



**Environmental  
Program**



**NEWSLETTER**



**SPRING  
2018**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS!!**

### **CHANGES TO MAJORS!**

**\*\*NEW REQUIREMENTS FOR "ENVIRONMENT & SOCIETY" AND "ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE" ARE LISTED ON CC WEBSITE**

Henry Fricke (Professor of Geology) will be new Environmental Program Director as of July 1, 2018



Current Paraprof Hanna Ewell is leaving us to pursue a masters in Development Studies at The London School of Economics and Political Science . We all wish Hanna the best :)

# Welcoming Visiting Professors:

## Steve Harris, JD

As a practicing environmental lawyer, Steve's experiences offer unique insights and opportunities for students interested in environmental policy and law - "my instruction has always examined the intersection of politics, advocacy, law, science, government regulation, and real world problem-solving." Steve explained that as a lawyer, one is "dictated by what clients want to achieve." Despite spending most of his professional career working on behalf of environmental nonprofits and neighborhood groups, he has filed a petition for certiorari in the Supreme Court against the Sierra Club in a Clean Water Act Case about allegedly polluted water discharge from a 40 acre plot in Teller County - an old El Paso Gold mining site - into the Roosevelt Tunnel.

He was first hired by Val Veirs in 1998 to teach Introduction to Environmental Law, shortly after the Environmental Program at CC was initially established. Over the last twenty years, Steve has taught over twelve classes: an FYE on Western Water Policy, five site-based capstone courses, covering topics such as the Rio Grande National Forest (Fall 2000) and the Great Sand Dunes (Fall 2003), as well as Environmental Policy. In 2011, he was awarded the Jackson Fellowship for his "Climate, Water and Agriculture in the American Southwest" course. He is excited to teach "Environmental Management" and "Environmental Law and Policy of the Global Commons" in Blocks 7 and 8 this spring because he has never taught them before, and is planning field trips and inviting guest speakers to familiarize students with current issues and policy debates, enabled by his own involvement in local issues. Discussion-based classes at CC offer professors to "learn from students in addition to teaching," which has always been one of the most rewarding parts of teaching undergraduates for Steve.

A graduate of Wake Forest University in Winston Salem for both his undergraduate double degree in Philosophy and English, and the School of Law, Steve has been an active member of Colorado Springs environmental and neighborhood groups ever since moving here soon after. He has served on the board for organizations such as Palmer Land Trust, Colorado Farm and Art Market Cooperative, and Trails, Open Space and Parks (TOPS) Working Committee, among others.



## Rory Cowie 04' Returns

A Colorado College alum, Visiting Professor Rory Cowie is now the Water Resources Program Director at the Mountain Studies Institute run out of Silverton, CO, working to develop targeted remediation strategies to clean up abandoned mine lands and improve water resources in the headwater regions in the American West. "My professional interests are focused on the processes controlling hydrologic fluxes in mountain regions and across greater earth systems. Specifically, I work on understanding surface- and groundwater interactions in natural and human altered environments." Interested in both the development of remediation strategies to improve water quality in disturbed setting and understanding how a changing climate will impact natural resources management practices across various spatial and temporal domains, Rory offers a unique perspective in both classes he is teaching for the Environmental Program this semester: "Human Impacts on Biogeochemical Cycles" and "Water."

After graduating from CC with a Biology major in 2004, Rory moved to Telluride and worked on the Valley Floor River Restoration project, which "spurred his interest" in water issues. During his time in the Geography graduate program studying hydrology at UC Boulder, from which he attained both a Masters and PhD, he worked closely with INSTAAR (the Institute for Arctic and Alpine Research) where he met now Assistant Professor Rebecca Barnes. During this time, Rory also gained his first undergraduate teaching experience: a semester-long course on "Mountain Geography." After a post-doc with INSTAAR at the Long Term Ecological Research Station at Niwot Ridge, he spent six months at the University of Montana teaching in their Geography department. His favorite part of teaching undergraduates "is linking classroom concepts to real world applications – it is incredibly rewarding to show students what jobs are really out there, and what doing research out in the field looks like."

