

**SFI weekly newsletter for the week of September 21, 2009**  
**A weekly service of SFI**



**SFI NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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2. Poster-making workshop with Alex Mayer a success
3. D80 Conference October 17, 2009--Registration ends September 30
4. America's National Parks, Hesterberg Hall Auditorium, Noblet G002, 1:30 **TOMORROW** Saturday, Sept 26
5. Motorola wins EPA 2009 Green Power Award
6. Progress on Wood-to-Wheels biofuel projects
7. Peter Flynn "Biomass Energy: A Criterion for Picking the Right Technology" 3:00, Oct 5 REKHI Room G006

**SEMINARS**

1. "The Computed Answer May Be Wrong," at 3:05 p.m., Monday, Sept. 28, in Dow 642
2. "Disproportionality: An Interdisciplinary Bridge to Analyzing Environmental Degradation" 12:00 Oct 2, 2009
3. Michael J. Falkowski, School of Forest Resources and Environmental Science Monday, October 5, 2009

**FUNDING & AWARD OPPORTUNITIES**

1. Great lakes Restoration Initiative
2. Funding for Climate Change Projects

**JOBS & POST DOCS, INTERNSHIPS, FELLOWSHIPS, and SCOLARSHIPS**

1. Events Manager/Planner, AASHE
2. Web Application Developer, AASHE
3. Program Associate, Second Nature
4. Canada Research Chair, Env'l Economics & Sustainability, U Ottawa
5. Faculty, Energy and Climate Change Policy, Humboldt State U

**NEW RESOURCES**

1. Student Sierra Coalition Releases 'Moving Campuses Beyond Coal'

**EVENTS & CONFERENCES**

1. Incorporating Sustainability Concepts & Practices into the Curricula Oct 6, 2009; 9-3pm EST; Brattleboro, VT
2. Pre-Conf Workshop: How Higher Education Can Lead Restoration Oct 15, 2009; 9 – 5pm Pacific; San Francisco

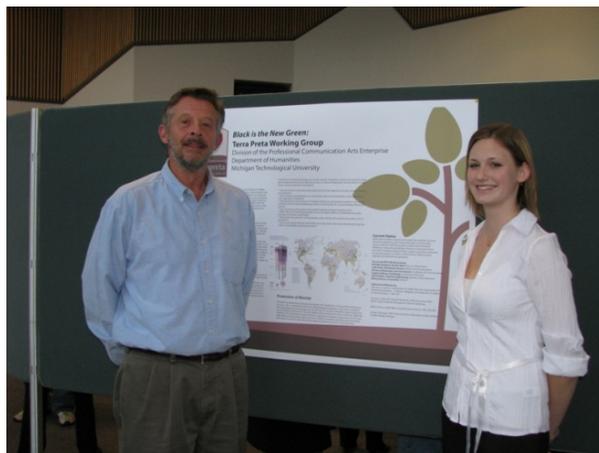
*In an effort to increase recognition and enhance SFI's image, we want to include more publicity about SFI member achievements. Please send announcements of your publications, presentations, awards, and names of awarded proposals to Denise Heikinen at [dmheikin@mtu.edu](mailto:dmheikin@mtu.edu).*

**SFI NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## 1. SFI Poster Session & Banquet Oct 16th at the Rozsa

SFI invites all students, faculty, and staff to enter posters in the 5th Annual SFI Poster Session and Banquet to be held on Friday, October 16th in the Rozsa lobby. The Poster Session starts at 4:00 with banquet to start about 6:00. SFI encourages the campus community engaged in sustainability-related projects to share current research, progress, and successes. This event serves to strengthen the network of scholars interested in this important topic. All poster presenters are also cordially invited to attend the banquet immediately following the poster session.

This year there are more awards!. In addition to a very generous and gracious award of \$150 from the Graduate Student Council for the People's Choice Best Poster Award, SFI will award a Second and Third prize of \$75 and \$50, respectively. NEW this year is the Inaugural Rick Donovan SFI Operations Manager Award for \$200! Rick reserves the right to decide his own criteria!



**2008 Biochar Group People's Choice Winner**

The Library now makes various kinds of poster making hardware and software available in its Digital Studio. Stop by on the second floor of the library or check it out at <http://www.lib.mtu.edu/services/DigitalStudio/default.aspx>. Prices for poster printing range from 1.00/sq ft to 1.25/sq ft.

To register for the poster session please email your 100 word abstract by October 9 to Denise Heikinen [dmheikin@mtu.edu](mailto:dmheikin@mtu.edu). Remember that the poster session will be viewed by people from many disciplines so try to avoid disciplinary jargon. Abstracts need to include an explanation for how the poster relates to sustainability. List the names of all presenters and mention whether all of them will be able to stay for the banquet.

