like DDT were found in organic carrots and potatoes at levels as high as or higher than conventionally grown produce, according to a screening study conducted by a college undergraduate and presented at the Society of Toxicology and Chemistry annual meeting in November.

Kellyn S. Betts
Tests show that organic carrots can bear the traces of pesticides banned decades ago.

Under federal law, crops labeled organic must be grown without the use of synthetic pesticides, chemical fertilizers, or sewage sludge. Such treatments must not have been used on a field for at least three years prior to planting of the organic crop. Those three years are meant to cleanse the soil of pesticide residues. But many long-used—and now-banned—toxic organochlorine pesticides can take decades to break down. Because root crops, such as carrots, grow directly in the soil, they represent a worst-case scenario for evaluating whether crops acquire such lingering pesticide residues.

Organic produce has lower levels of pesticides overall, according to agricultural scientist Brian Baker, who co-authored a widely cited paper that demonstrates this point (Food Addit. Contam. 2002, 19, 427–446). The new results attest to the persistence of organochlorine pesticides, adds
Baker, who is research director for the Organic Materials Review Institute, a nonprofit organization that specializes in the review of substances for use in organic production, processing, and handling.

Beth Wolensky, a senior at Chatham College in Pittsburgh, Pa., bought 20 batches of carrots—half labeled organic and half grown conventionally. She washed the carrots as if she were cooking them for dinner and peeled some of them. Every carrot she tested harbored traces of \( p,p' \)-DDE, a breakdown product of the insecticide DDT, which has been banned for more than 30 years. Many of the carrots also carried residues of chlordane, a common pesticide that was banned in 1983. Some samples also contained small amounts of heptachlor, once popular as an agricultural pesticide and residential termite treatment. She plans to publish the study.

In all the carrot samples, concentrations of these chemicals were very low, in the low parts-per-trillion (ppt) range. The chemicals concentrated in the skin of the vegetables. In conventionally grown whole carrots, the mean concentration of \( p,p' \)-DDE was 40 ppt, but organic carrots had mean concentrations of 340 ppt. However, the skin of the conventionally grown carrots had concentrations of 588 ppt, compared to 3050 ppt for the organic ones. Renee Falconer, the analytical chemist who served as Wolensky’s faculty adviser, notes that the study lacks the statistical power to determine whether the organic carrots actually contain higher levels of the banned pesticides. She thinks it instead reflects the variability of the data.

In 2004, another Chatham student, Tanieka Motley, found similar results for potatoes, Falconer notes. At the concentrations detected, none of the chemicals in the carrots or potatoes is harmful. “But these low levels add to the overall pesticide load entering our bodies from all sources,” she says. Falconer notes that organic produce does have lower overall levels of pesticides that are currently in use. To reduce the pesticide load to her family, she buys organic and peels her root vegetables. —REBECCA RENNER

News from Sustainable Pittsburgh:

Save the Date! 6th Annual Southwestern Pennsylvania Smart Growth Conference

**Coming Together to Revitalize Our Communities: RenewSWPA Cross-Community and Cross County Collaboration**

Friday, May 19
7:30 am – 4:30 pm
Omni William Penn Hotel, Pittsburgh
Keynote: David Soule, Associate Director
Center for Urban & Regional Policy, Northeastern University
Cost: Early Registration: $30. Registration after May 12: $40 (free to elected officials)
Call (412) 258-6642 for early registration

The 2006 SWPA Smart Growth Conference will address strategies to revitalize the region's core communities and seek to identify a set of policy opportunities around which there is consensus for collaboration.

Leading up to the conference, a series of community forums will be orchestrated around the region to identify common barriers and opportunities to redevelopment. Common needs and policy options identified through the forums will be presented at the annual conference toward developing consensus on policies to renew Southwestern Pennsylvania. Also considered will be ideas and next steps for coordinated technical assistance and sharing of best practices.

Please mark your calendars for **May 19 and register early**.

The annual Smart Growth conference and regional forums are hosted by the Regional Coalition of Community Builders, Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission, Sustainable Pittsburgh, and the University of Pittsburgh Institute of Politics.
Happy Valentine’s Day
And Spring Break  Monday, March 6-Friday, March 10, 2006