"I always wanted to come back and teach at CC, being an alum and having first hand experience with the Block Plan," explained Rory. He enjoys field-based teaching and sharing the experiences he's had working in mountain ranges around the world, as well as through his education and current research. "Expanding the EV Program's research footprint (to include mountain hydrology)," and his "relatability" as a young faculty member are not the only two things Rory brings to the Environmental Program. He is excited about creating collaborations between universities around Colorado and researchers in the San Juan Mountains, taking students to his current research sites and thereby getting students engaged with their environment.



Digging snow pit with class at Niwot Ridge



## Rebecca Schild 05': Linking Outdoor Education with Sustainability



Rebecca Schild is currently the Gap Program Co-Director at High Mountain Institute (HMI) in Leadville, CO. She develops and launches the travelling semester programs for 18-25 year olds that integrate outdoor education, environmental studies, service learning, and leadership throughout the American West and Patagonia. She earned her BA in International Sustainable Development from Colorado College in 2005. After three years of working for the National Outdoor Leadership School (NOLS), Becca went back to get her Masters of Environmental Management at Duke University's Nicholas School of the Environment. There, she focused on sustainability and actually did her master's thesis on sustainability in higher education, with Colorado College as a case study. "My overarching research and professional agenda aims to understand how human systems can flourish without degrading the natural environment."

During her Ph.D. program at CU Boulder, Becca was inspired by civic ecology - a term coined by researchers at Cornell University - and subsequently reached out to Dr. Marianne Krasny to serve as her advisor. Broadly, civic ecology explores how humans act individually and collectively to enhance the social-ecological system they are a part of. Under this framework of bringing together humans' connection to the natural world with the focus of creating resilient, flourishing, social-ecological systems, she has studied citizen science, collective action and participatory decision-making in natural resource management, and the connection between outdoor recreation, stewardship, and environmental values. As a social scientist, she brings a mixed-method approach to her research projects and aims to share these methods with her students.

Becca has taught several undergraduate courses in Environmental Studies and Sustainability over the years. While directing the Environmental Center at Fort Lewis College, she taught *Community Internship* for environmental studies majors in addition to creating a course entitled *Organizational Change for Sustainability*. As a PhD student at CU Boulder, she taught *Environmental Communication*, a 200-level course mostly attended by communication majors. As a block visitor while completing her PhD, she taught two blocks of *Sustainable Development* and two blocks of *Environmental Inquiry* for CC's Environmental Program, the first block under the mentorship of Professor Howard Drossman.

"I love the culture and educational approach of CC. Getting to immerse students in the topics and provide project-based and hands-on learning opportunities is, I believe, the most effective method of teaching. I was lucky to be able to take a brief leave of absence from my work at the High Mountain Institute to teach this block."

Recently, the High Mountain Institute has partnered with Western State Colorado University to offer credit for our semester programs, which has given her the opportunity to develop several new courses. "I created a class entitled *Land Conservation Ethics* that aims to provide a philosophical and historical context for the service work students complete during the program. Additionally, I served as a teaching assistant to Dr. Peter Newton at CU to develop a new course entitled *Sustainable Food Systems*, whose focus was on more experiential teaching

methods.”

Becca’s “mission as an educator is to ignite a passion for learning, cultivate critical and reflective thinking skills, empower my students to effectively contribute their unique perspectives to a larger discourse, and ultimately help them lead a life of meaning. The most rewarding experiences in my life have been in the form of self-directed, experiential projects. As such, in all of my teaching, I aim to facilitate my student’s actualization of their academic ideas, professional goals, and passions, and strive to provide a learning environment where students feel encouraged to be innovative and entrepreneurial.”

