

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- IES Symposium
- Awards Banquet
- Ways You Can Give to the IES
- IES to Develop a New Energy Program

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IES Annual Professional Symposium

The IES Professional Symposium was held on Saturday, October 20. Eight IES alumni working in the public and private sectors presented at the symposium: Jeff Brown, Stan-tec; John Lytle, Stone Environmental; Beth (Turner) Mar-



John Lytle, Beth (Turner) Marlowe, and Jeff Brown (L to R) were panelists for the session on Environmental Assessment and Restoration.

lowe, US Army Corps of Engineers; Megan Ansley, Key Bank; Bill Hinger, Huntington Bank; Gina Hays, Ohio EPA; Oliver Kroner, TERA; and Maria Leiter, Environmental Quality Management.

Speakers covered a wide range of topics, including wildlife impact assessment, air and water pollution compliance, wetland restoration, sustainability and risk management in banking, environmental toxicology and risk assessment, and drinking water regulation. The speakers emphasized several common themes, such as the importance of IES problem solving, teamwork, and quantitative and communication skills. Their advice was to be open to different career paths, commit to learning new skills, and pursue leadership roles.

Each session was followed by a panel discussion by the speakers. Breaks in between sessions provided the opportunity for current IES graduate students to interact with the speakers and ask questions about their career paths.



Maria Leiter, Oliver Kroner and Gina Hays (L to R) advised students to get involved during the panel on Air and Water Quality and Toxicology.

Participation in the Professional Symposium is one of many ways alumni can become involved with the IES. Please contact us if you would like to speak at the symposium or in one of our classes.



Bill Hinger and Megan Ansley (L to R) discussed Risk Analysis and Sustainability in the banking sector.

Richard Shank Speaker at Awards Banquet

The IES Awards Banquet followed the Professional Symposium on October 20. The featured speaker was Dr. Richard Shank, Sr. Vice President and Chief Environmental Officer of Scotts Miracle Gro. Dr. Shank reflected on his diverse experiences as an environmental pro-

fessional in the public and private sectors, and offered his vision of the opportunities for environmental scientists to address our societal challenges. Dr. Shank held leadership positions with the Ohio EPA, Science Applications International, and The Nature Conserv-

ancy prior to his current position at Scotts. Shank emphasized the importance of stakeholder engagement and public education to our future sustainability.





Dr. Thomas Crist
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You can donate to the IES with gifts of money, opportunity, or wisdom

Numerous faculty and professionals contribute their time and expertise to IES



The IES is centrally located in Upham Hall

Photo by Sandra Tyler



Michelle Simmons receiving an IES Letter of Commendation

Letter from the Director

Greetings IES Alumni! This summer and fall have brought several changes and new initiatives for IES. Chris Ingham retired this summer after three decades of service to IES. We will miss her many talents and her institutional memory, which has served us so well this past year!

This fall I worked with faculty, department chairs, and deans in four divisions of the university to develop a proposal for a new interdisciplinary undergraduate Energy Co-Major, which will be submitted later this winter. The Co-Major will complement a new MEn concentration in Energy. The revised MEn core curriculum and concentrations were approved along with our combined bachelor and MEn program. The combined program allows a student to complete the coursework for the MEn degree with one year of addi-

tional study beyond the bachelor's degree. Our first student will enter the combined program this spring.

The changes to the MEn program set the stage for us to seek certification as a Professional Science Master's (PSM) program from the Council of Graduate Schools. PSM certification is now widely recognized among professional degrees and will help our MEn to stay prominent in a competitive market.

In October, we were thrilled to have eight alumni speak at the Professional Symposium. It is one of several ways you can support the IES. Your financial gifts, career mentoring, and professional opportunities for students are also important to our success.

Happy holidays and best wishes for the New Year!

IES Awards for Service & Contributions

At the IES Awards Banquet, **Radha Krishnan** of Shaw Environmental was recognized with the Award of Distinction for his contributions to the IES in providing student internship opportunities and his service on the IES Advisory Board.

Robbyn Abbitt, GIS Coordinator in the Department of Geography, was awarded Fellow of the IES for her service on several graduate student committees and her expertise on Professional Service Projects.

To help implement the changes to the MEn core curriculum, Dr. **Michele Simmons**, Associate Professor of English, and **Annie-Laurie Blair**, Clinical Professor of

Journalism, were given Letters of Commendation for their efforts in developing a new Environmental Communications course. Dr. **Vincent Hand**, Visiting Associate Professor in IES and Engineering, was also awarded a Letter of Commendation for his efforts in developing a new course in Project Management.

