Western State Colorado University

Environmental Management, Elevated

Center for ENVS/MEM Newsletter

February 24th, 2017



Dr. Melanie Armstrong is the Public Lands Coordinator for the MEM Program here at Western. She teaches courses on environmental politics and policy, management skills, public lands, the politics of nature, and environmental history. Her recently finished book, Germ Wars: The Politics of Nature and America's Landscape of Fear, examines the politics enabled by the belief that nature—in this case microbes—can be managed through cultural practices. It is for sale now, click on the hyperlink above to find it! Her research interests include political ecology, environmental history, and science and technology studies. She worked for the National Park Service for 15 years, participating firsthand in the political actions that shape the landscapes of the American West. With the little free time that she has, she likes to bake extravagant desserts. She also likes to hike, bike, ski around here in Gunnison. Since she moved to Colorado, she started fishing, which is new to her. This move to Colorado was her 50th move since she graduated from high school, and she's lived in 8 states, 3 countries, and 4 national parks during that time.

Western's MEM Alumi and Current Students: Share your project, share potential projects, ask questions and make connections! Post awesome job opportunities or share your post-graduation journey <u>here</u>! We are all here to help each other. Also, check out this page for <u>Master in Environmental Management Students in the field</u>.

Alyssa Vogan: "I am the Sustainable Neighborhoods Program Coordinator for the City of Lakewood, which entails overseeing and administering the Sustainable Neighborhoods program; it is an effort to promote sustainability initiatives at a smaller, neighborhood level. It is a really fun and fulfilling job! I spend most of my time helping people who are really passionate about making a difference in their community. The MEM program equipped me with the skills to communicate complex sustainability issues to any audience and the ability to provide adaptive management when solving these issues. In addition to this, the program greatly enhanced my ability to be a leader, which is very important in my role as a Sustainability Planner".

MEM Student in the News: Ayodeji Oluwalana from Nigeria. This is a great write up on Digi's plastic bottle repurposing project in the Gunnison Country Times. Check it out in the attachments, very last page!

Housing:

To any MEM student who is still looking for a place to live, please post your available apartments/housing in the Gunnison Valley to the <u>MEM Student Housing Exchange</u> Facebook page for new incoming MEM students. A good place to check is also the <u>Gunnison Market Place</u> group or the <u>Gunnison Shopper</u>.

Events and Items of Interest:

Winter Programs at Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park: Montrose, CO: Winter is coming and Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park has opportunities to get outdoors. Ranger guided programs are designed to help you get started on experiencing the snow. Ski clinics and snowshoe walks are dependent upon snow conditions. Call the South Rim Visitor Center for updates at: 970-249-1914, ext. 423 More info about events below and continued onto next page.



Snowshoe Walks: January 11 – March 4, Wednesdays, Saturdays, and Sundays. 10:00 am Saturdays, 1:00 pm Wednesdays and Sundays. Meet at South Rim Visitor Center. No special skill is needed to participate in these 1.5 mile walks. Allow 2 hours for the program. Snowshoes are available to use, free of charge, for these programs. Reservations required: (970) 249-1914, ext. 423.

Winter Night Skies: Tomorrow, February 25 and March 25, 2017, 7:00 pm. Meet at the South Rim Visitor Center. Join Sky Rangers and the Black Canyon Astronomical Society to learn more about what is happening in the night sky. The evening starts with a special program followed by night sky viewing. If the weather looks bad, call (970) 249-1914, ext. 423. Be prepared for cold weather.

Composting At Western: The composting program was started a few years ago by a group of students that obtained the Earth Tub. First composting program was initiated in 2010. After a few years of stagnation, Chevy Mohr started the composting program back up and is still currently heading the composting program. This semester we have diverted more than 515 lbs of food waste and average about 15lbs per week from Rare Air Cafe. We also hand out compost buckets for students to compost in their dorms as well as off campus housing. Composting is one of the biggest sustainability initiatives on campus. Composting is the process of turning food into soil which has many environmental benefits. Compost reduces methane emissions created from landfills, increases soil fertility and water retention and serves as a great substitute for



fertilizer. LEAD Sustainability is currently applying to get a new industrial composter which will vastly increase food waste diversion here on campus and the community in the future. Chevy Mohr and the Earth Tub pictured to the right.