Rebecca Schild certainly brings a strong professional background in sustainability from an academic perspective. As an outdoor educator, however, she also believes strongly in the power of creating a strong community and trying to weave in these elements in her teaching whenever she can. For example, during a field trip to Baca in *Environmental Inquiry* several years ago, she led a yoga class and facilitated a solo for students, which helped form a more multi-faceted relationship with them, than simply as a classroom teacher.



# Remembering Phil Kannan

## Catalyst Article written by Abigail Censky 18':

Monday November 6, 2017 Colorado College abruptly lost a beloved professor and friend when Phil Kannan, Legal-Scholar-in-Residence and fixture of CC's Environmental Program, passed away. There was a moment of reflection held in Shove Chapel on Monday as the community braced itself to endure the loss of Kannan, who'd become a student favorite since he began teaching at CC in 1997.

Howard Drossman, Professor of Environmental Science and Director of the Teaching and Research in Environmental Education (TREE) program, said, "I am quite sure that no one at Colorado College has taught more EV students than Phil Kannan. I estimate that in EV Policy alone, it is likely that Phil taught more than 750 students since we started offering the class as a requirement in 2000." Drossman added, "I am also sure that no one at the college has inspired more students to pursue law than Phil has, but I won't hold that against him. We lost a lot of excellent science majors to law because of Phil's inspiration." Kannan was known for his eccentric characterizations and improvisations in class that he'd use to help clarify otherwise obfuscated environmental laws and regulations, making them understandable and compelling to students. Senior environmental sciencemajor Cory Page began a document of 'Phil-isms' when he took Environmental Policy with Kannan saying: "His charisma around the material and the inclusion of these random little snippets that sort of help personalize very impersonal policy briefs and whatnot. I think [that] made Phil who he is."

Jonah Seifer, a project specialist with the State of the Rockies Project, also took down notes when taking class with Kannan, amused by the comedic quips alongside otherwise dense environmental policy. Seifer furnished an example one of Kannan's favorite tricks saying, "Phil was also tickled by telling the same 'razorback [animal]' joke over and over again. Not all endangered species are as charismatic as pandas or whales, so Phil would constantly attempt to spice up more mundane animals, like the vole, by adding 'razorback'" to the beginning."

One of Page's favorite 'Phil-isms' from his four-page document of quotations is, "Chemists, those ener-



getic little beavers, are out there creating new hazardous air pollutants...way to go chemists!" This bears a trademark of Kannan's quips, often beginning in a playful tone, and ending sardonically or with cutting irony that would leave entire classrooms in stitches.

At the moment of reflection on Monday, students and environmental faculty alike reminisced about another Kannan quirk: his diagrams. Kannan was a fan of illustrating riparian systems or maps in his class and would frequently take to the whiteboard to draw completely illegible maps. Page said, "I mean, the way he draws the United States. Good Lord. Half the geographers roll over in their graves. I don't even think Florida [and] Texas make the cut. It's just like a square with a little blip for ... Maine."

Aside from all of the laughter and levity Kannan brought to sometimes draconian environmental policy, his most enduring legacies at the college will be the inspiration he provided to students, the willpower he showed in his career and personal life, and the passion that he showed up with every day. Kannan was notorious for his dedication to students, even students he only taught for a single block, saying 'Hello' as he passed them on campus during his daily walks with his wife Kay, or emailing back with relevant case law within minutes of being emailed a newspaper article.

Out of all the quotations and quips collected in Page's document of "The Wonderful World of Phil Kannan: Comments, Quotes, and Other Memorable Moments," his favorite is, "Environmental Policy doesn't need more spectators, it needs participants." Kannan was gifted at not leaving students with a doomsday feeling in his teachings of the environment; he always sought to preach a message of empowerment. Page added, "I think it's...really difficult to go through this profession, especially in today's day and age, and not be discouraged. And it seemed like there were very few days besides when he was tacking up some sort of sassy article on the board, where Phil was discouraged. He was always ready. He was always fired up to utilize some law from...way back in the day to put the hammer down...So I think [we've] got to take some notes from Phil."

