



# Collective Impact

Inspiring Change for the whole community

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## ITHACA

ITHACA COLLEGE

The quarterly newsletter  
of our

### Sustainability Initiative

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## IC Team Kicks AASHE

**A**t the first annual conference of the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE), held in Tempe AZ from October 4-6<sup>th</sup>, ten members of the Ithaca College community represented the broad base of our campus sustainability work. Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Peter W. Bardaglio spoke on "*What is a Provost to Do: The role of the chief academic officer in advancing campus sustainability?*" Bardaglio teamed with Susan West Engelkemeyer, dean of the School of Business, to present "*Creating Competitive Advantage through Sustainable Design*," discussing the impact of the high-performance sustainably designed LEED-platinum Business school facility under construction. David Saiia, assistant professor of business administration, spoke on "*A Service Learning Course on Sustainability in Ecuador*," explaining his two-week field study exploring sustainable enterprise development in the Andean cloudforest. Mark

Darling, supervisor of recycling and resource management, spoke about his unit's work in a talk titled "*Waste Management: A Solid Foundation for Campus Sustainability*." Associate professor of biology Susan Swensen and assistant professor of biology Jason Hamilton teamed to talk about "*Broadening Participation in Sustainability*", speaking about the Center for Natural Sciences Sustainability Group, our partnership with EcoVillage at Ithaca, and the Finger Lakes Project, our home-grown sustainability curriculum development program. *(continues on page 4)*

**AASHE has recognized IC junior Anna Day for the breadth of her leadership in a wide variety of sustainability initiatives at the college. Day was one of only four students nationwide to earn an honorable mention in the AASHE Student Sustainability Achievement Award competition.**

## Internationally-known Sustainability Leader visits IC



Dr. Anthony Cortese

In support of Campus Sustainability Day, Dr. Anthony Cortese, president of Second Nature, visited the Ithaca area on October 23-25. Second Nature is dedicated to catalyzing a worldwide effort to make healthy, just, and environmentally sustainable action a foundation of all learning and practice in higher education. Cortese is the co-coordinator of the Higher Education Associations' Sustainability Consortium and is also a co-founder of the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE).

As a founding member of University Leaders for a Sustainable Future, Cortese was one of the architects of the Talloires Declaration, a 10-point action plan for campus sustainability adopted by over 325 international institutions, to which Ithaca College became

a signatory on February 28, 2006. Cortese is currently working to gain support for a President's Climate Commitment; he met privately with President Williams and her senior leadership team on October 25 to discuss our progress on meeting the goals laid out in the Talloires Declaration and to potentially set carbon neutrality targets.

Cortese's visit was co-sponsored by the Office of the Provost and the Office of the Executive Vice President for Finance and Administration at Cornell University. Cortese met with Cornell representatives on October 23<sup>rd</sup>, and on October 24<sup>th</sup>, Cortese delivered an event keynote address in Textor Hall to audience members from both campuses titled, "*How Ithaca College and Cornell University can help lead society on a healthy, just, secure, and sustainable path.*"

## Collective Impacts

For more information about the **Sustainability Initiative at IC**, contact:

**Marian Brown**

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## Take Credit for Making a Difference



*In the photo: Dr. Akiko Fillinger in the Chemistry department has supervised students performing chemical analyses of the soil in the alternative landscaping project located outside the Center for Natural Sciences. See more on page 3*

Looking for independent study opportunities for Spring 2007? Want to tackle a project where the results of your work will change the way Ithaca College and the Center for Natural Sciences operates?

Check out the complete list campus sustainability projects offering between 0.5 – 3 credits each, at

<http://ic017040.ithaca.edu/~cns/Current%20Projects.html>

Just email the CNS faculty member listed with the project description to find out the details of how you can become involved, or contact Marian Brown to discuss other possible campus sustainability independent student projects.

For example, the design template for this newsletter was created as a course project by **Borislava Yotova**, an OCLD grad student.

## IC Students Foster a Sustainable Community



*This sparkly party outfit was once a lowly bed sheet!*

In the “Fostering Sustainable Communities” class, taught this Fall by EcoVillage educator Elan Shapiro, teams of students have undertaken various long-term class projects to help them better understand elements of sustainable development on campus and in our surrounding community. In particular, Arielle Wernick, Hannah Perkins, Lauren Nicholson, and Lori Bonin have learned about reusing clothing and surplus fabrics to “re-fashion” new garments and

accessories from EcoVillage resident Valorie Rockney. These “re-fashionistas” displayed some of their cool finished pieces during Campus Sustainability Day. On October 30, the students held a “Swaporama” in IC Square, teaching their friends and guests the “tricks of the trade” and techniques they picked up this semester. Lori and Arielle shared their expertise at the November monthly gathering of Sustainable Tompkins at Cornell Cooperative Extension.

