Environmental Consciousness and Art

Gene Rosa, Washington State University

Gene Rosa, Edward R. Meyer Professor of Natural Resource and Environmental Policy and Chair of Sociology at Washington State University, will have a one-person exhibition of his sculpture/assemblages at Gallery II of the Museum of Fine Arts at WSU, November 10 to December 11, 1998. Titled "Toward Ecolage: Steps Forward and Backward" the theme of the exhibition is the fusion of aesthetics and ecology via a self-consciousness about our wastes. A visual display of the exhibition will be available after it opens via a hyperlink from <http://www.wsu.edu:8080/~facrosa/>. Below is the artist's statement.

Toward Ecolage©: Steps Forward and Backward

Garbage and beauty. Junk and elegance. Trash and aesthetics. Rubbish and style. Waste and glamour. Toxins and aristry. These expressions impose obvious contradictions. Refuse is the unsightly, the ugly, the unwanted. Beauty is the polysemous term covering anything that is pleasing to the eye. Their pairing is cacophony to many of our senses. Their juxtaposition confronts us with an incongruity that seems all but absurd. The tandems, simply enough, defy ordinary logic.

"Seek simplicity, but mistrust it," Alfred North Whitehead once admonished. The key theme underlying this exhibition is to mistrust the simplicity of our first impression—to challenge the idea that our discards can only be conceived in ugly, nonaesthetic ways. It seeks to confront our ordinary categories of what constitutes the beautiful and the unsightly. It seeks to introduce fluidity into our conventional classifications. It does so by re-arranging or recycling ordinary or discarded objects in new ways, ways that—even if not visually beautiful to all—are an artistic representation of the challenge.

An artistic representation of the challenge, however, is not enough. Also needed is a larger vision and conceptualization for rendering harmonic the seemingly cacophonous. We can find this vision in modern history. One of the monumental, but hyperbolically understated discoveries of the twentieth century, is the enormity of our wastes. The physical environment has been forced to absorb the byproducts of our exponentially growing consumption patterns. It has been forced to absorb matter of unprecedented toxicity. It has been forced to absorb materials unknown to history. What are the earth's ecological limits for absorbing the garbage of high modernism? We, simply, do not know.

Limits there must be: Nature is obstructive on this count. So, if the planet is to sustain the human species, the issue of waste must be addressed. How? Through know-how, especially science and technology, is the conventional answer to this question. But, we know now that that is not enough. Science and technology are both part of the solution, but they are also part of the problem. Something is missing. Absent is a vision for seeing what is not ostensibly there. Absent is our aesthetic sensibility and our creativity for challenging what is waste and what is artifact. Absent is a vision for converting waste into artifact. Who better to fill this functional void than the artist? While countless are the answers to the question: "What is art?", the thread of Ariadne that runs through them all is—the manipulation of materials. This is what artists have been doing since antiquity. They are masters of the manipulation of materials in service to our aesthetic and other senses—and to our sensibilities. This is their métier. So is their creative vision.

The term "Ecolage" is the codification of these ideas. It combines the Greek root oikos (from whence comes ecology) with a variety of art styles—collage, decollage, découpage, assemblage, bricolage—that emphasize the manipulation of ordinary or found objects to produce new forms of reality. Ecolage, too, is the manipulation of ordinary, found, or discarded objects. In style, therefore, it bears close resemblance to assemblage, bricolage, and others. But there is a key difference: an environmental self-consciousness. At its core, ecolage is an artistic expression of ecological sensibility. This is not a passive outcome of art for art's sake, but an...

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Notes from the Editor...

The Environment & Technology Section and You

Well, maybe I should say "the Environment and Technology Section and Me." As I begin a second term as newsletter editor, and as we go through the annual membership panic trying to reach 400, it seems a good time to reflect on what membership and participation in the E&T Section has meant to me. I remember the first ASA Meetings and the first E&T-sponsored session I attended. I knew right away that this was a special group! It was certainly one of the best sessions I attended. The following year, when I gave my first paper at an E&T-sponsored session, Bill Freudentburg stood up to invite anyone who wanted to join a group of E&T members for dinner. Not knowing him or anyone else in the group, I went along anyway. We had a great time. While still a graduate student at the time, I was accepted as a colleague. The students who joined a similar dinner group after the reception this year can, I hope, make a similar report!