The Banquet is open to all SFI members and poster presenters. SFI regrets it cannot accommodate significant others. For more information, please contact Denise at [dmheikin@mtu.edu](mailto:dmheikin@mtu.edu). To view slides of last year's SFI Banquet and Poster Session, including names of newly inducted SFI Scholars and menu of sustainable food for the event, please go to <http://www.doe.mtu.edu/news/2008/sfipostersession/index.html>

## 2. D80 Conference October 17, 2009--Registration ends September 30

This year's D80 Conference will be Saturday October 17, 2009 (9 am to 5 pm) in the Ballroom of the Memorial Union Building on the campus of Michigan Tech. This conference highlights student research and service that create solutions to difficult challenges confronting the poorest 80% of humanity. Please consider presenting your research or service project at this year's conference. The D80 Conferences been averaging 250 attendees, so this is a good venue to share and learn among a wonderful community of international scholars. Conference attendance is open to students, faculty, and staff at any university, as well as the general public. Cost is \*free\* but registration is required. Registration for attendees closes on September 30, 2009. You can find the registration directly at: [http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=8Y\\_2fjMqd4u9g5r9HsnLYJlw\\_3d\\_3d](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=8Y_2fjMqd4u9g5r9HsnLYJlw_3d_3d)

## 3. Poster-making workshop with Alex Mayer a success



Yesterday's poster-making workshop by Alex Mayer was well received. Alex discussed several pointers from his many years of poster-making and attending poster sessions. He suggested poster makers critique the many posters on campus near department offices as well as look at the posters submitted for the 2009 CWS World Water Day Posters for more samples of what they like or don't like in a poster: [http://www.mtcws.mtu.edu/2009CWS\\_Posters.html](http://www.mtcws.mtu.edu/2009CWS_Posters.html) Special thanks go to Alex for volunteering his time to share his knowledge of poster making. It is east to see why Alex won Tech's Distinguished Service Award.

### **3. America's National Parks, Hesterberg Hall Auditorium, Noblet G002, 1:30 TOMORROW Saturday, Sept 26**

The Isle Royale Institute and Isle Royale National Park will host a preview and discussion of the film "The National Parks: America's Best Idea." The film, a six-episode series directed by Ken Burns, premieres on Sunday, Sept. 27, and will run for two hours on six consecutive nights on local and national PBS stations.

<http://www.pbs.org/nationalparks/>

### **4. Motorola wins the prestigious EPA 2009 Green Power Award**

SFI Advisory Board member Dr. Bill Olson, Director of the Office of Sustainability and Stewardship for Motorola Mobile Devices, announced that Motorola won the EPA 2009 Green Power Award for its green products, recently launched as part of its ECOMOTO (green electronics) project. Motorola is one of only 10 organizations nationwide to receive a Leadership Award for its green power purchase. EPA presented the award at the 2009 Renewable Energy Markets Conference in Atlanta. Among Motorola's recent green products are carbon free phones made with recycled materials. Since 2005 Motorola has reduced its stand-by power on chargers by 70%. Since 2000, Motorola has reduced its carbon footprint by 20%. For more information on the award see:

<http://mediacenter.motorola.com/content/detail.aspx?ReleaseID=11816&NewsAreaID=2> and

EPA 2009 Green Power Award Information: <http://www.epa.gov/grnpower/awards/winners.htm>

EPA award and Motorola green product launch press release:

<http://mediacenter.motorola.com/content/detail.aspx?ReleaseID=11816&NewsAreaID=2>

### **5. Wood-to-Wheels biofuel projects**

SFI has been making good progress on its Wood-to-Wheels biofuel projects. The kickoff meeting on the \$2 million, 2-year project; Frontier Renewable Resources (FRR) Center of Energy Excellence involving Michigan Tech (W2W), Michigan State University, MEDC, and FRR in Sault Ste. Marie was recently completed and teams were established. The actual cellulosic ethanol facility will be in Kinross, near the site of the abandoned air force base at the east end of the Upper Peninsula. Participants will study and recommend the best feedstock supply chain for providing a clean hardwood chip to the facility within a distance of 150 miles. A \$1.4 million, 1-yr DOE-funded feedstock supply chain project that is state-wide in scope is scheduled to kick off January 2010. These projects and the results generated from them will help other regions of the country figure out the feedstock supply issues for biofuels and bioenergy. Among the team leaders, co-PIs, and consultants from SFI are the following:

SFI Director David Shonnard (ChE), Robert Froese, Kathleen E. Halvorsen, Ann L. Maclean, Linda M. Nagel, Jim Pickens (SFRES), Ms. Maria Janowiak (Northern Institute of Applied Carbon Science and SFRES), James Friendewey (Interim Dean of the School of Technology), Greg Graman and Dana M. Johnson (School of Business & Economics), David Watkins (CEE), and Pasi Lautila (Michigan Tech Transportation Center).