Remembered for his tireless advocacy and sense of humor, Kannan will be sorely missed by current EV program students and alumni. This was Kannan's third career incarnation. Prior to teaching at CC, he received a degree in mathematics University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, and taught mathematics at several colleges and universities before returning to school at the University of Tennessee College of Law, Knoxville where he went on to get his J.D. Kannan then went on to serve as Counsel for the Department of Energy, and as General Counsel for Lockheed Martin and later M4 Environmental Management Inc., where he also served as Vice President. At CC, Kannan held the title of Distinguished Lecturers and Legal-Scholar-in-Residence. Kannan is survived by his wife Kay Kannan.

### **Faculty and Students Remembering Phil:**

*"Phil Kannan was a remarkable human, and for our interdisciplinary environmental program, a vital polymath we could all count on. He had both a strong legal-policy background, which helped countless students and colleagues (myself included), and a surprisingly mathematical-statistical mind. He could discuss ethics, sustainability, probability, and EPA Superfund policies, in a single five-minute sweep of time. Phil was also generous, selfless with his time, and was truly devoted to his teaching. I will miss him dearly, but it's what Phil did for students and countless alums that will be his enduring legacy. It's a deep loss for the college."*

- Eric Perramond, Professor of Environmental Science & Southwest Studies

*"Phil was one of the most positive people I know. Anytime I asked him how his class was doing, he always said, 'Oh, it's going great!' He loved teaching and loved his students. Phil loved the law and believed that it was an effective tool to achieve environmental and social justice. He taught Gender and Civil Rights Law to the Women's*

*Studies [now Feminist and Gender Studies] Program. He taught important decisions in Education Law to MAT students in the summer. Native Americans under Federal Law to the Environmental Program. And of course Environmental Law. He inspired so many students to go to law school and work to make a better world. He made Colorado College and the world a better place and we are all poorer without him."*

- Babara Whitten, Professor Emeritus of Physics

*"Phil Kannan played a pivotal role in the EV Program throughout his two decades at the college. I'll always remember his thoughtful and ardent contributions to our faculty discussions and his dedication and commitment to students. Phil mentored generations of students, encouraging many to pursue careers in environmental law. He established connections with law schools and internship programs, opening up numerous opportunities for students in EV. In the classroom, he was admired as an inspiring teacher with deep and wide ranging expertise. His dedication to teaching was unwavering. Do you know how they say that you should never get between a mother bear and her cubs? With Phil, I'd say, 'Never get between Phil Kannan and his classroom!' That was the place he really loved to be."*

- Marion Hourdequin, Associate Professor and Chair of Philosophy Department

*"Phil has served as an amazing mentor, scholar, and friend to many students and faculty at the college. His knowledge and passion for the environment was infectious and seemingly bottomless—something that we all appreciated. I have heard so many stories about Phil from students—it is clear that his love of his job came through in everything he did—from teaching them the ins and outs of reading case law to advising independent projects focused on natural resource management. Personally, I saw this passion when he introduced his students at their theses presentations, when we would talk about current events, and even at faculty meetings. One of my favorite memories of Phil happened my first year here. Phil had just learned that I had taken a few law classes during graduate school—he was so excited. This resulted in many long conversations about the archaic laws that govern our public lands, where I did my best to hold my own, but mostly just nodded along. One day he told me about a project he was working on and later that day sent me the latest draft of the manuscript. At the time I remember thinking—how can I help this legal scholar? Looking back I realize that this was Phil's way of telling me that he valued me as a colleague, his way of making me feel accepted in my new home. I am so grateful for that."*

- Becca Barnes, Assistant Professor of Environmental Science

*"[Phil] is 100% the reason I am where I am today--it's not even close. His environmental law course that I took at the beginning of sophomore year turned me on to environmental law and set the frame for how I looked at all of my classes following that--their importance to the field of environmental policy and their intersection with one another. Then, when I went to grad school at Vermont Law School after college for a Master's in Environmental Law, I literally used my notes from Phil's class in the first few months of my courses with law students there--and never failed to give a right answer using them! But Phil was more than just the letter of the law--he showed his students how the law could be fun, and why it was a worthwhile tool in the fight for environmental protection. He was an incredible teacher and mentor and I am hugely saddened by his loss."*