Snowshoe Outing: Join Hispanic Affairs Project for some fun in the snow! All will meet at 12pm TOMOR-ROW, Feb. 25th at the parking lot in front of the Multicultural office (225 N. Pine St.) and enjoy together this snowshoe outing. Snowshoes provided. More info on flyer.

Career Brown Bag Series: The Center for Environment and Sustainability invites all students to join us at our environmental career brown-bag series on **Thursdays from 12:30-1:30** in Crawford 119. This series of events will help students consider future environmental careers and expose them to skills they need to be successful. All sessions will be filmed and made available on the <u>ILM website</u>. They are also available from a distance by linking on to <u>https://zoom.us/j/393266208</u>. More info on the specific dates on attachment.

Sustainable Home Open House: Another month has quickly gone by and its time for another first Saturday, March 4th, 2-5:00 PM, OPEN HOUSE at our Sustainable Smart Home Living Learning Center at 202 W. Maple Street, Superior CO. They invite students of all ages to come and visit the Center, discuss sustainable technologies and start thinking about permaculture.

Colorado Alliance for Environmental Education Conference and Jobs: This <u>newsletter</u> is a great resource for interested MEM students looking for jobs and summer education positions for undergrads! Don't forget to check out the Mountain Roots postings! Also, check out their annual Advancing Environmental Education Conference coming up **March 10th and 11th.** Melanie Armstrong, Mandy Casteel-Denney, Suzanne Ewy, Briant Wiles, and MJ Pickett will all be presenting at it!



Colorado Environmental Management Scholarship: The Colorado Environmental Management Society (CEMS) is a non-profit organization created in 1985 to provide a forum for the exchange of information concerning technologies, laws and regulations, and other current environmental issues. CEMS membership consists of technical and legal professionals from environmental organizations, government agencies, academia, industry and the private sector. CEMS plans to award three scholarships of \$2,000 with one scholarship awarded in each of the following three categories: (1) law; (2) non-law graduate studies [PhD or Master's Degree candidates]; and (3) undergraduate studies. CEMS reserves the right to increase the number of scholarships or the amount of each scholarship. The applications must be received by midnight (MST) on Friday, March 3rd, 2017.

Environmental Film Series: The next environmental film will be "Just Eat it" on **March 30th**. Filmmaker Grant Baldwin investigates food waste from the farm to the fridge. Watch the trailer <u>here</u>!

Government and Civics Course: Sarah Coleman, a Crested Butte attorney, will be teaching a fourweek, government and civics course at the Gunnison Library March 1st, 8th, 15th, and 22nd from 7 pm-8pm. The course will cover federalism, the roles, powers, and limitations of the branches of the government, the administrative state, procedural due process, fundamental rights, and equal protection. The goal for the course is for you to understand your government on a deeper level and to engage with your government with greater confidence. You can attend one, or some, or all of the classes. All attendees will get a free pocket constitution. More info can be found here.



UPDATED Test Opening: The International Society of Sustainability Professionals (ISSP) is extending the ISSP-SA Test Season by two months. Registration will now remain open through April 8th, while exams can be scheduled through April 22nd.

Faculty-Oriented Webinar on Beyond Doom and Gloom: Include Solutions to Climate Change: Are you or your students worried about climate change impacts and not sure how to help create significant improvements? Are you connecting your students to ways to be involved in solutions? This webinar focuses on expert curricular materials to engage students in current and future solutions that can be used in any course and in any discipline. Join us to see how you can be part of reducing doom and gloom and share opportunities for progress. This will be **Wednesday, March 1st from 10:30-11:30am MT.** Register here for it.





COLDHARBOUR INSTITUTE'S * HARBOUR FROM THE COLD

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A COLDHARBOUR CELEBRATION AND FUNDRAISER

FOOD & DRINKS & FUN

MARCH 3. 2017 6 PM - 9 PM * 513 S MAIN ST GUNNISON. CO

HELP US CELEBRATE OUR NEW FIVE-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN

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FIND OUT WHAT WE ARE UP TO AND HOW YOU CAN ENGAGE! **Coldharbour Celebration and Fundraiser:** Please join us for a Coldharbour celebration for the new five-year strategic plan with food, drinks and fun! Come find out what is going on out there at Coldharbour and how you can engage on **March 3rd, 6-9pm** at 513 S. Main St. Gunnison, CO. Flyer to the left.

