

## RESEARCH

## CEP launches Environmental Design Lab

**New research and education center on edge of UNC-Chapel Hill campus is where CEP and University resources 'meet the world'**

This August, Carolina Environmental Program leaders realized a dream with the opening of the Environmental Design Lab (EDL), a place where faculty, students and staff come together with outside organizations and communities to work on issues of sustainable design.

Over the past few years, the CEP has established strong undergraduate programs, field site activities and fundamental research projects, said Doug Crawford-Brown, the CEP's director and associate director of Education Programs. "About a year ago, we realized that we really needed to move to the

next plateau in the functioning of the CEP: to pursue large-scale interdisciplinary projects that are linked directly to environmental decisions being made in the state, the nation and the world.

"But one of the major reasons we weren't able to get some of those projects up and going was that there simply was no place conducive to that type of work. Our faculty was spread out all over the campus, with no one site where people could come together to work or meet with clients. So we knew that the next important step was to create a dedicated place on campus that would allow us



Kevin Fitz Patrick

UNC undergraduates in Environmental Science, Environmental Studies and other environmentally related degrees, shown here meeting at the Highlands Field Site, will benefit from the new Environmental Design Lab's programs.

to pursue multidisciplinary research applied to decisions that society is trying to make."

CEP leaders saw that the practical, problem-oriented focus generally used in schools of architecture or industrial design could be applied to environmental issues, and decided to model the innovative EDL after these interdisciplinary programs.

### A Symbolic Site

The Environmental Design Lab is a place where faculty and students from the humanities, social sciences, sciences and professional practice can come together with clients from various organizations and communities to help them identify and analyze major environmental issues and implement effective solutions.

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## Glaze steps down as CEP director; Crawford-Brown replaces him

Dr. William H. Glaze, founding director of the Carolina Environmental Program, resigned the directorship in July 2002 after more than five years of service in the position. Glaze, who also recently stepped down after 15 years as editor of *Environmental Science & Technology*, will continue to serve as chair of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Science Advisory Board Executive Committee. He will return to his UNC duties as a professor in the Department of Environmental Sciences and Engineering, and will also lead the CEP's new Environmental Design Lab.

Glaze was a leader in the nearly decade-long process that resulted in the establishment of the CEP, and was named the program's first director in 1997. During his tenure as director, the program helped establish, in partnership with the UNC College of Arts and

Sciences, the University's Environmental Science and Environmental Studies undergraduate degree programs; founded a four-location Environmental Field Site Network; established the CEP's Environmental Design Lab and its core research initiatives; and built an outstanding Board of Visitors. Glaze joined UNC in 1989 as professor and chair of the Department of Environmental Sciences and Engineering. His research areas include international environmental and public health issues; evaluation of water treatment technologies; evaluation of solar energy and transportation systems; and advances in environmental measurement methods.

Dr. Douglas J. Crawford-Brown succeeds Glaze as director of the Carolina Environmental Program. Crawford-Brown was the first associate director of Education Programs for the CEP and the founding chair of the Environmental Science and

Environmental Studies degree programs. He is a founder of UNC's Environmental Programs Coordinating Committee, and of the statewide North Carolina Alliance of Environmental Science and Studies Programs (see related story).

Crawford-Brown joined UNC in 1982 as an assistant professor in the Department of Environmental Sciences and Engineering. In addition to serving as director of the CEP, he is a professor in Environmental Sciences and Engineering, and Public Policy; a member of the Ecology faculty; guest professor at the University of Salzburg in Salzburg, Austria; and director of the CEP's Salzburg Field Site. Crawford-Brown's research focuses upon risk assessment and environmental policy, and he is also a national leader in secondary and post-secondary environmental education. ■

*CEP launches Environmental Design Lab continued from page 1*

The site for the new EDL—in the Bank of America building on Franklin Street, right where the University and the greater community meet—is highly symbolic, Crawford-Brown noted. “This is the place where we meet the outside world.”

In fact, the Environmental Design Lab is all about helping people come together. The site features a vast, open room that allows for the integration of research, consulting and design activities. Faculty and student teams can meet with clients and collaborate on projects at a series of modular work tables, or reserve smaller offices and meeting rooms as a temporary home base for particular projects.

While much of the EDL’s research is geared toward faculty and graduate students who have the time and skills to pursue long-term, complex investigations, the Lab also provides important opportunities for undergraduate learning and participation. Seniors in the CEP’s Environmental Studies and Environmental Science degree programs who do not spend a semester at one of the program’s off-campus field sites can complete their team-based, interdiscipli-

**[right] CEP undergraduates working on a Capstone research project. The Environmental Design Lab provides a Chapel Hill base for undergraduate research and more.**

nary Capstone research projects at the EDL. The Lab is also the primary point of contact between the Carolina community and all of the CEP field sites.