The pair led interested community members through a “how-to” session, showing how they make nifty handbags from recycled T-shirts and other cast-off fabrics.

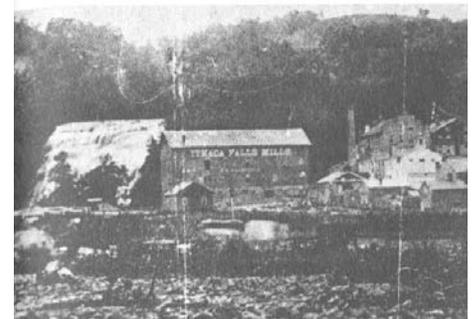
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**Students have undertaken various long-term class projects to help them better understand elements of sustainable development on campus and in our surrounding community.**

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## That's So Yesterday's News!

Students in assistant professor Michael Smith's U.S. Environmental History course have been working with archivists at The History Center Research Library to research and interpret the environmental history of Tompkins County. Using the collection of the Center for primary source material, this is the third semester that teams of students have investigated aspects of the environmental history of the area. This fall, students have studied the history of the Ithaca Farmer's Market, the 19<sup>th</sup> century ice industry in Tompkins County, and the industrial development of Six Mile Creek. The students' work provides a new framework for understanding the area's past and their research will become part of The History Center's collection. According to Kelly Calnon-Falck, director of education at The History Center, “Professor Michael Smith developed the environmental history course that requires students to use local historical resources to study an event or process in the greater Ithaca area. In doing so, it is his hope that students will develop a sense of “ecological citizenship” and an understanding that they are a part of the community they are studying.”



*Early mill along a local waterway*

As a requirement of the course, the students will present their findings in a free public presentation, co-sponsored by Sustainable Tompkins, on **December 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm** at the **History Center**, 401 East State Street.

# 100% Recycled-content Letterhead Introduced

Beginning in early Fall, all College letterhead will be printed on 100% post-consumer recycled paper. Working closely in partnership with one of the College's major suppliers, Unisource, and paper manufacturer Fox River Paper Company, Wayne French, supervisor of Printing Services, reports that this new 100% recycled-content paper - which will be equal in performance and appearance to the current letterhead stock - will be made available to our campus community at no additional cost.

**"This new totally recycled-content paper— which will be equal in performance and appearance to the current letterhead stock - will be available at no additional cost."**

Replacing the current College seal watermark, our new letterhead paper will feature two watermarks: the Ithaca logo and the chasing arrows "recycling" image with the words 100% Post Consumer underneath. This subtle change, imbedded in the important documents used to cor-

respond with members of our campus community, further strengthens the message of our commitment to campus sustainability.



Left to right: Wayne French, supervisor of printing services, Tom Jorgensen, senior account manager for Unisource, and Sheila Masselli, market development manager for Fox River Paper.

## News Briefs

- The First Year Seminar course, "Sustaining Our World," will be specially recognized in the National Wildlife Federation's 2006 Campus Ecology Yearbook for their work to further improve campus environmental literacy. <http://www.nwf.org/campusEcology/dspYearbook.cfm>
- For the "Chill Out: Campus Solutions to Global Warming" contest, tell how our campus is helping to solve the global warming crisis - in either short essay or video form - to win cash and prizes. <http://www.nwf.org/campusecology/ChillOutcontest.cfm>
- The "Convenient Truth: a green video contest" encourages you to take a little time and your trusty video camera to - in a video clip no longer than two minutes - inspire your peers to take action against global warming. <http://truths.treehugger.com/>
- On Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup> from 10:00-noon, visit over two dozen different booths at the "Sustainable Health and Wellness Fair" in the Hill Center Gym. Students from the "Wellness: A Multicultural Perspectives on Health and Healing" and "Human Nutrition" courses will introduce you to herbal products, alternative health care practices, and nutritional information to help you improve your well-being.

## Read All About It!



Have you noticed the very different look of the "grassy knoll" on the north slope of ground between the Center for Natural Sciences and the Park School?

Recently installed signs in these plots read:

### *Alternative Landscaping Demonstration Test Plot*

*An academic research project of the Ithaca College Sustainability Group*

*The low-maintenance plants used in this test plot are native to this area and help increase the biodiversity of birds, animals, and insects, as well as increase soil quality. This landscape offers a healthier ecosystem and its very minimal maintenance and upkeep reduces both fuel costs and greenhouse gas emissions.*

## Get ready... Get "Set Points" ...Go!

**"Saving energy and conserving our natural resources is a collective effort that needs the support of all members of our College community."**

be fixed at between 69-71°. Accompanying this set-point policy is one on the use of space heaters; see this policy at

This fall, Rick Couture, associate vice president for Facilities, reminded the campus about the College policy regarding thermostat set points enacted earlier this Spring. During the heating season (generally November through April) the temperature range for office thermostats will

[www.ithaca.edu/physicalplant/heaters.html](http://www.ithaca.edu/physicalplant/heaters.html). As Couture noted: "These set points are in keeping with the college's commitment to sustainability and maintain a tradition of environmental and fiscal responsibility that help advance our educational mission... Saving energy and conserving our natural resources is a collective effort that needs the support of all members of our College community. Please join in supporting these measures so that the portion of the College's financial resources that are consumed by utilities can be minimized; and the savings invested directly into the College's educational mission."