- Sally Hardin 12'



# Alumni Spotlight

## Sally Hardin 12'



After graduating from CC in 2012, Sally Hardin completed a Master's in Environmental Law and Policy at Vermont Law School (thanks to a scholarship from CC!). She focused on Water Law, a passion she developed during her studies on the Colorado River while at CC. Sally then spent a year interning for the White House Council on Environmental Quality before working for a nonprofit called the Western Energy Project in Washington DC, which frequently brought her back to the West—"I worked a lot on oil and gas leases on public lands".

After one year of acting as Deputy Director of the Western Values Project, she returned to the Council on Environmental Quality and aided in the designation of National Monuments, including Bears Ears and a number of others. Sally is currently working with the Center for American Progress as a member of their Energy and Environment War Room. "I still love and miss the West, and think about getting back there to apply my DC knowledge on the ground to public lands and conservation issues!" She explained that the one major consistency on her career path has been a requirement to be able to work across disciplines and integrate knowledge and skillsets from a variety of backgrounds and angles – politics, communications, substantive policy, etc. - "the EV program at CC first taught me how to do this successfully, and I couldn't be more grateful for that"

According to Sally, the most challenging thing about working in environmental policy in DC is watching a lot of the incredible progress made during the Obama administration be undone--and still finding a reason to get up and fight, every single time. "For example, I was a part of the core team that designated the Bears Ears National Monument at the end of the Obama Administration, working with an unprecedented coalition of tribes and others--and watching that be rolled back is heartbreaking". Playing defense is hard, and it's even harder in an administration (the Trump admin) that doesn't play by any of the traditional rules. To combat this, the two main things she has found most inspiring are the people she work with--it's critical now more than ever to have an amazing, creative team who is passionate about what they do--and ensuring to make time to get out onto our public lands, and to be reminded of why she cares about them and everyone else that cares about them, too. "Politics is a hard field that often ignores the realities of science and policy (and now, law), but learning to not just navigate but ultimately influence political reality is the path to change. I've seen it happen in the past and I believe it can happen again!"

## Warren King 12'

An Environmental Policy major, Warren King graduated from CC in 2012 having spent a large portion of his time focusing on water rights issues in the Colorado River Basin. It was Phil Kannan's *Environmental Policy* class that convinced the Essex, Connecticut native to change his major from IPE to Environmental Policy. "I always recognized the benefits of an interdisciplinary degree, but realized early on that developing these skills within the context of environmental issues would allow me to incorporate my personal passions into my more pragmatic educational pursuits". Warren argues that taking classes in economics, political science and environmental science prepared him extremely well for the policy roles he took on post-graduation – "the opportunity to put those skills to work for the State of the Rockies Project before entering the professional world cannot be understated".



"But the EV program equipped me with more than just hard skills: the passion professors like Phil Kannan, Walt Hecox, Eric Perramond and Howard Drossman exhibited for the environment every day inevitably wore off on me and are largely responsible for the path I have taken in my career".

After graduating, Warren went on to work as a paralegal for Matthew R. Osborne, P.C., a consumer rights law firm based in Denver, CO. While his undergrad experiences had little application to this work, Warren explained: "at the time I thought I wanted to pursue a career in law, and this position allowed me to get a taste for that line of work". Warren quickly found that he missed working in the environmental field, however, and after a year, took a position at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) as an Environmental Protection Specialist for the Air Pollution Control Division where he worked on oil and gas regulatory and compliance issues for the state. During his time with CDPHE Warren conducted field inspections of oil and gas facilities, managed compliance and enforcement actions, led the implementation of new federal and state regulations and gained an extensive working knowledge of the energy sector in Colorado. "Working for the State was an incredibly gratifying and invaluable experience; without it I would not be nearly as effective in the role I have today with The Wilderness Society".