As an active member of E&T, I have become part of a lively, dedicated, and caring network. The opportunity to work on the newsletter has been great. When I responded to the call for volunteers, I never expected to be given the job all by myself! Faced with this daunting prospect at the start, the former editor, Chris Cluett, and the E&T Officers and Council Members could not have been more supportive. I have worked with these thoughtful individuals and many other members to find and develop submissions to share with the rest of the Section. It has been a truly valuable experience for me.

I could, obviously, go on and on. But let me just say that I highly recommend getting involved in E&T. Write a piece for the newsletter, volunteer for a committee, run for office. The work is not hard, but it is rewarding. Ask any of those listed on the left. And, while you're at it, encourage a friend or student to join and participate as well.

And then, when your membership comes up for renewal at the end of the year, renew it right away! Let's build a stable "over-400" membership! Even if you choose not to be an active member, your membership could ensure a place for a future graduate student interested in E&T.

[P.S. We made 400 in membership in time.]

In this issue... The cover story from Gene rosa suggests a heightened environmental sensitivity. In the chair's message, Tom Rub del discusses funding sources. The department spotlight covers the University of New Orleans. A number of web resources are mentioned. (Remember that Larry Hamilton is collecting member web site information for a future article. Contact him directly by email at Lawrence.Hamilton@uuh.edu.) And, as always, member publications and activities are highlighted.

Please share your news, reviews, etc. for the next issue!
Funding for Research in Environmental Sociology

The health of our professional enterprise depends in an important way on the funding available to do our research. Despite the importance of funding to our work, we have not spent much time in recent years discussing the various sources of funds for research, so knowledge about funding sources tends to be fragmentary, based on personal experience and casual conversations at meetings. The applied nature of our work contributes to this fragmentation; those of us who work on one problem go to one set of funding sources while those of us who work on other problems go to other funding sources. Under these circumstances it might useful to initiate a dialogue about funding sources, if only to make us all more aware of the variety of places that we can go in search of funds.

To this end, I will outline below what I know about the sources of research funds for graduate students, for Ph.D.s, and for institutions. The first point to make is that some institutions, land grant colleges in particular, have significant sources of internal funds from experiment station budgets or private endowments that can be used for research in environmental sociology. Funds that are available to all of us can be grouped into three categories.

Funds for Graduate Students. In recent years several students in the Environment and Technology section have received dissertation improvement grants from the Sociology Program of the National Science Foundation. In the early 1990s NSF was funding as many as 50% of all applications received, since then the number of applications received has increased and funding rates have declined, but NSF still funds enough proposals to make this an important source of funds for dissertation research. The new NSF-EPA STAR fellowship program could become an important source of funds for graduate students. [Editor's note: see RFA on page 4.] If you are planning on doing dissertation research outside of the United States, the Fulbright program is an important source of funds. Fulbright has recently reoriented much of its funding away from faculty members and towards graduate students, so the amount of funds available to students has probably increased in recent years. Resources for the Future has reestablished their dissertation fellowship program, and they occasionally fund proposals by sociologists. Finally, enterprising graduate students can sometimes tap into research funds by convincing a faculty member to serve as a principal investigator for a proposal that the graduate student writes. The proposal includes, of course, funds for the graduate student. This maneuver opens up a class of funds usually reserved for Ph.D. scientists.

Funds for Ph.D.'s. The National Science Foundation represents an important source of funds for environmental sociology research, but it is important to extend one's search beyond the sociology program. NSF-Sociology has funded at least two proposals by environmental sociologists in recent years, but environmental sociologists have also secured funds in recent years from the Polar Program, the Decision Sciences Program, and the Geography/Regional Science program (I've had particular luck with the latter), so you may need to cast your net broadly. The National Institutes of Health (in particular NICHHD and NIA) are possible sources of funds. I once got money out of NICHHD for a study of first home purchasing. The budgets for NIH grants are large, but they fund a relatively low percentage of proposals (15%). In this regard it is important to note that both NSF and NIH are slated to receive considerable increases in their budgets this year, so the percentage of successful proposals may increase. While most foundations prefer to fund action projects rather than research, some foundations like MacArthur do have fellowship and grant programs intended for individual researchers. I have not had much success getting money out of foundations. Perhaps others in the section who have had more successful experiences could share their insights.