### **6. Peter Flynn "Biomass Energy: A Criterion for Picking the Right Technology" 3:00, Oct 5 REKHI Room G006**



Dr. Peter Flynn, Emeritus Mechanical Engineering Professor and Poole Chair in Management for Engineers at the University of Alberta, Edmonton, will speak on biomass energy on October 5.

Dr. Flynn will meet with W2W participants, S-STEM scholars, and other interested people at 2:00 in room 313 of EERC. A reception will follow his talk in the MUB Alumni Ballroom B at 4:00 p.m.

Dr. Flynn's schedule on October 5

2:00 informal meeting in room 313 EERC

3:00 REKHI Room G006

4:00 reception in MUB Alumni Ballroom B

See the SFI website for more details <http://www.sfi.mtu.edu/news-speaker.php>.

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## SEMINARS

### 1. "The Computed Answer May Be Wrong," at 3:05 p.m., Monday, Sept. 28, in Dow 642

Richard (Rick) Donovan, SFI's Operations Manager, Senior Engineer and Scientist, will present an Environmental Engineering Graduate Student Seminar, entitled "The Computed Answer May Be Wrong," at 3:05 p.m., Monday, Sept. 28, in Dow 642.

Donovan will outline a somewhat unconventional career path that has led him to his current position at Michigan Tech. As well, he will discuss some of the work underway at the SFI and his research interest in high-performance computing, scientific visualization and artificial intelligence. There will be door prizes. Please post the flyer that was attached to your email newsletter alert.



### 2. "Disproportionality: Interdisciplinary Bridge to Analyzing Environmental Degradation" 12:00 Oct 2

Peter Nowak, University of Wisconsin M&M U11, 12:00 pm Friday, October 2, 2009

Sponsored by: Center for Water & Society, CEE -Environmental Engineering, and SS – Environmental Policy

### 3. Michael J. Falkowski, School of Forest Resources and Environmental Science Monday, October 5

Environmental Engineering Seminar Series Dow 642, 3:00 pm

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## FUNDING & AWARD OPPORTUNITIES

*To submit research proposals through the Sustainable Futures Institute, add "SFI" to the DEPT/CENTER/INSTITUTE(S) column for identifying the PI's and co-PI's. SFI Director, John Sutherland, will sign the transmittal sheet on page 3. (If John Sutherland is unavailable for signing transmittal sheets, Qiong (Jane) Zhang can also sign for SFI). Submitting proposals under SFI provides wider publicity and recognition for your research as well as a 10% return on your incentive account.*

### 1. Great lakes Restoration Initiative

Great Lakes Restoration Initiative <http://www.epa.gov/greatlakes/glri/>

FY2010 Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Interagency Funding Guide U.S. EPA, July 20, 2009

This Interagency Funding Guide has been developed in order to provide one-stop-shopping for applicants interested in applying for over \$250 million in grants and project agreements which would be expected to be available through the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative<sup>1</sup> if the full \$475 million for the Initiative is appropriated. These grants and project agreements are intended to jump-start achievement of the Initiative's long term goals: safely eating the fish and swimming at our beaches, assuring safe drinking water, and providing a healthy ecosystem for fish and wildlife. [http://www.epa.gov/greatlakes/glri/fundingguide2009\\_r1.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/greatlakes/glri/fundingguide2009_r1.pdf)

### 2. Funding for Climate Change Projects

Brighter Planet, a clean-energy startup that helps people adopt climate-friendly practices, has launched the Brighter Planet Climate Fund, a monthly micro-granting program that aims to surface worthy recipients for awards to combat climate change. The Fund will support projects in the US that help fight climate change and/or help people adapt to its consequences. A \$5,000 grant will be awarded in October to the winning team. Projects on college campuses are encouraged. [http://brighterplanet.com/entries/93-project\\_fund](http://brighterplanet.com/entries/93-project_fund)

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## ***JOBS & POST DOCS & INTERNSHIPS, FELLOWSHIPS, SCOLARSHIPS and CFPs***

### 1. Events Manager/Planner, AASHE

AASHE is seeking an events manager/planner in the Denver area to provide leadership in planning and organizing its annual conference and trade show/expo, board and staff retreats, workshops, and other meetings. The

candidate will also provide support to the executive director with respect to travel and meeting arrangements. Other responsibilities will include assisting the board and staff to determine annual conference and other events locations, developing events budgets and maintaining financial records in collaboration with AASHE's business manager, and negotiating contracts with various vendors, speakers, and sponsors. A bachelor's degree and 3-5 years of experience in event planning are required. The position will remain open until filled. Screening of applications will begin on September 24, 2009. <http://www.aashe.org/highlights/jobs/events-managerplanner-job>