For the last two and a half years Warren has been the Energy Specialist for the the Wilderness Society – a national environmental nonprofit focused on protecting America's public lands and wild places. Focusing on federal energy and climate issues, Warren develops and advocates for policies that promote smart and responsible development of our federal energy resources, working with federal agencies to minimize the climate impacts of land use decisions, and making sure that energy development does not limit the public's ability to enjoy our public lands. "Working for The Wilderness Society is incredibly rewarding. I get to work alongside and collaborate with brilliant colleagues, I get to learn something new on a daily basis, and most importantly I get to work on something that I am passionate about. I have the opportunity to make sure that future generations are able to experience the natural world in the same way I have been so privileged to and that makes every day a rewarding experience".

# Reconnecting with Past-Paraprof Kyra Wolf 16'

## What made you become Paraprof? Was grad school always part of the plan?

I wanted to be paraprof pretty much from the start of my senior year at CC. I really looked up to Kelsey, who was the paraprof before me, and with whom I had worked in Becca Barnes's lab over the summer. I also wanted a bit of teaching experience, and, having graduated early, I liked the idea of sticking around CC for another year. Grad school was sort of a fuzzy idea that I knew would come along eventually, but I wasn't ready to commit to anything long term right after CC. It was only having the time to breathe that I had as a paraprof, and the support of EV faculty, that I started thinking seriously about grad school. About a year ago, Becca forwarded me the call for applications from a colleague of hers for this position at the University of Montana, and now here I am.

## How has your education in the EV program at CC informed your postgrad work?



Something that I think is central to any environmental science or environmental studies program is the balance between depth and breadth of content. Because there is *so much* that falls under the umbrella of environmental science, it is challenging to teach well. I think the EV program does a good balancing act between giving students a taste of lots of different areas of study, and teaching in enough depth to allow students to develop some expertise. Coming from CC, I don't have the "hard science" chemistry or physics background that might be useful going into ecological research. However, I got to study subjects like ecology, biogeochemistry, and atmospheric science that allowed me to explore my interests, and got me excited to learn more. Taking the Atmosphere-Biosphere Interactions class with Miro and doing my thesis research with Becca made me want to become a scientist. At the

same time, I learned how to think critically, read and understand scientific literature, and write well, which is perhaps the most useful skill in any field. As an EV student, I also received the type of mentorship that inspired me to want to teach and encourage future students someday. The EV program was my home for my time at CC, both as a student and a paraprof, and the skills and confidence gained there certainly inform my current work.

## What is the focus of your current research?

I am a master's student in the Systems Ecology program at the University of Montana. I am studying the role of wildfire in forest ecosystems of the Northern Rockies. With climate change, fire is expected to increase in frequency and severity in the Western U.S. However, it is difficult to know what the ecological effects of this might be without understanding the historical patterns and effects of fire. I use sediment cores from lakes to reconstruct histories of fire occurrence and ecological change over several thousand years, counting charcoal pieces in the sediment to approximate past fire activity. I can also use fossil pollen preserved in sediment to get an idea of what plants were present, and how historical changes in fire activity and climate affected plant assemblages over the long term. These records will help us understand how current patterns of fire in the West compare with past

variability, and possible implications for the ecology of our forests.

### **What are you most excited about for your years at Montana?**

So much! Firstly, Montana is beautiful, though in a different way from Colorado. The mountains where I live are smaller than (though maybe not so majestic as) Pikes Peak, but are generally a bit easier to summit! My study sites are these beautiful, small mountain lakes located in high elevation forests throughout Lolo National Forest, just west of Missoula, with some located over the border into Idaho. It's been fun to learn the plant types of a new area, and I am looking forward to more field work and hiking next summer. I am also, of course, excited about the science! I must admit, I missed being a student during my year as paraprof, and I am glad to now be taking classes again. I am learning so much, even just having started grad school, and I can only look forward to more.