Institutions. If you are inclined to think big, grants to institutions, usually for training programs, are for you. NIH has long funded centers for research and training in demography, for example. Now NSF appears to be following this trend in areas of substantive interest to us. NSF funded a center for the study of the human dimensions of global environmental change at Indiana University several years ago. The University of Wisconsin - Madison recently received a large grant from NSF for research and training on people/environment interactions. Private foundations also fund these types of programs. The Pew Memorial Trust funded this type of program at Cornell during the mid-1990s.

These observations about funding sources for research in environmental sociology represent my own partial view, so they need to be supplemented or corrected by the views and experiences of others. Hopefully through this type of interchange we can increase both the number of proposals we submit and our rate of success with the submissions!

On-Line Resources for Environmental Sociologists

Sustainable Development Web Site

At the web address <http://www.esva.net/~sustainrw> visitors can read about current ideas on the concept of "sustainable development," including issues revolving around environmental and social justice. The site visitor also has the ability to respond to a survey on this site regarding their own opinions about the complex issues of sustainable development. This site's sustainable development survey provides the opportunity for an international dialogue on this often misunderstood philosophy.

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Distinguished Contribution Award

This year seven outstanding scholars were nominated for the Distinguished Contribution award. After much thoughtful deliberation, the Environment and Technology Section council members chose Robert Bullard as the 1998 recipient of the award. The council chose Dr. Bullard because he exemplified the spirit of the award. His unparalleled contributions to research, scholarship, policy development and change, and community service have made him a worthy recipient of this award.

Robert D. Bullard is the Ware Professor of Sociology and Director of the Environmental Justice Resource Center at Clark Atlanta University. Prior to joining the faculty at Clark Atlanta he served as a professor of sociology at the University of California, Riverside and visiting professor in the Center for Afro-American Studies at UCLA. Dr. Bullard received his bachelors degree from Alabama A&M and his Ph.D. from Iowa State University.

Over the past two years, Robert Bullard has conducted research on land use, housing, transportation, community development, and environmental quality. Bullard has been a leader in the field of environmental justice research, teaching, policy, and community development. He has served on the planning committee for the First People of Color Environmental Leadership Summit, President Clinton's Transition Team in the Natural Resources and Environment Cluster, the U.S. EPA's National Environmental Justice Advisory Council and the National Advisory Council for Environmental Policy and Technology.

Dr. Bullard has published numerous articles and books including: Invisible Houston: The Black Experience in Boom and Bust (1987); Dumping in Dixie: Race, Class and Environmental Quality (Westview Press, 1994); In Search of the New South (University of Alabama Press, 1991); Confronting Environmental Racism: Voices from the Grassroots (South End Press, 1993); and Unequal Protection: Environmental Justice and Communities of Color (Sierra Club Books, 1996).

Marvin E. Olsen Graduate Student Paper Award

The winner of the ASA Environment and Technology Section's Marvin E. Olsen Graduate Student Paper Award for 1998 is Michael J. Handel of Harvard University. His paper, "Computers and Wage Structure" is an analysis of the impact of computerization of the workplace on the growth in wage inequality through the 1980s. In that analysis, Handel presents compelling evidence that workplace computerization has not contributed significantly to wage inequality. Taking issue with earlier studies, Handel demonstrates that in some occupational contexts, the introduction of computers actually produced a net equalizing effect on wages.

Our heartiest Congratulations to this year's winners!

1999 Science to Achieve Results (STAR) Program

EPA 1999 STAR Fellowships For Graduate Environmental Study

The Environmental Protection Agency invites pre-applications for graduate fellowships in academic disciplines relating to environmental management including physical, biological, and social sciences and engineering. These Graduate Fellowships (offered by EPA) for masters and doctoral level students in environmentally-related fields of study are intended to help defray costs associated with advanced environmentally oriented study leading to the masters or doctoral degree.

Subject to availability of funding, the Agency plans to award approximately 100 new fellowships. Masters level students may receive support for up to two years. Doctoral students may be supported for a maximum of three years. The fellowship program provides up to $34,000 per year of support. This amount covers a $17,000 annual stipend, $5,000 for authorized expenses, and up to $12,000 for tuition and fees. Actual annual support may vary based on length of fellowship award and tuition and fees.

Closing Date: November 10, 1998.