## **2. Web Application Developer, AASHE**

AASHE seeks a web application developer to work as part of its IT Team to develop web applications that help universities share information and measure their progress toward meeting sustainability goals. The successful candidate will be responsible for building web solutions using a combination of MySQL, PHP, Python, Django, and Drupal. Other responsibilities will include working with non-technical stakeholders to develop specifications, testing and documenting project code, building/adapting Drupal modules to provide non-standard functionality, and coordinating with the IT Team on related efforts. Requirements include a bachelor's degree in computer science, software engineering, information sciences, or similar curriculum with development emphasis or equivalent work experience; more than 3 years of experience in server-side web development; and more than 2 years of experience in client-side web development. The position is open until filled. Screening of applications will begin on September 24, 2009. <http://www.aashe.org/highlights/jobs/web-application-developer>

## **3. Program Associate, Second Nature**

Second Nature is hiring a part-time, temporary program associate for strategic initiatives to assist in development emerging and implementing existing programs, including those advancing green building and renewable energy in higher education. Responsibilities will include managing outreach to colleges and universities on Second Nature's fellowship and technical assistance grant programs for under-resourced schools; offering facilitation skills to events and meetings coordinated by Second Nature; and assisting in the management of a new web portal for campus green building. A master's or bachelor's degree and at least 5 years of relevant work experience are required. This posting is available immediately and will remain open until October 1, 2009. <http://www.aashe.org/highlights/jobs/web-application-developer>

## **4. Canada Research Chair, Env'l Economics & Sustainability, U Ottawa**

The University of Ottawa (ON) is seeking to recruit a scholar in the area of environmental economics and sustainability for a Tier 1 Canada Research Chair (CRC). The successful candidate will have a regular academic appointment at the relevant Faculty. The Chair-holder will assume a leadership role as part of a team of academics in the Department of Economics and at the Institute of the Environment. A doctoral degree in Economics along with outstanding research accomplishments and a commitment to postgraduate training, policy relevant research, and interdisciplinary collaboration are required. Review of applications will commence in October 2009. <http://www.inomics.com/node/1526>

## **5. Faculty, Energy and Climate Change Policy, Humboldt State U**

Humboldt State University's (CA) Department of Environmental and Natural Resource Sciences invites applications for one full-time, tenure-track position in Energy and Climate Change Policy. The successful candidate should have a potential for or record of research, potential for effective teaching or teaching experience using a variety of methodologies, and the ability and/or interest in teaching a broad range of courses to diverse students. A Ph.D. is required at the time of appointment. This position is open until filled. First consideration will be given to completed applications received no later than November 6, 2009. <http://www.higheredjobs.com/search/details.cfm?JobCode=175391167>

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## **NEW RESOURCES**

### **1. Student Sierra Coalition Releases 'Moving Campuses Beyond Coal'**

The Sierra Club and the Sierra Student Coalition have released, *Breaking Coals' Grip on Our Future: Moving Campuses Beyond Coal*. The report describes the problem of using coal to power colleges and universities,

highlights some of the campuses that rely on this power source, and shows examples of schools that are now transitioning away from coal and toward clean energy.

<http://sierraclub.org/coal/campus/default.aspx>

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## **EVENTS & CONFERENCES**

### **1. Incorporating Sustainability Concepts & Practices into Curricula Oct 6; 9-3pm EST; Brattleboro, VT**

Vermont Campus Compact will host "Incorporating Sustainability Concepts and Practices into the Curricula: Creative Approaches to Multi-Disciplinary Teaching and Learning." The institute is designed to support faculty and course facilitators from a variety of disciplines in developing creative approaches to incorporating the concepts and practices of sustainability into existing courses, both as curricular content and as a focus for applied research related to courses. Participants will leave with ideas for modifying an existing course to effectively incorporate aspects of sustainability into teaching and student learning. Faculty and course facilitators from the U.S. and Canada are encouraged to attend. The deadline to apply has been extended to September 28, 2009.

<http://www.vtcampuscompact.org/2009/FGC/FGC09.htm#institutedescriptions>

### **2. Pre-Conf Workshop: How Higher Ed Can Lead Restoration Oct 15; 9 – 5pm Pacific; San Francisco**

Second Nature, AASHE, and the California Student Sustainability Coalition will host "Education for Action in the Age of Climate Change: How Higher Education Can Lead Restoration In and Out of the Classroom," a pre-conference workshop at Bioneers 2009. The workshop, which is designed for students, faculty, staff, administrators, and the general public, will challenge participants to rethink the purpose of formal education related to solving the complex problems we face, while demonstrating breakthrough examples of leadership and successful innovations. Keynote speakers will include David Orr, leading environmental educator and Bioneers board member; Dr. Anthony Cortese, founder and President of Second Nature; and Julian Keniry, Senior Director of Campus and Community Leadership for the National Wildlife Federation.

<http://www.bioneers.org/conference/sessions-events/how-higher-education-can-lead-restoration-in-and-out-of-the-classroom>