## Research Underway

Research at the Environmental Design Lab will focus on sustainable processes, communities and environmental systems. The first major multidisciplinary projects are underway. They include:

- A collaboration with the NC Department of Environment and Natural Resources, the Environmental Protection Agency and several municipalities to understand how development activities affect water quality in the Neuse River Basin and other watersheds.
- A group of social science and humanities faculty looking at how to design—or reorganize—environmental organizations, government agencies and societies so that they take into account the complex, interconnected issues



(such as economic, social and political variables) involved in solving environmental problems.

- Modeling of surface water, groundwater, atmospheric pollutants, ecosystems and other environmental factors for use in making sound policy decisions.

The EDL is also creating an environmental design database and website to summarize environmental research taking place across the UNC-Chapel Hill campus and elsewhere for public use.

## Looking to the Future

The Bank of America building space is exciting in that it allows the CEP to get the EDL off the ground. However, Crawford-Brown noted, “we will eventually need a space that’s custom designed for this kind of activity. The

ideal space will allow faculty and students to do research, present it to clients and provide web-based access to various new databases. And, before long, we want to be able to bring in faculty and students from other UNC system campuses to participate.”

Crawford-Brown is sure that the EDL will help the Carolina Environmental Program fulfill its mandate to aid the citizens of North Carolina. “This Lab is in the long tradition of UNC-Chapel Hill’s mission to serve the state,” he said. “This is a place to which all sorts of organizations in the state can turn for advice on environmental matters and designing future environments, and can draw on the tradition of research excellence at Carolina.” ■



Kevin Fitz Patrick

## RESEARCH

# Marine microbiologist joins UNC

## Teske’s research focuses on the microbiology of marine sediments and hydrothermal vents

This summer, marine microbiologist Dr. Andreas Teske joined the Carolina faculty as associate professor in Marine Sciences with a joint appointment in the Carolina Environmental Program.

Back in his native Germany, Teske studied biochemistry, a field that drew his attention to the complexity of the microbial world. While completing a master’s thesis in medical microbiology, he began looking for new opportunities to get out of the laboratory and onto field trips and expeditions around the world. Teske first came to the U.S. as a Fulbright Scholar at the University of Illinois in 1991, then returned to Germany to earn his Ph.D. at the Max Planck Institute for Marine Microbiology. There, his studies in microbial ecology and the microbiology of sulfur, which

is used by microorganisms as an energy source in the marine environment, took

him to several corners of the world to collect microorganism samples. He came back to the U.S. in 1996 to pursue his post-doctoral studies at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution in Massachusetts, one of the premier institutes in its field. He was an assistant scientist in biology at Woods Hole from 1998 until coming to UNC this summer.

Teske’s research focuses on the microbiology of marine sediments and hydrothermal vents. Hydrothermal vents are hot volcanic deep-sea springs, found mainly in the middle of oceans. This volcanic activity produces dark clouds of very hot, chemically altered seawater loaded with all sorts of chemicals and minerals that sustain life in the deep sea. “In other areas of the ocean, there is not much to see in terms of

animal life,” he explained. “But near these hydrothermal vents, there’s an amazing abundance of all sorts of animals that live on bacteria sustained by the chemical energy in these hydrothermal vent fluids.”

Teske is trying to determine the types of microorganisms that comprise the communities sustained by these hydrothermal vents. He is also delving into the microbiology of the sediments below the deep sea bottom: sand, mud and clay that are rife with all sorts of bacteria that catalyze chemical reactions. “Until a couple of years ago, everybody thought that below a few meters there was no activity in the sediment, and that is not true. Even down several hundred meters, the sediment is loaded with bacteria that perform all kinds of chemical reactions, and these are therefore important to the overall chemistry of the ocean.” This past winter, Teske participated in a cruise to the equatorial



Marine microbiologist Dr. Andreas Teske

Pacific and the Peruvian continental shelf to harvest deep sea sediment cores, and at UNC he will explore the types of bacteria in these deep subsurface samples and their activities. He will also teach courses on topics such as general biological oceanography, microbial ecology and marine microbiology.