Public Lands Partnership Graduate Committee Position: They need to fill a Education position on the Adaptive Management Group going forward. Public Lands Partnership is providing the public outreach for the recently approved EIS for the SBEADMAR Project. They were hoping a graduate student from the college that is connected with the Environmental Management Program would be interested in serving on this committee yet to be convened. The SBEADMR Working Group met for two years during the NEPA process for this project. Going forward they have agreed that a newly formed Adaptive Management Group would meet four times per year and one of those meetings would be the Annual SBEADMR Meeting. All meetings will be held in Montrose centrally located to the seven counties located with in the GMUG boundary. More info can be found here.

Climate Reality Leadership Corps Training: At this three-day event, from **March 2-4th**, led by former US Vice President Al Gore, you'll learn about the important work citizens are doing to protect the future of our planet. You'll also acquire powerful storytelling techniques so you can talk to people everywhere about the urgent crisis we face You'll learn the key science behind the climate crisis and the latest on the clean energy solutions available today. And you'll work with experts in fields like social media and grassroots organizing to learn how to inspire audiences to take climate action. Go here to find out more information

Paddon/Gelhorn Research Grants: The Indian Peaks Wilderness Alliance is now accepting applications for the 2017 Paddon/Gelhorn Research Grants. Please see attachment for details. They would appreciate it if you could notify others that are interested. The application **deadline is March 15th** and awards will be made **by April 5th**. More info on attachment.

NYFC Water Boot Camp: This workshop will be taking place here at Western in Borick Hall Room 104 on **Thursday, March 30th from 2-5pm.** In particular, we will be addressing water law and policy, local water administration and history, access to financial resources, and what to know about water when looking for land. Four local and regional speakers will offer there expertise, as well as time for discussion and questions with the panel. More info about it can be found <u>here</u>. More info on attachment.



Farm-To-Table Conference: Thursday, March 30th at 7pm in the University Theater, come talk about trends in the emerging food markets and the implications for regional economic development. The next day, **Friday, March 31st, from 9-5pm,** join discussions on challenges in the local food system, Agritourism, and more. This will be in Borick 104. More info on attachment.

Central Mountains and Plains Section Meeting: "Precision Conservation: The Interference of Wildlife, Agriculture, and People" in Oacoma, SD. More info on attachment.

Master Student Business Cards: Through B&B printers, you can develop your own card, separate from Western, with a cost of \$60.00 for 250 cards. However, if you want to use the Western Template, then it will only be \$32.00 for 250 cards. Using the Western Template is the most cost efficient, and recommended. Email <u>mcasteel</u> -<u>denney@western.edu</u> to get the template. You will need to do this on your own by filling out the template at-tached and sending it to <u>creativeimages970@gmail.com</u>. In the email, you will need to say you are a MEM student, will be using the Western template, and will be paying for it yourselves.

Innovation for Sustainable Agriculture Forum: March 22nd-23rd. Washington DC. This is a two-day conference, with no PPT and no videos. Just debate. This two-day forum is designed to provide leading discussion and debate on how business can most efficiently improve sustainable agriculture production, raise yields and deliver against company objectives. They will cover important questions around sustainability and agriculture, taking a practical look at the big issues, from emissions to water, and will go on to look into the potential solutions that companies can explore to sustainably improve efficiencies. More info about it <u>here</u>.

2017 Environmental Leader Conference: From **June 5-7, 2017** at the Hyatt Regency Center in Denver, the Environmental Leader Conference, featuring the Energy Manager Summit, offers a unique opportunity for environmental, sustainability and energy professionals to come together to identify new areas of opportunity to work more collaboratively in addressing their organizations goals. Unlike other conferences, this program unites a group of multidisciplinary, forward-thinking executives to share diverse perspectives and approaches to improving processes and better managing resources. Engage with the industrial and commercial organizations leading the way and go back to your organization with actionable steps to improving sustainability performance and reducing negative social and environmental impact. More info found here.