A surprise Award of Distinction was given to Dr. **Gene Willeke**, IES Director Emeritus, for endowing the Willeke Frontiers in Environmental Science Distinguished Lecture Series. He received a standing ovation for his ongoing commitment to the IES.

Class of 2011

Jeffrey Babb
Rachel Day
Angela Defenbaugh
Travis Drury
Matthew Hallett
Jeffrey Johnson
Mitch Otto
Sara Rodgers
Anne Speakman
Jacob Stone
Lindsey Stone
Sandra Tyler
Marion Wells
Baha Zukhurov

UG School

Lake Superior State University
Ashland University
Drake University
Ohio Northern University
College of Charleston
Wright State University
Miami University
Young Harris College
Wittenburg University
Young Harris College
Miami University
College of Mt St Joseph
Miami University
Tajikistan State National Univ.

MEn Concentration

Water Resources
Applied Ecology
Applied Ecology
Water Resources
Applied Ecology
Environmental Management
Applied Ecology
Applied Ecology
Applied Ecology
Environmental Communication
Applied Ecology
Conservation Biology
Applied Ecology
Environmental Management



Left: Orientation Field Trips included a visit with Ashley Olwine, an IES Graduate and current Environmental Education Program Manager, Northern Kentucky Sanitation District No. 1

Right: Class of 2012 on Orientation Field Trips.



Class of 2012

Michelle Barrett
Allison Becknell
Justin Bedocs
Jason Bracken
Thomas Buckley
Abigail Burns
Jeena Credico
Penny Feltner
Justin Hoffer
Lilit Hovhannisyann
Alyssa Lopez
Kathryn Lovda
Luisa Quitalo
Christine Rahtz
Kristyn Shreve
Jessica St Pierre
Jeffrey Wedgeworth
Kristen Woodling

UG School

Ohio State University
Miami University
Miami University
Penn State University
Missouri Baptist College
John Carroll University
Miami University
Thomas Moore College
Vanguard University
American University of Armenia
Miami University
Miami University
Catholic University of Louvain
University of Cincinnati
Kent State University
Miami University
Oberlin College
University of Toledo

UG Major

Zoology
Zoology
Anthropology
Philosophy
Administration of Justice
Psychology
Zoology
Environmental Science
Psychology
Sociology
Zoology
Botany
Economics & Management
Geology
Geography & Zoology
Zoology
Philosophy & Physics
Environmental Science

Each year, the IES Outstanding Student Award is given to a student who demonstrates exemplary characteristics of leadership, enthusiasm, and passion as an aspiring environmental professional. Marion Wells was selected as the 2012 recipient of the award at the IES Awards Banquet. Marion received a bachelor's degree in Zoology at

Miami University before entering the MEn program. In addition to her outstanding academic performance, Marion has worked on water quality monitoring with **Butler County Stream Team**. She also served as a student representative on the IES Executive Committee. Her concentration is in Applied Ecology and she would

like to use her experience to pursue a career in restoration and consulting. She will be leaving in spring semester for an internship with EMH&T in Columbus, OH. Congratulations Marion!



2013 Professional Service Projects

Towards a Carbon Action Plan: Updating Miami University's Carbon Footprint

Team: Penny Feltner, Lilit Hovhannisyan, Alysya Lopez, Kathryn Lovda, Luisa Quitalo, and Jeff Wedgeworth

This team is working with Yvette Kline, Director of Sustainability and Energy Conservation at Miami University, to update Miami's current Carbon Footprint calculation as a means of developing a Climate Action Plan. This will assist the University in meeting the Sustainability Goals and Commitments that were established in 2011. To accomplish this goal the team will become familiar with the Clean Air-Cool Planet Campus Carbon Calculator used to aid schools in developing long term, comprehensive climate action plans.



Four Mile Creek Watershed Inventory

Team: Michelle Barrett, Allie Becknell, Justin Bedocs, Christine Rahtz, Jessica St Pierre, Kristen Woodling

The task of this team is to complete an Inventory of Four Mile Creek Watershed (FMCW) for the Butler County Storm Water District and Butler County Soil and Water Conservation District. The FMCW crosses through 4 counties, including 2 in Indiana and Butler and Preble Counties in Ohio. To compile the inventory, the team is describing the geological, biological, cultural, and physical attributes of the watershed, as well as known impairments.

Hueston Woods State Park Bike Trail Feasibility Study

Team: Justin Hoffer, Abigail Burns, Tom Buckley, Jeena Credico, Kristyn Shreve, Jason Bracken

This team is exploring the feasibility of adding a bike and pedestrian trail adjacent to the eight-mile loop road that travels through Hueston Woods State Park. In order to do this, they are assessing the environmental, engineering, and economic aspects since the road travels through a nature preserve, over a bridge, and adjacent to other trails.



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