ESF NEWS

The ESF team, with some students from SU, won their competition in the U.S. Department of Energy Solar Decathlon Design Challenge.

**ESF -SU Team Wins Category Competition in DOE Solar Decathlon**

A team of 22 students – 18 from the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry (ESF) and four from Syracuse University – have won their competition in the U.S. Department of Energy Solar Decathlon Design Challenge.

Members of the team traveled to Golden, Colorado, this past weekend to compete in the competition’s mixed-use/multifamily division. Along the way to the finals, they prevailed over 13 other teams; at the finals, they were judged the best of the seven finalists, including competitors from Germany and India.

Read the ESF news story [HERE](#).
Student Organizations, Leaders Recognized at SOLAR Awards

Student leaders and organizations were recognized for their contributions to the ESF community during the recent Student Organization and Leadership Achievement Recognition Ceremony (SOLAR).

Seventy-nine nominations for the different award categories were received and approximately 130 people attended this year's ceremony.

"Thank you for celebrating all of the amazing leadership on campus and we ask that you continue to celebrate and recognize all of the recipients, nominees, and many other amazing leaders on campus," said Laura Crandall, director of student involvement and leadership.

Go HERE for the complete ESF story.

Clarkson, ESF to Partner in New Center of Excellence

Clarkson University and the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry (ESF) have been recently designated to launch New York state's new Center of Excellence (CoE) in Healthy Water Solutions. State funding for the new CoE was supported by state Senator Rachel May and Assemblyman Al Stirpe with signatures from representatives from around the state. First year of funding is currently at $125,000. The two partners plan a collaborative model to deploy experts and students to deliver technology innovations and research-based solutions with local partners taking on complex challenges in their aquatic systems and water infrastructures.

"Climate change is wreaking havoc on our lakes and waterways in Central New York," said May. "The increased presence of harmful algal blooms coupled with our aging infrastructure endangers the future health of our waters. It is critical that we invest in practical and innovative solutions to these complex problems. We are lucky to have
tremendous resources for seeking such solutions in the faculty here at SUNY-ESF, as well as in their close partnership with Clarkson. We will now be able to utilize their knowledge to its fullest potential for the benefit of all New Yorkers. The new Center of Excellence in Healthy Water Solutions is uniquely positioned to revolutionize our understanding and management of aquatic systems for New York and the world."

Go HERE for the complete ESF story.

Employees Honored During Spring Reception

Three members of the ESF community were recognized for their extraordinary contributions to the college during the spring reception.

Kelly McConnel, janitor for Facility Operations and Services, was presented with the Quality of Worklife Award. This award is given to an employee whose positive attitude and positive approach to work provides an excellent example of service and improves the work environment for everyone.

Heather Engelman (pictured with Interim President David Amberg), instructional support technician for the Department of Forest and Natural Resources Management, and Dr. Gregory Vaverchak, assistant professor at the Ranger School, were presented with the Public and Community Service Award. This award is given to employees whose outreach activities provide excellent representation for the college and its mission and/or for those whose volunteer service to the community enhances life for others.

Employees with 10, 20, 30 and 40 years of service were also recognized along with the 2018 retirees.

'Behind the Post' Examines Relationships and Social Media

“Behind the Post” is a conversation about healthy and unhealthy relationships and social media. The Office of Inclusion, Diversity and Equity invites the campus community to join them at one of the sessions:

April 22, 10:30 a.m. to 11:15 a.m., 217 Bray Hall
April 23, 9 a.m. to 9:45 a.m., 217 Bray Hall
April 29, 10:30 a.m. to 11:15 a.m., 408 Baker Laboratory
May 2, 9:30 a.m. to 10:15 a.m., 408 Baker Laboratory

Space is limited and everyone is encouraged to sign up in advance so materials can be sent to them before the conversation. Sign up HERE.
Before There Was Earth Day, There Was ESF

While the rest of the world celebrates Earth Day, ESF goes big with Earth Week. As always, the Earth Week Committee has a full slate of events planned for students, staff and faculty to celebrate the Earth.

Be sure to check out the Earth Week 2019 calendar for a complete listing of events including community service projects, tie-dye, a potluck lunch, symposiums and, of course, EarthFest.

ESF Student Elected Student Assembly Treasurer

Junior Carson Rowe was elected treasurer during recent elections for the executive board for the SUNY Student Assembly.

Rowe, an environmental studies major, previously served as the special advisor to the vice president for the Student Assembly and as vice president for the Undergraduate Student Association at ESF.

The Student Assembly of the State University of New York (SUNY SA) is the recognized student government organization representing the nearly 1.4 million students of SUNY. Comprising student leaders elected by their peers from across SUNY’s 64 campuses, SUNY SA is committed to empowering students throughout the state, and ensuring the representation of its members on the state and national level, as well as throughout the SUNY system.

Green Building Conference

The New York State Green Building Conference features speakers, professional development, panel presentations and a student poster competition

April 17, 18, 2019
Sustainable Stumpy Potluck

Join the Earth Week Committee for the inaugural Sustainable Stumpy Potluck. The event will be catered by a few local businesses, as well as your peers and student organizations! Each person gets three free tickets for three samples. Additional tickets can be purchased for $1 or one canned food item. All proceeds will be donated to the Food Bank of Central New York. Remember, lug your mug and pack your plate!

April 22, 2019
11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Alumni (Nifkin) Lounge

Earth Week Morning Munch

Stop by Morning Munch for some free bagels, pastries, fruit, juice, and coffee. Open to all students, faculty and staff.

April 23, 2019
7:30 to 9:30 a.m.
Alumni (Nifkin) Lounge

ESF IN THE MEDIA

LiveScience: Why Giant Tortoise Sex Is Basis for Key Game of Thrones Sound Effect

Dr. James Gibbs helps explain why the intimate sounds of the giant tortoise make for a good dragon roar.

READ HERE

Asbury Park Press: Travel Ban Keeps ESF Alumnus From His Iranian Fiancée

ESF alumnus Brian Swank and his fiancee had plans for a life together, but an executive order has banned Iranian nationals from traveling to the U.S.

WATCH HERE

Going Green: Artist Helps People See Insects in Positive Light

An encounter with a herd of elephants in Botswana re-ignited an interest in backyard insects for local artist and teacher Ellen Haffar, leading to a collection of paintings devoted to bees, butterflies and other insects. She hopes others will begin to see insects as much more than pests.

WATCH HERE

Olean Times Herald: ESF Alumna Named Cattaraugus County Farmer of the Year

Deb Ritchie was named Cattaraugus County Farmer of the Year.

CAMPUS EVENTS CALENDAR

T-Shirts with 2019’s winning student design are now available in the ESF Bookstore! Prices start at $15 and sizes range from S to 3XL. Limited quantities available.
County Farmer of the Year along with her husband for their work on their farm, Native Offerings.

READ HERE