News Highlights and Announcements

- **Deadline to participate in Sustainability Research Survey is March 31, 2011**
  Penn State is taking a leadership role as a charter participant in the STARS (Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating System) program, a voluntary, self-reporting framework for recognizing and gauging relative progress toward sustainability developed by the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE). Data are being collected in key sustainability "credit areas," spanning student life, curriculum, research, operations, planning, administration and outreach. This survey is designed to assess faculty research in sustainability.

- **Beth Boyer co-author on new USGS study on organic carbon in our Nation's surface waters**
  A new carbon model, developed by USGS in collaboration with researchers from Resources for the Future and Pennsylvania State University, contributes new information on the role of rivers as sources and sinks for organic carbon at regional and continental scales. Model estimates of sources and sinks help managers and researchers track carbon transport in streams, which is ultimately needed to understand the fate of rising carbon dioxide levels in the atmosphere. View technical announcement.

- **Week of Sustainability Ethics Events**
  The Rock Ethics Institute has organized a week of events focused on sustainability events including public talks, panel discussions, a one-day conference and keynote speakers. PSIEE is one of the co-sponsors.

- **Sustainable State video contest upload forms now online!**
  For all you video-makers out there entering the Sustainable State Video contest, here's where you can enter your info and upload your work: "Sustainable You" videos | "Sustainable U" videos. **DEADLINE:** Midnight, April 15. PUBLIC ONLINE VOTING for 12 Finalists will kick off with a live screening at the HUB on Earth Day (April 22).

- **Tree geneticist John Carlson receives $3.7 million grant for hardwoods research**
  A plant geneticist in Penn State's College of Agricultural Sciences has received a $3.7 million grant from the National Science Foundation to develop genomics resources to address forest-health issues affecting hardwood trees. Carlson, professor of molecular genetics in the college's School of Forest Resources, is principal investigator on the project, "Comparative Genomics of Environmental Stress Responses in North American Hardwoods," funded by the NSF Plant Genome Research Program.

- **no)Boundaries 2011 Student Conference, March 19-20, 2011**
  Penn State’s Department of Geography graduate community will host the annual no)Boundaries student conference on March 19th and 20th on the ground floor of Deike Building. The conference will feature a wide variety of graduate and undergraduate paper presentations, two panel sessions (Activism and Scholarship, and Publishing), a poster session, and the keynote speech delivered by Dr. Matthew Zook from the University of Kentucky (4pm, Saturday March 19th, 22 Deike). All are invited to attend the events.
• **Photo of the Week – Integrative Hydrobiogeochemistry sampling**
  Integrative Hydrobiogeochemistry - employs techniques from all the different scientific disciplines to better understand iron cycling in acid environments.

Other news of interest

• **Administrator Lisa P. Jackson, Testimony Before the U.S. House Committee on Agriculture**
  Administrator Jackson addresses some of the mischaracterizations that have been, at times, unaddressed, or that need to be addressed again with the agriculture community.

• **Call for Nominations - 2011 National Medal of Science**
  The National Science Foundation is now accepting nominations for the 2011 National Medal of Science. The deadline for complete nominations is March 31, 2011. The National Medal of Science was established by the 86th Congress in 1959 as a Presidential Award to be given to individuals "deserving of special recognition by reason of their outstanding contributions to knowledge in the physical, biological, mathematical, or engineering sciences." In 1980 Congress expanded this recognition to include the social and behavioral sciences.

• **Earth Hour scheduled for March 26, 2011**
  At 8.30 p.m. on Saturday 26 March 2011, Earth Hour will celebrate a worldwide commitment to ongoing change for the betterment of the one thing that unites us all – the planet. To learn how you and your organization can participate, visit [http://www.earthhour.org](http://www.earthhour.org) and view the official YouTube video. Please pass on and share with your colleagues and networks.

(View all news)

Requests

• **We Want YOUR Research Photos for our Photo of the Week Spotlight!**
  A number of you have submitted photos and they are in the cue for posting but we still NEED interested researchers to submit research photos for the “photo of the week” section on the PSIEE website. Along with the photo, we need a photo caption, photo credit, and short paragraph describing the research related to the photo. Related links are also welcome. See the [PSIEE web](http://www.psu.edu) for example text.