Teske said he is pleased to begin the next chapter of his career at Carolina. “UNC has a strong Department of

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## FIELD SITES AND OUTREACH

# Community Advisory Boards help shape NC field sites

## To ensure the relevancy of field site work CEP leaders involve community with planning programs

To ensure that students at our field sites get meaningful experience addressing real-world environmental issues and that this work is relevant to the local community, CEP leaders knew it was important to involve community members in every aspect of these programs. From the start, community members have generously volunteered to help develop the curricula, host internships and spread the word about our field sites.

UNC's Environmental Resource Program (ERP), which is co-sponsored by the CEP and the UNC School of Public Health, helped secure community support early on. This year, the ERP helped establish Community Advisory Boards (CABs) at the two North Carolina field sites. Each board includes members from a wide variety of backgrounds, such as scientists, local business owners, elected officials, natural resource managers, educators, artists and conservationists. Despite their diverse backgrounds, the

board members share a commitment to education and research that has practical application to environmental issues in the region.

Each CAB meets twice a year to review the past semester and plan for next year's program. Three sub-committees meet as needed. The program committee, comprised, in part, of mentors who sponsor internships for the stu-

dents, actively supports the academic program throughout the semester. The outreach committee helps sponsor educational programs and community events to integrate

the field site's programs into the local community. The development committee works to institutionalize the site through financial support and other resources that help faculty and students ensure the program's success.

Peggy Birkemeier, chair of the CAB at the Albemarle Ecological Field Site, has been involved with the field site almost

**“My satisfaction comes... from watching the students learn more about the environment and network with all of our mentors.”**

*Peggy Birkemeier, chair of the CAB at the Albemarle Ecological Field Site*

## Catie Cunningham

- 2002 graduate, double major: Environmental Science and Chemistry
- former studio art major who got hooked on environmental science during her sophomore year
- will begin medical school at UNC-Chapel Hill in fall 2003
- originally from Lexington, NC
- Summer 2001 participant at CEP's Salzburg Field Site



Bill Gage

“The field sites are probably the most rewarding part [of the CEP program], due to the applicability to current research and environmental issues and the ability to move the classroom teachings into hands-on research. At the Salzburg Field Site, I enjoyed the way we were able to utilize the tools given in the classroom later that afternoon while interacting with the Austrian townsfolk.

“As a youth I used to camp, rock climb, horseback ride and jog. I used to skip ballet practice to clean up Abbott's Creek, removing fallen leaves and debris that impeded its flow and purity. As an Environmental Science major, I still got to explore the outdoors in a variety of classes. I realized that the material I was reading and learning about was happening and affecting everything around me. I wanted to learn more; the world was making sense.” ■



J. Aaron Trainman Photographs

The Albemarle Ecological Field Site Community Advisory Board meeting in the Town of Nags Head Municipal Complex (Nags Head, North Carolina), June 3, 2002.

from day one. “My husband and I are extremely interested in environmental education and research,” said Peggy, who works for the North Carolina Community Foundation. “My satisfaction comes from the success of the group and from watching the students learn more about the environment and network with all of our mentors. It's a great program.”

At the Highlands Field Site, Kevin Fitz Patrick was a mentor last year and now serves on the Community Advisory Board's outreach committee. A producer specializing in environment-related media, he has long been an active

supporter of the Highlands Nature Center and the Highlands Biological Station, a UNC system facility where the CEP field site resides. Through his work on the committee, he wants the entire community to understand and support what is taking place at the field site. “These students are a breath of fresh air. They bring new ideas and ways of looking at some of the environmental issues that the community is dealing with. The students have made an enormous impression on the community, and I want everyone to see that and to

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## CEP Field Sites at a Glance

### SALZBURG FIELD SITE

*location:* University of Salzburg's Institute for Physics and Biophysics, Salzburg, Austria

*started:* Summer 2000

*focus:* International environmental policy, in particular the way in which energy choices can be made to meet the environmental standards of both Austria and the European Union, and how those choices affect international relationships between Austria, the other EU countries and the global community, particularly in the area of global warming.



Salzburg Field Site students on a field trip in Austria.



Salzburg Field Site students biking to a research location in rural Austria.

## EDUCATION

## Hail to the Class of 2002!



Some of the 2002 Environmental Science and Environmental Studies graduates



[left] A proud CEP parent

[below left] The Honorable Joe Hackney (D, 24th District, North Carolina House of Representatives) speaks to the 2002 CEP graduates.

[below] CEP Director Doug Crawford-Brown congratulating the CEP graduates and introducing The Honorable Joe Hackney.



Photos by Bill Gage

## Meet Ashley Harraman

We met up with Ashley, an Environmental Studies major from Charlotte, just after her May 2002 graduation.