This RFA is available in HTML and PDF formats on the NCERQA Web site at URL: http://www.epa.gov/ncerqa
Department Spotlight

University of New Orleans

Valerie Gunter, Department of Sociology

At the levels of both faculty research and graduate and undergraduate education, the sociology department at the University of New Orleans presents a lively program in environmental sociology. Core environmental faculty include Steve Kroll-Smith, Valerie Gunter, and Francis Adeola. A fourth environmental sociologist, Shirley Laska, currently serves as UNO's Vice Chancellor for Research. These researchers work on such topic areas as natural and technological disasters, environmental justice, environment-health linkages, populist social movements, agenda setting, and citizen participation in environmental decision making. Several other sociology faculty have also done research on environmental topics, including the social impacts of off-shore production and commercial fisher-preservationist battles over efforts to protect endangered sea turtles.

General courses in environmental sociology are offered at the sophomore, senior, and graduate levels. A number of more specialized environmental courses are also taught, including Population Problems, Sociology of Risk, and Social Dimensions of Louisiana Environmental Problems. The sociology department also administers an interdisciplinary undergraduate minor in Environmental Studies. The sociology department also offers a Master of Arts degree. Currently around 40 students are enrolled in the Masters program. Recent theses completed on environmental issues have examined such topics as the media construction of environmental racism, the impacts of natural and technological disasters on the elderly, and the experiences of working-class and middle-class women active in the environmental movement.

New Program Announcement

Environment, Culture and Society - Make the Vital Connections

- A new M.A. at Lancaster University -

Human societies increasingly shape and change the natural environment. They also, through science, technology, art and a wealth of other cultural practices, shape the concepts and categories in terms of which environmental change has to be understood. Grasping these complex and contested shaping relations is now crucial for practical environmental responsibility. The M.A. in Environment, Culture and Society is for activists, thinkers, planners, executives and anyone else who needs to grapple with this vital contemporary agenda.

The M.A. programme runs from October 1998 and is taught at the Centre for the Study of Environmental Change (CSEC), a lively multi-disciplinary intellectual community working at the interface between higher education, the environmental policy world and wider civil society, with funding from Research Councils, NGOs, the EU, business and national and local government. It was rated 5* in the last Research Assessment Exercise, and its members have experience teaching postgraduate students from a wide range of backgrounds.

Course modules:

Required
* Environment and Culture I: Issues, Politics, and Institutions
* Environment and Culture II: Science, Value and Practice

Optional
* Ecological Knowledge and institutions
* Environment and the Construction of Value
* Environmental Risk
* Ideas of Nature

* Mediated Nature: Communications Media and the Environment
* New Social Movements, the Environment and Local Resistance
* ... plus others from related departments at Lancaster

Contact: Kate Lamb, Centre for the Study of Environmental Change; Bowland Tower East; Lancaster University; Lancaster LA1 4YT; United Kingdom; Telephone: +44 (0) 1524 592658; Fax: +44 (0) 1524 846339; Email: csec@lancaster.ac.uk; Website: www.lancs.ac.uk/users/csec/ma.html

"Art," continued from page 1

active relationship between the artist and the world. Ecolage is another technique for seeing a unity in hidden likenesses, something the brilliant Jacob Bronowski said only scientists do. It challenges us to see likenesses between a perfectly shaped flower and a crushed object at the side of the highway. It stimulates us to see symmetry between the bicycle wheel as bicycle wheel and as a kinetic artifact. It is a lens for focusing on the possibilities for our junk. It is a consciousness about the ecological consequences of re-arranging the ordinary and the discarded (our technological garbage) with artistic creativity. It is a vehicle guiding us to refashion Picasso's observation that "art is a lie to make us realize the truth."

Just as science and technology alone are not the solution to the fouling of our ecological nest, neither is ecolage alone. But ecolage can provide both the mental template and aesthetic sensibility needed to guide our solutions. As art it springs from the same creative urge as does science and technology. It is another rationality—another tool—of human creation. And many tools are needed. For the task of dealing with our wastes is one of the most daunting challenges of our age; of all ages for some of these wastes.