Besides, all the really "hot" IC people wear sweaters!

## TRANSform-ers taking over the campus!

Members of the IC community are transforming their transportation choices and you can support their efforts. Instead of driving to campus in their single-occupant vehicle (SOV), some faculty, staff and students are choosing to walk, bike, or take public transit for their commute to campus.

Using alternate forms of transportation cuts down on greenhouse gas emissions that negatively affect health and contribute to global warming. Driving less saves lots on the purchase of gas, and we all know that being more physically active is better for your own health.

If you are not able to commit to transforming your own transportation choices, the **TRANSform** program lets you sponsor the alternative transportation efforts of a campus “catalyst” (what we call the people committing to change their modes of transportation). Each catalyst has committed to 25 days of leaving their cars at home this semester and taking alternative transportation.

We suggest that each sponsor pledge \$1 per day or a total of \$25 over the semester, but every little bit

helps and you can sponsor at whatever level feels right for you and your wallet. Every dollar helps **TRANSform** our world a little more.

**Using alternate forms of transportation cuts down on greenhouse gas emissions that negatively affect health and contribute to global warming.**

The proceeds of the **TRANSform** program will be used to support IC students traveling with professor David Saiia to Ecuador on service-learning projects to create and manage sustainable micro-enterprises.

Student and faculty catalysts all over campus have accepted the **TRANSform** Challenge. If you're interested in sponsoring a

“catalyst”, e-mail Anna Day at [aday2@ithaca.edu](mailto:aday2@ithaca.edu) or assistant professor of business management, David Saiia at [dsaiia@ithaca.edu](mailto:dsaiia@ithaca.edu).



**TRANSform catalyst Anna Day**

## ICare, so I...

The **ICare** campaign was first envisioned by officers of Student Government Association as an awareness-raising endeavor and call to action for the entire Ithaca College community around three major focal areas: encouraging personal responsibility; improving campus sustainability and support for resource management programs; and developing campus pride.

During the Fall, a working group of Ithaca College students, faculty and staff began to work on some of the activities that will be encompassed under the **ICare** program umbrella.

Working group members include representatives from Residence Hall Association and the Office of Residential Life, Students for Sustainability, Sustainability at Ithaca College, Facilities Services, IC Environmental Society, Dining Services, Resource and Environmental Management Program, Marketing Communications, Academic Affairs, and Media Relations. The logo was developed and promotional and educational

materials are being produced. On Campus Sustainability Day, Student Body President Zack Ford formally kicked off the **ICare** campaign on campus.

Watch for the **ICare** logo on campus... and show **you** care!



(continued from page 1)

Michael “Bodhi” Rogers, assistant professor of physics, talked about the creation of the SCALE-UP physics teaching lab in a presentation titled “*One Classroom at a Time: Sustainable Renovation at the Classroom Scale.*”

Jack Haurin '08, representing the IC Environmental Society (ICES), and Dan Carrion '08, representing Students for Sustainability, spoke on “*Student-Led Sustainability Initiatives at Ithaca College.*”

Marian Brown, special assistant to the provost, rounded out the team and, along with Mark Darling, was invited to participate in a roundtable forum for campus sustainability coordinators. Peter Bardaglio represented Ithaca College at a special meeting of campus leaders to discuss gaining institutional commitment to move their respective campuses toward carbon neutrality.

The registered attendance for this conference - over 700 - far exceeded the conference organizers' wildest expectations, offering proof that while our globe may be slowly warming, campus sustainability is fast becoming “**hot-hot-HOT!**”

### News Briefs

- Astrid Jirka, outreach coordinator in the Office of International Programs, published “Sustainable Travel and Study Abroad” in the Fall 2006 edition of *Transitions Abroad* – a student guide to studying, volunteering, and working overseas. Read this article at: [http://www.transitionsabroad.com/publications/studyabroadmagazine/2006Fall/sustainable\\_travel\\_and\\_study\\_abroad.shtm](http://www.transitionsabroad.com/publications/studyabroadmagazine/2006Fall/sustainable_travel_and_study_abroad.shtm)

### We're on the Web!

A pdf version of this newsletter can be downloaded from the Sustainability at Ithaca website at [www.ithaca.edu/sustainability](http://www.ithaca.edu/sustainability)

This newsletter has been produced on recycled paper.