### DRAWN TO THE CAROLINA ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM:

"I discovered the CEP at the end of my freshman year after trying to figure out what major would provide me with the greatest opportunity to help the world in some way. Since I love so much about nature, especially plants, it was a perfect match."

**INTERNSHIP PROJECT:** The Nature Conservancy while at the Albemarle Ecological Field Site in Manteo, North Carolina. "I collected water samples along the Outer Banks in Pamlico Sound as baseline data for their Oyster Reef Restoration Project. It was an incredible, confidence-boosting experience. The most interesting thing I learned was that, while there are so many conflicts going on between humans and nature, there are also many people trying to make things better."

### ADVICE TO OTHERS CONSIDERING THE CEP:

"There are so many wonderful opportunities within the environmental field that getting a related degree is well worth it. It's important to be persistent and determined in advocating environmental awareness, and to take advantage of opportunities offered, such as attending the CEP field sites."

**PLANS AFTER GRADUATION:** Headed to Kitty Hawk for the summer to work with The Nature Conservancy again, this time building oyster reefs in the Pamlico Sound.

**DREAM JOB:** "Nature/outdoor adventure photographer, anything with lots of outdoor time! Someday I would love to create my own organic plant nursery surrounded by extensive gardens where people could come to buy plants, learn about organic gardening and just enjoy the beauty of the place." ■

## In memoriam: WATTS HILL, JR.

George Watts Hill, Jr., of Chapel Hill, North Carolina, one of the founding members of the Carolina Environmental Program Board of Visitors, died on March 15, 2002. He is survived by his wife, Mary, and by children Debbie Hill of Hillsborough, North Carolina and Watts Hill III of Montclair, Virginia.

The Hill family specified that contributions in memory of Watts Hill be made to the Carolina Environmental Program or to benefit the North Carolina Collection of UNC's Academic Affairs Library. The North Carolina Collection, the leading state collection in the United States, was created in 1917 with a gift from Hill's grandfather, John Sprunt Hill.

A number of Hill's friends and family have made gifts in his memory to the program. The Hill family and CEP staff hope to work together to create an endowment providing a perpetual memorial for this visionary, who was a state leader in civil rights, education and the environment, and a civic leader in both Durham and Chapel Hill.

## Alliance links environmental education programs across the state

A new organization developed by CEP Director Douglas Crawford-Brown and others will help ensure that North Carolina students receive college credit for Environmental Science courses they take in high school. The North Carolina Alliance of Environmental Science and Studies Programs (NCAESSP) was founded in 2000 to coordinate, facilitate and advance environmental programs at the state's high schools and institutions of higher education.

In September 2001, a workshop

at UNC-Chapel Hill focused on AP Environmental Science courses in high schools, the AP environmental exam and introductory environmental courses at North Carolina's colleges and universities. Workshop participants recommended that AP courses and the AP exam be redesigned to match the standards for introductory college courses. "It is troubling that students who take AP Environmental Science and do well on the exam often find no AP credit awarded when they enter college," said Crawford-Brown.

Gail Boyarsky, an AP Environmental Science teacher at East Chapel Hill High School in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, said the NCAESSP would greatly help high school teachers who teach AP Environmental Science. "The Alliance could really help by serving as a resource for teachers, for materials and support, and for workshops."

NCAESSP will also help make environmental programs more similar across the state's colleges and universities so that transferring students can move credits more easily. Thomas Mowbray,

a biology professor at Salem College, said NCAESSP would help his teaching a great deal, because resources can be shared among colleges. "It will be a great way to exchange ideas about teaching, as well as techniques to explain difficult concepts."

Crawford-Brown said North Carolina needs a system of education in which high school instruction is linked directly to university instruction, because both are connected to what a student does upon graduation. "It all starts with adequate preparation in high school, culminating in the AP course and exam, and it will involve a distributed network of faculty and students coordinating their efforts." ■

## PHILANTHROPY

## Four members of CEP Board of Visitors make Carolina First campaign commitments

Carolina is addressing a number of major state, national and world issues by obtaining private funds through its Carolina First campaign. The campaign, which was publicly announced in October, focuses upon support for UNC students, faculty, research, facilities and strategic initiatives.

One of the major issues highlighted in Carolina First is threats to our environment. The Carolina Environmental Program's participation in Carolina First will play a major role in addressing this University priority.