Open MEM Projects:

Are you looking for an MEM project? Defender's of Wildlife is interested in working with you! Check out these opportunities and let Ryan Wilbur (rwilbur@defenders.org) know if you want more information:

1. **Beaver Relocation Work:** Defenders has started a beaver relocation program where we take "nuisance" beavers, usually from urban settings, live-trap them and release them in areas where their ecosystem engineering will benefit other species. We are focused specifically on creating/enhancing habitat for species listed under the ESA, and other key groups that Defenders focuses on such as freshwater fishes, freshwater mussels, amphibians, and migratory shorebirds. There are a lot of potential research projects that could coincide with the relocation work. One obvious study would be a before/after comparison at several release sites, looking at some biotic (e.g. aquatic invertebrate diversity/composition, amphibian diversity) or abiotic response (e.g. water chemistry, depth, turbidity etc) to beaver reintroduction. We know that beaver have a huge impact on the local ecosystem, and having some studies that quantify what those changes are, and how they benefit other species, would be wonderful. I'm open to just about any other suggestions for projects, as long as they are in the same theme.

More on next page.



2. Wolf depredation modeling for Colorado: This project is looking at preparing people and management for wolves to come to Colorado. We would like to try to predict wolf-livestock conflict hot spots throughout Colorado. This would help us target areas of high risk where we should begin conversations about coexistence programs.

3. **Rancher perceptions of wolves and coexistence programs in Colorado:** This project would entail interviews or focus groups with ranchers to talk about wolf conservation. More specifically, the questions would be about perceptions of wolves and potential coexistence measures. If multiple people are interested in social science we could use this relatively same frame work for hunters/sportsman as well.

Summer Courses: Western has just led the creation of a national network of place-based ENVS programs, including opportunities for you on six campuses. Check out the summer courses available in diverse locations on the <u>website</u> (in addition to our own summer course in the Himalayas). Imagine comparing what you are learning about resilience in Gunnison with culturally diverse ENVS students from Evergreen-Tacoma, Roosevelt-Chicago, etc.

Spring Environmental Symposium: Coming **April 10-11th**! All ENVS courses will require your attendance, as it is an exciting community event for our program. This year's topic is "Against All Odds: Strategies for Improbable Success." Our keynote speaker (7 PM on April 10) is Eryn Wise, a leader from the Standing Rock struggle against DAPL: Eryn Wise is and Organizer for Honor the Earth, and the Media Coordinator for Sacred Stone Camp and the International Indigenous Youth Council. She is Jicarilla Apache and Laguna Pueblo, currently living in Minneapolis, MN fighting Dakota Access Pipeline and Line 3 after five months in Standing Rock, ND. Her work is done in homage to her foremothers and ancestors. She is a human being, just like you.

Internships/Fellowships:

Full Season Farm Internship: Mountain Roots Food Project is accepting applications for a full-time intern to be a part of the inaugural year of our new farm project, Crested Butte Community Farm. This farm is a new site designed to support agricultural research, education, and economic opportunities in the Gunnison Valley. Mountain Roots' interns will work closely with the farm staff, local vegetable producers, and one another to help bridge the gap in food access. Interns will gain valuable field experience in cutting-edge sustainable agriculture research, holistic management, agro-economics, and community education. Application Requirements: Send letter of interest, resume, and contact information for two references (email preferred) to MJ Pickett, Sustainable Agriculture Program Coordinator: mjpickett@mountainrootsfoodproject.org Please use "Full Season Farm Internship" in your subject line and in the titles of your attachments. **Application deadline is TODAY, February 24th.** More info on attachment.

Watershed Technician Internship: The intern will primarily work in the field throughout the Gunnison Field Office, conducting inventories of soils, springs and roads. There are two major projects where the intern will work: Grazing Permit Renewals and Gunnison Climate Change Adaptation. The intern will collect the following types of data: Soils data for land health assessments. Collect the following soil health indicators: evidence of rills and gullies; presence/absence of ground cover; evidence of water flow patterns; evidence of pedestaling or terracettes; and presence of litter movement. Anticipated starting date will be May 22nd. Deadline to apply is **Monday, February 27th.** More info on attachment.