By using all of our tools there is hope of meeting this challenge. And by using all of our tools we might lay bare, in the words of Bronowski, "one of the most destructive modern prejudices that art and sciences are different and somehow incompatible interests."
Call for Syllabi and Related Course Materials

The ASA will be publishing a revised version of its *Instructional Materials for Environmental Sociology*, and Rik Scarce, the editor, would like to receive syllabi, assignments, and other teaching materials from all interested Section members. Items from both undergraduate and graduate courses would be appreciated. The tentative ASA deadline is December 1, so the sooner you can submit items for potential inclusion the better. The preferred method is via an e-mail attachment (WordPerfect or Word, IBM/Windows formatting, please), though hard copy will be grudgingly accepted! Please share your materials—we have a 250-page limit, and it would be wonderful to go to the max.

Please send submissions to: Rik Scarce, Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Montana State University, Bozeman, Montana 59717-0238, Phone: (406) 994-5251, E-mail: rscarce@montana.edu

Thanks in advance for your help. Sections members will receive a discount on the volume following its publication next year.

Call for Papers for the 1999 ASA Annual Meetings.

Section on Environment and Technology

The Section invites submissions on a wide range of topics for paper reading and roundtable sessions. Send submissions to: Carole L. Seyfrit, Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Studies, College of Arts and Letters–BAL 900, Old Dominion University, Norfolk, VA 23529-0070, USA; phone (757) 683-3803; fax (757)683-5746; cseyfrit@odu.edu

Duke Environmental Law and Policy Forum

The Duke Environmental Law and Policy Forum ("DELPF") is publishing an issue in Spring 1999 addressing the nexus between sustainable development and environmental justice. DELPF welcomes submissions from practitioners, professors, community activists and students in environmental law, policy, economics, science and related fields. Submissions should be between 5,000 and 20,000 words. If you are interested in submitting an article or have any questions please email Nena Shaw, Editor-in-Chief, at ES2802@student.law.duke.edu.

In May of 1999 the President's Council on Sustainable Development ("PCSD") will sponsor the first ever National Town Meeting for a Sustainable America: Building Communities and Business for the 21st Century. DELPF sees this town meeting as an opportunity to define further what is meant by sustainable development. Specifically, we are interested in exploring the nexus between sustainable development and environmental justice.

The Brundtland Commission originally defined sustainable development as "development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs." Since the Brundtland Commission introduced this concept, local and national communities have struggled to apply this broad definition to their social and economic circumstances.

The broad definition of sustainable development typically encompasses environmental, economic and equity issues. While the environmental and economic perspectives of sustainable development are frequently discussed, the equity perspective is the most poorly understood, elaborated, and defined.

Discussion of environmental justice, however, typically begins with (IN)equity issues as a point of departure to analyze both the distribution of environmental degradation and mitigation efforts. Therefore, by analyzing the nexus between sustainable development and environmental justice, we begin to reconceptualize environmental problems and their myriad solutions.

Questions and topical areas/problems/domains that authors may use as points of departure upon which to base their submissions:

1. Local and National Policy Perspectives - What does sustainable development mean in local communities and what can this perspective tell us about what role environmental justice plays in that? How does the discussion of urban/suburban growth impact the concepts of sustainable development and environmental justice?

2. Local and National Legal Perspectives - How do state and national laws and legal precedents inform the discussion of sustainable development? How do Title Six, the President's Executive Order on Environmental Justice and relevant case law on environmental justice inform the discussion of sustainable development?

3. Global Policy Perspective - What does sustainable development mean at the global level and what insights might be provided from a comparative perspective? Does the Sustainable Cities Project have a model to offer in terms of defining the concept of sustainable development? How have other nations addressed the question of environmental justice?

4. International Law Perspective - How does the international body of law inform conceptions of sustainable development and environmental justice? What international legal models can be brought to bear on the issues of sustainable development and environmental justice?

Please keep in mind these are suggested areas of inquiry, any other relevant papers will be considered.

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"Calls," continued from page 6

Organization & Environment

Editors: John Bellamy Foster, University of Oregon and John M. Jermier, University of South Florida

"From citizen activism to the global ecological crisis, from animal rights to ecofeminism, from the evaluation of classical texts to critical reviews of recent work, Organization & Environment is a premier vehicle for exploring new ideas about nature and society. Anyone wishing to understand more fully the many dimensions of humanity's relationship to the earth will be well rewarded."
Carolyn Merchant, University of California, Berkeley