## **The Man Behind the Camera: Will Stauffer-Norris 13'**

After graduating from CC with an Environmental Science major in 2013, Will Stauffer-Norris kayaked from Wyoming to Mexico on the Colorado River with Zak Podmore 11', and shot a documentary along the way. After the trip, they showed the film and gave presentations around the country.

"People started asking me to do some film projects, and I realized that it was possible to actually make money with a camera. I've been doing it for the last five years, freelancing for brands and non-profits," explained Will. He's worked with non-profits such as the American Rivers on advocating for conservation legislation, travelled the world to work with NRS films, and with companies such as Patagonia, Clif Bar, Trek and others. Most of his work has been river related, and freshwater was definitely Will's focus in the EV program too. Even though he spent more time on science as a student at CC, his work lately has been more about policy. "I definitely appreciate that the EV major has a very broad spectrum of classes- it's



cool to be able to use knowledge from classes like Sustainable Development, Water, and Energy many years later!"

"Freelancing has great rewards but also great challenges- it's constantly a hustle. I've gotten to go to some amazing places in the last few years, like remote parts of China and dozens of the rivers of the American West. But that is, of course, balanced out by the hours spent staring at a screen, editing stories together."

Conservation is a tough place to make a living, as the financial incentives are usually nonexistent. "I've been able to do conservation projects only by doing commercial film work as well, shooting mostly for outdoor brands. This is a balance that I'm still trying to figure out, and one that I'd encourage any recent grad to think about critically before trying to establish a career in writing/photo/video."

More recently, Will has been experimenting with virtual reality as another medium for conservation advocacy. In 2016 he co-founded Imbue Reality (where he is now working), a company based out of Seattle, WA that creates virtual reality content for governments and business worldwide. "The technology is still rough around the edges, but I think there's a really interesting opportunity to immerse people in incredible places that they might never get to visit in person. I constantly have mixed feeling about combining media and nature (isn't it better to experience nature firsthand than mediated through a screen?), but I think inspiring people to think about wild places is usually worth it."

## Zoe Osterman 11'

Environmental Policy major Zoe Osterman 11' is currently a Graduate Law Fellow based out of Washington D.C. She spent the winter teaching snowboarding in Snowmass, CO after graduating before attending the University of Colorado Law School, and received her J.D. in 2015. While at Colorado Law, Zoe focused on Indian Law – working as a student attorney in the American Indian Law Clinic, as a research assistant for Professor Charles Wilkinson, spending a summer in the Attorney General's Office in Palau, and volunteering at an international indigenous rights organization. During her time at Colorado Law working under Charles Wilkinson, for example, she conducted on-site reservation research and interviews for a forthcoming book on the Boldt decision – a case won in the Court Of Appeals reaffirming the right of American Indian Tribes in Washington State to act as co-managers of salmon and other fish, and to continue harvesting them in accordance with other treaties. After law school, she moved to Washington, DC to work at the Legal Services Corporation (LSC) – the single largest funder of civil legal aid in the country.

“My time in the EV program had a huge impact on my postgrad work, particularly in my interest in Indian Law. Coincidentally, one of the books I read in Professor Phil Kannan's class Native Americans under Federal Law was written by Professor Charles Wilkinson - who I ended up working for in law school.” One of the things Zoe valued most about the EV program was that all of the professors challenged students to think critically about the information we were given. “Remembering that lesson has served me well in law school and now as an attorney.”

Though not currently practicing environmental law, Zoe is still grateful for the EV program at CC and encourages current students to get involved. “I loved the professors, I loved the range of classes and how interdisciplinary they were, and I loved being able to spend so much time outside!”



# 2018 Linnemann Speaker: Julian Agyeman

This year's Linnemann speaker Julian Agyeman, is a Professor of Urban and Environmental Policy and Planning at Tufts University in Medford, Massachusetts, USA. A Fellow of the Royal Society of the Arts and the Royal Geographical Society he holds a Ph.D. in Environmental Education/Urban Studies from the University of London, an M.A. in Conservation Policy from the Middlesex University, UK, and a BSc in Geography and Botany from Durham University, UK.