Vega State Park Internship: During this Park Operations Internship, the intern will be working with Park Rangers, Park Resource Technicians, Visitor Services/Revenue Staff, Park Interpreters, and Volunteers. Interns will learn many aspect of State Park Management. Interns will assist with daily operations including, but not limited to: Patrol of Vega State Park campgrounds, picnic area, trails and backcountry, and enforcement of state park and wild-life laws and regulations (Title 33), assist park visitors, collect revenue, work in entrance stations and visitor center, write reports, keep daily logs, monitor natural resources, trail maintenance and construction, and remove fallen or dangerous trees from trail corridors, maintenance of park facilities, cabins, grounds, vehicles, and equipment. Start date for this position is in May. You can find more information on this in the attachment provided.

Peak Protector Internship: Under the supervision of the Mountain Manners Programs Director and Campaign Manager, interns will assist in areas including data collection for federal land managers and being a friendly presence on trails and at campsites throughout the Crested Butte area. The Peak Protectors Summer Interns will also be asked to provide assistance with other general program areas including education, marketing, and tabling. The interns will attend a 1-day training course on April 1st work and work the rest of their 120 hours over the course of 9 weeks starting on June 17th and ending on August 20th. This will allow them to receive 3 course credits towards their undergraduate degree at Western. Deadline to apply is **March 3rd**. More info can be found on attachment and <u>here</u>.

Climate Organizer Internship: This is an international non-profit founded by former Vice President Al Gore and they are currently offering internships to undergraduate students. This Fall they are working to get college campuses to commit to 100% renewable electricity by 2030. The application can be found <u>here</u>. It takes about 10 seconds to fill out. A major part of their work is providing the resources and skills trainings students will need to make a difference on this issue and any other that they care about.

Open Space and Trails Summer Internship: OST has started advertising for an agriculture and easement monitor intern to assist with stewardship of our agricultural leases and easements. As per the County policy, only students that obtain college/high school credit for the internship will be allowed to participate. The ideal applicant will have an interest in private land conservation or recreation easements and/or public land leasing and will be pursuing a degree in an environmental management, parks and protected area management, natural resources, conservation, or a related field program. The internship will be 40hrs/week at \$13.00/hour with an approximate start date of June 5th and approximate end date of August 5th dependent on the interns schedule. More info about this position can be found here. Application deadline is **March 24th**.

The Colorado Mountain Club Foundation Fellowships: Since 1982 The Colorado Mountain Club Foundation has awarded fellowships for research consistent with the statement of purpose adopted by the founders of the Colorado Mountain Club in 1912: To unite the energy, interest, and knowledge of the students, explorers, and lovers of the mountains of Colorado, etc. Grants are made to individuals only, for research under the direction of a faculty member of an institution of higher learning. Applications found <u>here</u> must be sent by **April 15th** to Paula Cushing at Paula.Cushing@dmns.org or mailed to The Colorado Mountain Club Foundation, c/o Paula Cushing, Department of Zoology, Denver Museum of Nature & Science, 2001 Colorado Blvd., Denver, CO 80205. The faculty sponsor must submit a letter under separate cover in support of the student and the proposed research. More info can be found <u>here</u>.

Full/Part Time Positions:

<u>Conservation Job Board</u> is a great place to search or current environmental jobs, internships, and even volunteer work all across the country so check it out!



Sustainability Engagement Coordinator Position: This individual will support University at Buffalo's sustainability initiatives through collaboration, leadership and partnering throughout the campus community. The position will specifically work to connect students, staff and faculty across the university with information, innovation, and tools to reduce UB's footprint on the future and enhance quality of life by improving environmental stewardship, increasing economic efficiency and augmenting cultural values and awareness. More info about the position can be found <u>here</u>! Position must be filled ASAP.

Avid4 Adventure Summer Positions: <u>Avid4 Adventure</u> is a great summer job and internship source for both undergrad and graduate students and they are hiring instructors! Work outside, play outside, join an incredible community of educators, and inspire kids – all in one summer! Outside Magazine has voted Avid4 as one of their 'Best Places to Work.' Check out why staff love working for Avid4 Adventure, available positions, and how to apply <u>here</u>.