• **PSIEE is now on Facebook!**
  We now have a Penn State Institutes of Energy and the Environment Facebook page. You can “Like” our page and view updates as we post them. If you are a Facebook user, please “like” our PSIEE page!

Select Campus Events

**March 15, 2011**

• **Mechanical Engineering Seminar Series**
  Jean Hertzberg, University of Colorado, "Impact and Outcomes of a Flow Visualization Course"
  4:00 p.m.; 135 Reber Building
March 16, 2011

- **Hamer Center for Community Design and Laboratory for Public Scholarship and Democracy**
  Lorelei Scarbro, *Mountaintop Removal*
  6:30 p.m.; Stuckeman Family Building Jury Space

**March 16, 2011**

- **Gamma Sigma Delta Annual Graduate and Undergraduate Research Expo**
  4 pm, Wednesday, March 16 through 4 pm Thursday, March 17.
  Agricultural Sciences and Industries Building
- **Meteorology Colloquia**
  Jian-Hua Qian, Columbia University, *Multi-scale climate processes over the maritime continent*
  3:30 p.m.; 112 Walker Building

March 17, 2011

- **Gamma Sigma Delta Annual Graduate and Undergraduate Research Expo**
  4 pm, Wednesday, March 16 through 4 pm Thursday, March 17.
  Agricultural Sciences and Industries Building
- **Cooperative Extension Natural Gas Webinars**
  Natural Gas Well Development and Emergency Response & Management
  Mike Jacobson, 1 - 2 p.m.
- **Infectious Disease Dynamics Seminars**
  Marilyn E. Scott, McGill University, *TBA*
  4:00 p.m.; 510 Mueller Laboratory
- **Horticulture Seminar Series**
  William Clapham, USDA Appalachia Farming Systems Research Center, *Risk Analysis to Compliment ANOVA*
  4-5:00 p.m.; 111 Tyson Building
- **Geodynamics Colloquia**
  Luke Zoet, *Stick-Slipping Glaciers, Laboratory and Field Observations*
  4:00 p.m.; 541 Deike Building

March 18, 2011

- **School of Forest Resources Spring Seminar Series**
  Gabrielle Archard, *Temperament and Stress Responses in a Tropical Fish, Brachyrhaphis episcope*
  Noon - 1:00 p.m.; 217 Forest Resources Building
- **Geography Coffee Hour**
  Rob Roth, *Geovisualization and geovisual analytics for crime analysis*
  4-5 p.m.; 112 Walker Building

Saturday and Sunday March 19-20, 2011
- **Annual no)Boundaries Student Conference**
  Keynote speaker: Matthew Zook, University of Kentucky, 4-5:00 p.m. in 26 Hosler Building
  Deike Building

**March 21, 2011**

- **Battery and Energy Storage Technology (BEST) Day**
  Noon - 6:00 p.m.; Reber Building

- **Plant Biology Seminar**
  Wen-Po, *"Caterpillar Salivation: Why is it Good for Plant?"*
  12:10 p.m.; 108 Wartik Laboratory

- **Plant Pathology Seminar Series**
  Tim Gottwald, University of Florida, *"Epidemiology and Management Scenarios for Citrus Huanglongbing - Is It Possible to Slay the Dragon?"*
  3:30 p.m.; 112 Buckhout Laboratory

**March 22, 2011**

- **Sustainability Ethics: Public Talks and Panel Discussion on Global Ethics**
  Noon - 2:00 p.m.; Pasquerilla Spiritual Center, Garden Room
  - Lecture: Robin Attfield, Professor of Philosophy, Cardiff University, Cardiff, Wales, UK, "What Moral Consequences Does the Environmental Crisis Have?"
  - Lecture: Nigel Dower, Honorary Senior Lecturer, Philosophy, University of Aberdeen, UK, "Sustainability and Cosmopolitanism: A Defense of an Ethical Ideal"
  - Comments: Christian Becker, Assistant Professor of STS and Philosophy, Penn State
  - Comments: Donald Brown, Associate Professor of Environmental Ethics, Science, and Law; and Director, Collaborative Program on Ethical Dimensions of Climate Change, Penn State