Four members of the Carolina Environmental Program Board of Visitors have already made commitments to the Carolina First campaign. Board Chair Steve Levitas and his wife, Betsy, of Raleigh, North Carolina, and CEP Board member and CEP Campaign Steering Committee member Ken Mountcastle and his wife, Katie, of New Canaan, Connecticut, made major gifts to the Carolina Environmental Program Innovation Fund. The Fund holds unrestricted contributions supporting the CEP, which are indispensable in

allowing our staff to build the program and to react to unexpected opportunities and challenges.

Unrestricted gifts are more important than

ever right now given the fiscal challenges facing the State of North Carolina and its public universities.

CEP Board member and program Campaign Steering Committee Chair Edie Cecil, of Washington, D.C., made a bequest commitment to the Carolina First campaign. The bequest will eventually provide scholarships for Carolina undergraduates studying Environmental Science or Environmental Studies.

Students attending the CEP's Morehead City Field Site will benefit from a contribution made by CEP Board

member Geo. Watts Carr III and his wife, Betsy. Their gift established the Betsy Steele and Geo. Watts Carr III Environmental Student Support Fund, which will produce income providing support for students attending the field site, to be based at Carolina's Institute for Marine Sciences in Morehead City, North Carolina. The Carrs, of Greensboro, North Carolina, have a long-standing interest in the Morehead City/Beaufort area. The fund will produce income in time for awards to be made to the first, fall 2003 class of Morehead City Field Site students.

The CEP hopes to raise \$10,000,000 for environmental programs at Carolina by the time the Carolina First campaign ends in June 2007. The program's campaign total stands at more than \$2,400,000. ■

## Carolina Environmental Program Honor Roll 2001/2002

The CEP thanks these individuals for their generous support. With your help, we raised \$2,214,623 during this past fiscal year to further the programs and mission of the Carolina Environmental Program. THANK YOU!

### CHANCELLOR'S CLUB MEMBERS (gifts of \$2,000 and more)

Betsy Steele and Geo. Watts Carr III  
Jody and Tom Darden  
Lori and Peter Gevalt  
Katie and Ken Mountcastle

### OTHER INDIVIDUALS (gifts of less than \$2,000)

Anonymous  
Hannah and Pete Andrews  
Kara Ann Battermann  
Judy Ann Beck

Janie Walters and Richard Edward Bird  
Marta Renee Bowen  
Cynthia Wimberley and Harry Robert Brashear III  
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### ENDOWMENTS FOUNDED DURING 2001/2002

The Betsy Steele and Geo. Watts Carr III Environmental Student Support Fund

\* Deceased

*Marine microbiologist joins UNC continued from page 2*

"UNC has a strong Department of Marine Sciences, with very well known marine chemists. That nicely complements microbiology since most chemical reactions in the sea would be impossible without bacteria. So, as a microbiologist, one must also be a chemist to some extent. And for that, everything is set up very well at UNC."

Francisco Werner, chair of the Department of Marine Sciences, is delighted to have Teske aboard. "Dr. Teske's strengths are complementary to those already on campus. As such, we will be able to further develop a leading interdisciplinary teaching and research program in environmental microbiology and biogeochemistry at UNC-Chapel Hill—a program that will continue to attract top scientists and students at the national and international level." ■

# New CEP website offers wealth of information



[www.cep.unc.edu](http://www.cep.unc.edu)  
CEP web site designed by UNC Design Services.

## The CEP's new website, now available to users worldwide, offers many valuable resources:

- a Carolina Environmental Faculty web page, with links to each faculty member's professional website
- a list of the 50 Carolina units with environmental programs, including learning, research and outreach and public service activities
- information about all undergraduate environmental degree programs and minors offered by UNC-Chapel Hill
- specific information on graduate study in the environment at Carolina
- a centralized listing of upcoming environmental events at UNC-Chapel Hill
- a complete electronic archive of Carolina environmental news going back to 1997

**Check it out!**

*Community Advisory Board*  
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be excited and inspired by that fresh approach!"

Leaders at both field sites know how important the advisory boards are to the success of their programs. "We have had remarkable success early on, in part because of the wonderful response of the local community members," stated Dr. William Stott, director of the Albemarle Ecological Field Site. "We aim to create an institution that is responsive to the needs and ideas of citizens in this region, so it's very important that we grow in partnership with local people and local organizations."

Dr. Robert Wyatt, director of the field site at Highlands, concurred. "The CAB helps to keep us on track in identifying those issues of paramount importance to local citizens concerned about the environmental problems that we humans have created. The CEP is training the next generation of problem-solvers to tackle those enormously complicated issues. This task would be impossible without the cooperation of people from a wide spectrum of society." ■

### Carolina Environmental Program

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