As an ecologist/biogeographer turned critical urban studies and environmental social science scholar, he has both a natural and social science background. Together with extensive experience in local government, consulting, NGOs and community-based organizations, this helps frame his perspectives, research and scholarship. Focused on the nexus between environmental science and sustainability, he is the originator of the concept of 'just sustainabilities,' the full integration of social justice and sustainability. His focal research interests are: just sustainabilities in policy and planning; environmental and food justice; planning in, and for sharing cities; and planning in, and for sharing intercultural cities.

He was co-founder in 1988, and chair until 1994, of the Black Environment Network (BEN), the first environmental justice-based organization of its kind in Britain. He was co-founder in 1996, and is now Editor-in-Chief of *Local Environment: The International Journal of Justice and Sustainability*.

A recognized expert and thought leader, he is in the top 15 most highly cited North American urban planning faculty. Among his wide-ranging publications is *Mind the Gap: Why do people act environmentally and what are the barriers to pro-environmental behavior?* (2002). He is Series Editor of *Just Sustainabilities: Policy, Planning and Practice* published by Zed Books and Co-Editor of the Series *Routledge Equity, Justice and the Sustainable City*. In addition, he is an Affiliate at the Civitas Athenaeum Laboratory, and on the academic advisory board of The Centre for the Future of Places, both at KTH – Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm, Sweden, and a Senior Scholar at The Center for Humans and Nature, Chicago. He sits on the Advisory Boards of Shareable, Participatory City, Urban Sharing, Cities for People/Future Cities (McConnell Foundation, Canada) and Sharecity, and is on the Board of Directors of EcoDistricts.

**The Linnemann Lecture will be held in Celeste Theater in Cornerstone Arts Center, on April 25, 2018 at 6 pm**

**\*\*If any alumni would like to attend, please let Sharon Johnson know in advance and we can organize to include you in the dinner**

# Featured Summer Course

## Himalayan Odyssey: Environment, Culture and Change in Nepal

The goal of this 29-day, 1.5 block course is to instill an appreciation for, and understanding of, the natural environment and traditional cultures of the upper Buri Gandaki Valley -- an ethnic region known as Nubri, to the north of Mt. Manaslu, encompassed by the upper reaches of the Manaslu Conservation Area. Much of our learning will occur through cultural immersion and travel on foot throughout the region. From an academic perspective, the Manaslu area can be described as an unusually rich, multi-disciplinary laboratory for direct study of a variety of topics and issues within disciplines ranging from anthropology, archaeology, and sociology, natural resource and protected area management, to Buddhism, Hinduism, shamanism, comparative religions, Tibet studies, economics, demography, linguistics, international development, political science, biology, glaciology, climatology, geology and geomorphology, art, iconography, restoration science, etc. In particular, students will explore agency and impact of out-migration, the accelerating growth of tourism, climate change, resource extraction, rural development, and religious tradition and patronage. Special attention, particularly for students in natural science concentrations, will be given to topics in high altitude ecology.

The entire field component (24 days) of the course will take place within the boundaries of an actively managed protected area known as the Manaslu Conservation Area (MCA), gazetted by the government of Nepal in 1998. The administrative body overseeing management of the area, the MCA Project ("MCAP") is the National Trust for Nature Conservation, a semi-governmental body that manages several other protected areas and projects in Nepal. The topical and sometimes divisive issues that local villagers, outside interests, government officials, and protected area managers are facing will offer important areas of inquiry during the course. The upper Buri Gandaki River valley is one of the most geomorphically dramatic and seismically active areas of mountain topography in the world, and the heart of the river gorge is perennially affected by landslides and other geohazards. This area was also located 30 miles directly north of the epicenter of the April, 2015 earthquake that left 8,000 people dead and a half million houses collapsed. More than 40% of the structures in the Manaslu area were seriously damaged in that quake.

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