- **Cows and Carbon: Dairy Impacts, Mitigation, and Adaptation in a Warming World Brown Bag Series**
  Kathy Brasier, *"Farmers' adoption of conservation practices: Lessons for climate change mitigation?"*
  Noon - 1:30 p.m.; 118 Agricultural Sciences and Industries Building

- **Mechanical Engineering Seminar Series**
  David Wisler, GE Aviation (retired), *"Learn to Think Like an Expert"
  4:00 p.m.; 135 Reber Building

- **Geosciences Colloquia**
  Wenlu Zhu, University of Maryland, *"Permeability and three-dimensional melt distribution in mantle peridotite"
  4:00 p.m.; 22 Deike Building

- **Sustainability Ethics: Public Talk and Panel Discussion**
  Konrad Ott, University of Greifswald, *"Eleven Domains of Climate Ethics: Steps toward a Comprehensive Approach"
  5-7:00 p.m.; 112 Forest Resources Building

**March 23, 2011**
- **Sustainability Ethics Conference** *(Free and open to the Public: NO Registration Required)*
  Pasquerilla Spiritual Center
- **Earth System Science Center (ESSC) Seminar**
  Jose Fuentes, *"Shrub encroachment enhances nocturnal warming in the northern Chihuahuan desert"*
  11:15 a.m.; 529 Walker Building
- ** Meteorology Colloquia**
  Chris Davis, NCAR, *"Observations of Atlantic Tropical Weather Disturbances from PREDICT"*
  3:30 p.m.; 112 Walker Building

**March 24, 2011**

- **Sustainability Ethics Conference** *(Free and open to the Public: NO Registration Required)*
  Pasquerilla Spiritual Center
- ** Geodynamics Colloquia**
  Rachel Piotraschke, *"Title TBA"*
  4:00 p.m.; 541 Deike Building

**March 25, 2011**

- **Sustainability Ethics Conference** *(Free and open to the Public: NO Registration Required)*
  Pasquerilla Spiritual Center
- **Northeast Wood Energy Webinars**
  Brian Kittler, Pinchot Institute, *"Biomass Carbon Accounting: Implications for Policy and Climate"*
  11:00 a.m. - noon
- ** Architectural Engineering Seminar Series**
  Michael Royer, *"Towards Circadian Enriched Light Sources for General illumination"*
  12-1:00 p.m.; 107 Engineering Unit B
- **School of Forest Resources Spring Seminar Series**
  Laura Leites, *"Forests under Global Climate Change: Insights from Combining Old Data, New Questions, and Useful Quantitative Tools"*
  Noon - 1:00 p.m.; 217 Forest Resources Building
- ** Sustainability Ethics Conference**
  Konrad Ott, University of Greifswald, *"Environmental Ethics within a Framework of Communicative Action"*
  3:30 p.m.; 267 Willard Building
- ** Geography Coffee Hour**
  Carrie Hritz, *"Spying in the Past: Tracing Land Use and Settlement Patterns in Southern Iraq"*
  4-5 p.m.; 112 Walker Building

**Featured conferences**

- ** Marcellus Shale Academic Applied Research Conference**
  The Marcellus Shale Multi-State Academic Applied Research Conference will: 1) bring together researchers from across the Mid-Atlantic region to help identify the research needs related to the impacts of Marcellus Shale development, 2) identify on-going research activities related to Marcellus Shale, 3) build multi-institutional
academic partnerships focused on Marcellus Shale, 4) endeavor to develop a broad applied research agenda that includes natural resource, wildlife, social, community and economic implications as well as research on production methods/technologies, and 5) help inform outreach and education. The conference will be structured to highlight what we know and what we do not know. The conference tone will be one of respectfulness that allows for disagreements and that builds collegial relationships. This conference is a collaboration between Cornell University, Penn State University, and West Virginia University. Scheduled for May 10-11, 2011 in Altoona, PA.