The editors of Organization & Environment are proud to announce that in its September 1998 and December 1998 issues, O&E—now increased in size in its second year to 128 pages per issue—has published or will soon be publishing a number of pathbreaking articles of interest to environmental sociologists and organizational theorists. Highlights from its September issue include: Frederick H. Buttel, "Some Observations on States, World Orders, and the Politics of Sustainability"; M. Moore, "Coalition Building Between Native American and Environmental Organizations in Opposition to Development"; Richard Wilk, "Emulation, Imitation and Global Consumerism"; Steven Best, "Murray Bookchin's Theory of Social Ecology"; and a review essay on risk assessment by Valerie J. Gunter. Highlights from the December issue include: David Korten, "Do Corporations Rule the World? And Does it Matter?" (along with comments by Edward Herman and Thomas Gladwin); Daniel Barben, "The Neoliberal Shaping of Biotechnology"; a symposium on Malthus' Essay on Population After 200 Years, including contributions by William Catton, Herman E. Daly, Tom Athanasiou, Eric B. Ross, Richard Wiltgen, Martha Gimenez and John Bellamy Foster; and review essays/reviews on such topics as ecofeminism, the environmentalist challenge to incinerators, and Sea World by Kari Norgaard, Susan H. Roschke and Peter Grahame, respectively.

Organization & Environment is an international forum for discussion of the complex social causes and consequences of environmental damage, restoration, sustainability, and liberation. O&E promotes environmentally-sensitive reflection, inquiry and practice by publishing work that problematizes domination by humans, that interrogates and investigates existing systems of organizing production and consumption, that develops transformative ideas, and that imagines and articulates ecotopian futures.

The editors of Organization & Environment welcome for review, submissions which provide a base of scientific understanding, ethical argumentation, aesthetic appreciation, spiritual inspiration, utopian imagery and/or down-to-earth reality checks to inform and elevate discussion about organization and environment. This variety of perspectives is achieved by a diversity of articles and in our regular features, edited by Stephen R. Couch (Book and Other Media Reviews), Mary Mellor (Citation Classics and Foundational Works), and Chris Cokinos (Art and the Natural Environment).

Human Ecology Review

Human Ecology Review is a peer reviewed research journal published by the Society for Human Ecology. The journal is committed to a timely review process, and typically publishes manuscripts within six months of acceptance. For more information on the journal, see the website at: <http:\members.aol.com\tdietzvt\HER.html> or contact the editor: Linda Kalof, Sociology and Anthropology; George Mason University; Fairfax, Virginia 22030; Fax: 703-993-1446; Email: lkalofvt@aol.com

The contents of the current issue are:

- "Extinction by Exhibition: Looking at and in the Zoo" by Ralph R. Acampora
- "A Consideration of Collective Memory in African American Attachment to Wildland Recreation Places" by Cassandra Y. Johnson
- "Demographic Change and Fisheries Dependence in the Northern Atlantic" by Lawrence Hamilton and Oddmund Otterstad
- "Steps to a General Theory of Habitability" by Ardeshir Mahdavi
- "Ken's Problem: Environmental Activism in an Age of Deconstructionist Biology" by John Visvader

This issue also contains a special Forum section on the National Research Council's Understanding Risk (Guest Editors: Thomas Webler and Seth Tuler)

- Editor's Introduction: "How To Do Environmental Decision Making: Varying Perspectives on the U.S. National Research Council's Understanding Risk Report" by Thomas Webler and Seth Tuler
- "Guest Who's Coming For Dinner: The Scientist and the Public Making Good Environmental Decisions" Carolyn Raffensperger
- "Expanding the Rationale for Analysis and Deliberation: Looking Beyond Understanding Risk" by Judith A. Bradbury
- "Who Should Deliberate When?" by Caron Chess, Thomas Dietz, and Margaret Shannon
- "Integrating Values Into Science: The View of an Unconstructed Philosophical Realist" David Ozonoff
- "A Citizen's View: The Nuts and Bolts of Co-Partnerships" by Trisha T. Pritikin
- "Partners at the Table for Public Health Research" by Michael Sage
- "Understanding Risk and Moving Forward" by Paul C. Stem
- "Learning Through Participation" by Seth Tuler
- "Beyond Science: Deliberation and Analysis in Public Decision Making" by Thomas Webler

Author's Response to Commentary:

- "Toward Just and Competent Decisions" by Carolyn Raffensperger

The previous issue contained:

- "Dreamtime Economics 101" by Joachim Schultz
- "Can NIMBY Top the Bottom Line?" by William R. Catton, Jr.
- "Understanding the Social Construction of Environmental Concern" by Linda Kalof
- "Ecosystem Management: In Search of the Elusive Paradigm" by Robert T. Lackey
member publications and presentations


Lawrence Hamilton, University of New Hampshire, presented a paper co-authored with biologist Richard Haedrich, Memorial University, Newfoundland: "Large-scale environmental change and contemporary communities of the North Atlantic Arc," at the International Symposium on Polar Aspects of Global Change, held in Tromso, Norway, August 24-27. Abstract: In this century, and particularly since World War II, large-scale environmental changes have altered life in fishing communities across the northern Atlantic. These changes involve declines in the abundance of economically important fish species, sometimes followed by increases in other, previously less exploited, species. Fisheries have been a principal driver for these changes. By selecting out older fish, and reducing densities of food fish, fisheries also erode the ability of target species to withstand environmental variation. In several recent instances, decadal-scale climate variations have coincided with substantial changes in commercial fish stocks. Many fisheries-dependent communities have experienced population declines during the past decade. Some common patterns suggest that these provide empirical models, relevant to other large-scale shifts such as global climate change.

"On-Line Resources," continued from page 3.

New Web Site at Washington State University

Earth WISE (Writings in Sustainable Ecology) is a Washington State University web site <http://www.wsu.edu:8080/~susdev/>. The site consists of the central writings of social scientists on the topic of sustainability, of community organizations working toward sustainable development, and of case studies of sustainable development practices around the world. Earth WISE consists of a bibliography and selected abstracts of academic writings exploring a range of social and ecological science perspectives on sustainable development. This compilation attempts to integrate the social, cultural, economic, and ecological dimensions of sustainability, giving special attention to the human causes of environmental impacts, the social organization of sustainability and the equity of sustainable development.

The site is divided into three main sections: abstracts of social science articles by topic, a section with links to community organizations working on sustainability, and a section with links to international conferences and links to related topics. Earth WISE is the fruit of a partnership between the WSU Department of Sociology and the Trillium Corporation. It was researched and created by sociology graduate students Katie A. Bagby and Jamee K. Dyck under the supervision of Professors Eugene A. Rosa and Riley E. Dunlap, and Jean Service vice president of Trillium Corporation. You are encouraged not only to visit this web site, but also to submit contributions, comments, and criticisms to: susdev@wsunix.wsu.edu.

Scholarly Journals on Society and Environment

David A. Sonnenfeld
Washington State University and University of California Berkeley

Following is a listing of World Wide Web resources on scholarly journals with exclusive or major focuses on society and environment. The resources range from journals published exclusively in online editions, to websites with selected articles and "value added" information, to publisher ordering information.

Online Journals
Electronic Green Journal http://drseuss.lib.uidaho.edu:70/docs/egj.html
Electronic Journal of Sociology http://www.society.org/
Journal of World-Systems Research http://csf.colorado.edu/ws/systems/jwsr.html

Websites
Ecologist, The http://www.gn.apc.org/ecologist/
Ecology Law Quarterly http://www.law.berkeley.edu/~elq/
Environment and History http://www.eric.aemon.co.uk/EH.html
Environmental Ethics Journal http://www.cep.unt.edu/eneethics.html
Environmental History http://www.lib.duke.edu/forest/ehmain.html
Environmental Politics http://www.frankcass.com/jnls/ep.htm
Environmental Values http://www.eric.aemon.co.uk/EV.html
Ethics and the Environment http://www.phil.uga.edu/eande/
Human Ecology http://maxweber.hunter.cuny.edu/anthro/ecology.html
International Environmental Affairs http://www.dartmouth.edu/acad-inst/upne/jml_iela.html
International Journal of the Sociology of Agriculture and Food http://www.ssc.msu.edu/~soc/fodag2.html
Journal of Environmental Planning and Management http://www.carfax.co.uk/jep-ad.htm
Organization & Environment http://www.sagepub.co.uk/journals/usdetails/0151.html
Race, Poverty and the Environment http://www.igc.apc.org/uhp/pge.htm
Society and Animals http://www.eric.aemon.co.uk/SA.html
Women in Natural Resources http://www.ets.uidaho.edu/wiwr/
Worldviews: Environment, Culture, Religion http://www.eric.aemon.co.uk/WV.html