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Specialist NRCS Position: The individual in this position will work in a team environment with Extension, NRCS, & Conservation District professionals. The individual works under the supervision & guidance of the Peaks & Plains Regional Extension Director, with oversight provided by the NRCS Area Conservationist. Responsibilities will include, but are not limited to, building upon existing working relationships among these agencies & other appropriate organizations while striving to minimize the duplication of educational efforts in small acreage & forest & range management. More information is provided in attachment. Application must be completed **by March 14th.**

WCC Crew Member Position: This is a field-based position with Western Conservation Corps. Corps members camp and serve in the backcountry of Western Colorado. Corps members earn a weekly stipend, plus food and lodg-ing when required to camp at a project site. Career training takes place primarily in a backcountry setting and involves building and maintaining trail fences, invasive species removal, and habitat restoration. More info about this position can be found on attachment.

Assistant Crew Leader Position: Assistant Crew Leaders will help lead a crew of 6-10 youth, 16-25 years old, with an assistant crew leader in a ten-week service session. The position also requires preparation time and post session clean up. Must hold members accountable and not engage in any prohibited activities as listed in the AmeriCorps Member Service Agreement. More info on this position can be found on attachment.

WCC Crew Leader Position: Crew Leaders will lead a crew of 6-10 youth, 16-25 years old, with an assistant crew leader in a ten-week service session. The position required participation time and post session clean up. Must hold members accountable and not engage in any prohibited activities as listed in the AmeriCorps Member Service Agreement. More info on this position can be found on attachment.

Project Manager for Stream Tracker: Project manager needed for a NASA-funded citizen science project on intermittent streams. The manager will organize workshops to recruit citizen scientists, develop and maintain a citizen science database on intermittent streams, install and maintain stream flow sensors, and assist with GIS and remote sensing data collection and processing. To apply and view a full position announcement, please visit <u>here</u>. For full consideration, submit application by **March 1st.** Questions? Contact stephanie.kampf@colostate.edu.



USA Jobs in Gunnison: Take a look at these positions found on USA jobs, some close soon!

Wet Meadows Restoration Project Coordinator: Coordinate interagency project team in designing, installing and monitoring restoration works to enhance water and forage resources for wildlife and domestic stock. Includes procuring materials for restoration work, keeping team informed, and general supervision. Write grant applications, interim and final reports, and other documents as needed to further the restoration project. And organize outreach activities to inform the public, train and deploy volunteer groups, and develop other ideas for engaging the public in the long-term care of the valley. Application due March 13th.

Great Basin Institute Careers: The Great Basin Institute is an interdisciplinary field studies or ganization that promotes environmental research, education, and conservation throughout the West. The Institute advances ecological literacy and habitat restoration through educational outreach and direct service programs. Our goal as an organization is to do good science and inform land-use decisions through collaborative agreements with state and federal agencies. We partner with AmeriCorps so that recent college graduates can enter into careers as techs that would otherwise be extremely hard to come by. According to past and present employees, coordinators and tech leads from GBI have generally moved on to exciting careers in the conservation field thanks to the awesome training, support, networking, and experience that they gained by working for GBI. Find awesome positions with them here!

Some Job Links:

Sustainability Programme Manager, International Hydropower Association, London Deadline is TODAY

Watershed Engagement Manager, Clean Lakes Alliance, Madison, Wisconsin Deadline: Feb. 27th

Project Manager. Ecosystems Science & Sustainability Department, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO Deadline is March 1st.

Analyst, Green Investment Services, Seoul, Republic of Korea Deadline is March 3rd.

Environmental Protection Specialist, Department of Energy and Environment, Washington, D.C. Deadline is March 12th

Executive Director, Friends of the Earth Europe, Brussels, Belgium **Deadline is March 15th**

<u>Climate Scientist, Union of Concerned Scientists,</u> <u>Washington, D.C.</u> **Deadline is April 3rd**

For more positions, visit <u>Arizona State Universi-</u> ty's <u>Sustainability Digest</u> page.



Photo to the right of Dr. Melanie Hulbert speaking at the Inclusion walk last Tuesday. Photo by Hannah England.