- **Innovating Policy for Chesapeake Bay Restoration**
  The purpose of this one-day conference is to foster innovative thinking on the suite of federal and state policies needed to reduce water pollution in the Chesapeake Bay. Presenters will examine shortcomings of existing policy approaches and highlight opportunities for correcting those deficiencies from economic, political, legal, ecological, and policy perspectives. The conference will also examine issues related to the pace and magnitude of the nutrient and sediment reductions, efficient and fair allocations of load reductions between states, the structure of interstate agreements, ecological and economic uncertainty, and adaptive management. Scheduled for March 29, 2011 in Cambridge, MD.

- **Call for abstracts open: 2011 AWRA Annual Water Resources Conference**
  Conference will be held November 7-10, 2011 in the Hyatt Regency Albuquerque, NM. Deadline to submit abstract is May 13, 2011.

- **Workshop on Climate and Forests: Planning Tools and Perspectives on Adaptation and Mitigation Options**
  Workshop scheduled for May 16-18, 2011 in Flagstaff, Arizona. Poster submission deadline is March 22 and Early Bird registration ends on April 2, 2011.

(View all upcoming conferences)

**Select Employment Opportunities**

- **DOE: Associate Director, High Energy Physics** – Deadline to apply is April 25, 2011.
- **NPS: Supervisory Biologist** – Deadline to apply is Friday April 8, 2011.
- **EPA: Supervisory Environmental Engineer/Physical Scientist** – Deadline to apply is Tuesday, March 22, 2011.
- **EPA: Director, Water, Wetlands and Pesticides Division** – Deadline to apply is Friday, April 1, 2011.
- **Paid Internship: National Council for Science and the Environment Policy Intern** (View other positions with NSCE’s Campus to Careers).

**Select Funding Opportunities**

- **NIOSH Support for Conferences and Scientific Meetings** (April 12)
- **Microscale Power Conversion** (June 10)
- **University Engineering Design Challenge Program** (April 25)
- **WaterSMART: Grants to Develop Climate Analysis Tools for FY 2011** (May 13)
- **ROSES: Atmospheric Composition: Laboratory Research** (July 1)
- **ROSES: Impacts of Climate Variability and Change on NASA Centers and Facilities** (July 12)
- **ROSES: Earth Science Applications: Water Resources** (August 1)
ROSES: Land Cover/Land Use Change  (December 1)
Dimensions of Biodiversity (March 28)
American Competitiveness in Chemistry-Fellowship  (April 4)
Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship Program (IGERT) (May 2)
Coupling, Energetics, and Dynamics of Atmospheric Regions (CEDAR) (May 10)
Joint Domestic Nuclear Detection Office-National Science Foundation: Academic Research Initiative (May 23)
Industry/University Cooperative Research Centers Program (June 26)
Petascale Computing Resource Allocations (June 30)
NSF Scholarships in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (August 11)
SBE Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grants (Various dates)
Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) Program:  (July 25-27)
Petrology and Geochemistry (July 6)
Research in Engineering Education (September 16)

(View all 45 recent announcements | View all open 258)

Special Funding Announcements

- **2011 Translational Research in Energy Support Program (TRESP)**
  Grants will run from July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012. This is basically the same application as last year’s, except that we have also specifically included work on development of the Marcellus Shale and similar assets and natural gas utilization within the purview of the grants. Deadlines: April 11, 2011 for Preliminary Applications; May 9, 2011 for Full Applications. For more information contact D. Brian Krier at 814-569-1116 or dbk131@psu.edu.

- **EPA Accepting Applications for Environmental Education Grant Funding**
  The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is accepting grant applications for $1.9 million in funding for environmental education projects and programs. The purpose of the grants is to promote environmental stewardship and help develop knowledgeable and responsible students, teachers and citizens. EPA expects to award at least 20 grants nationwide ranging from a minimum of $15,000 to a maximum of $100,000 and will accept applications until May 2, 2011. EPA will be hosting two conference calls for potential applicants interested in additional information about the application process. The conference calls will take place on March 21, 2011 at 11 a.m. and April 6 at 2 p.m.

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comments/suggestions to Patricia Craig at plc103@psu.edu. Please use “PSIEE listserv” in the subject line. If you have information that you would like us to distribute please send that as well. Thanks!

Thank you for your continued interest in the Penn State Institutes of Energy and the Environment!

Best regards,
Patricia Craig