



## Green Grants Available for Community Projects

This fall the Center is initiating a new "Green Grants" program, which will provide Cal Poly Pomona students, staff and faculty the opportunity to develop community-based projects that educate or assist communities in addressing environmental challenges and living in a more sustainable manner. Up to ten grants will be made available during the 2006-07 academic year. Each grant is worth up to \$500 which can be used for materials, transportation, or other expenses related to the community activity.

Grant program applications and additional information is available by contacting the Center's Project Coordinator, **Debbie Scheider**, at 909.869.5183 or by emailing [dascheider@csupomona.edu](mailto:dascheider@csupomona.edu).



*Selwitz.*

## Center Unveils New Mosaic Created by CPP Art Students

"Waterdance" is the name of a new mosaic mural located in the amphitheatre at the Lyle Center. The mural, made primarily from recycled glass, was created by Cal Poly Pomona Art Instructor **Joyce Hesselgrave**, and constructed by students in her mosaics classes during the 2005-06 academic year.

Hesselgrave was inspired by the mission of the Lyle Center and its sources of power. She worked through many concepts before arriving at a design that abstracted many aspects of the Center, including early illustrative concept plans of the Center which appear in Lyle's book, *Regenerative Design for Sustainable Development*. The piece exhibits color, rhythm and flow, concepts which relate strongly to the nature of regenerative systems.



*Hesselgrave.*

Hesselgrave then challenged 45 students in her mosaics classes to transfer portions of the design into glass set in individual concrete panels, and coordinate their work to ensure consistency in materials and form. Hesselgrave worked with **Larry Maes** and **Lou Valenzuela** of Southern California Ready Mixed Concrete Association to develop a process for forming and curing the panels.

*Mosaic Continued on Page 4*

## Jason Selwitz Named Switzer Environmental Fellow for 2006

Lyle Center graduate student Jason Selwitz, has been honored with a 2006 Switzer Environmental Fellowship award. The Fellowship, sponsored by the Robert and Patricia Switzer Foundation, supports highly talented graduate students in New England and California whose studies are directed toward improving environmental quality and who demonstrate leadership in their field. Selwitz is the first regenerative studies student, and the third Cal Poly

Pomona student in recent years to receive the award. Over 380 Fellows have been named since 1986.

Jason's research focuses on water treatment — using freshwater microalgae and constructed wetland systems to improve sanitation, restore watershed quality, and ensure access to clean supplies. His thesis work is being conducted by **Dr. Charles**

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Ritz (Mechanical Engineering), Dr. Stephen Lyon (Lyle Center) and Dr. Hossein Ahmadzadeh (Chemistry).

Prior to entering the MSRS program at the Lyle Center, Jason was a lead wilderness guide and counselor for adolescents struggling with behavior and family issues. From 1998-2000, he served in the Peace Corps as a Protected Area Community Educator. While on the island of Palawan (Philippines), Jason worked with several communities surrounding the Underground River National Park/UNESCO World Heritage Site to develop a livelihood skills development program for out-of-school high school students founded on growing vegetables to improve nutrition and environmental health. Jason's long term objective is to design community-based projects that synthesize renewable energy use and effective water treatment with the regeneration of ecosystems.

The Fellowship provides a one-year \$13,000 cash award for graduate study as well as networking and leadership support to awardees. Congratulations Jason, on this remarkable accomplishment!

## Sustainability Workshops Yield Improvements at the Center

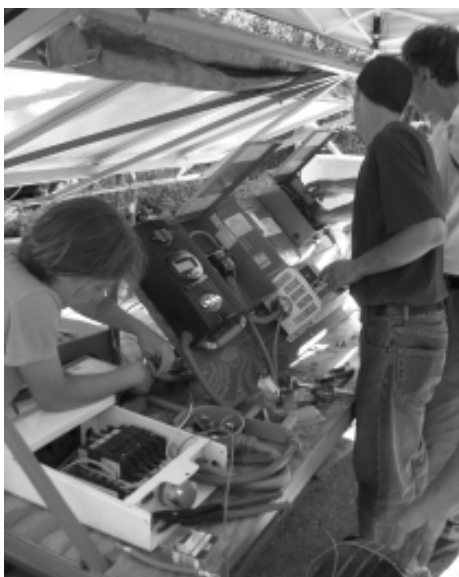
This past summer the Lyle Center once again offered its annual series of workshops on sustainable living, in partnership with the Solar Living Institute (SLI) of Hopland, CA. Over 70 people attended these workshops in August, studying natural building, organic gardening, biodiesel, water treatment and photovoltaic technology. Each workshop included hands-on activities, many of which were used to make physical improvements at the center that strengthen our demonstration of environmentally sustainable living.

The natural building course, taught by Architect **Drew Hubbell** constructed a typical straw-bale wall, to learn proper construction, reinforcing, and finishing with a traditional mud-based plaster. The wall, located along the main walkway at the Center, will be used to show visitors this building technique which utilizes waste resources and has tremendous insulative properties.

The biodiesel class, taught by Lyle Center faculty member **Joelle Opotowsky**, constructed a number of new biodiesel processing units of varying size. These will be used to facilitate biodiesel workshops at the Center, as well as in local communities.

The photovoltaic workshop, led by **Wil Korthoff**, constructed a portable solar cart, complete with batteries for power storage, an inverter to convert the power to AC, allowing power equipment to be plugged into the cart, and a second inverter for sending unused power back to the electrical grid. The cart is used to provide power in remote locations at the Center or for special events on campus, and also serves as an important teaching tool for understanding photovoltaic systems. Partial support for the Power Cart project was provided by the Green Team, the Center's student club.

*Below: Images from the 2006 Sustainable Living Workshops.*



# Lyle Center News and Notes

**Doug Kent** and **Jonah Swick** were the first recipients of the Master of Science degree from the Lyle Center, and are now actively applying their education. Doug continues to operate his own horticultural services business, focusing on creating “ocean-friendly” landscapes that eliminate water runoff or clean it before it leaves the site. He recently completed another book, titled *West Coast CPR: Creating landscapes and properties that help restore life to our waterways*. CPR stands for conservation, permeability, and retention. Jonah received the Dean’s Outstanding Graduate Student Award in June, and now coordinates projects for Oasis Design and Construction, an offshoot of Claremont Environmental Design Group. The firm is a strong believer in sustainability, with many projects in various stages of the LEED process. Jonah’s work involves many sustainable and energy efficient practices including solar power, insulated concrete forms (ICFs), and reuse of broken concrete for driveways....The Cen-

ter revamped its web site this past summer, expanding the information about our education, research, demonstration and outreach programs....Lyle Center adjunct faculty member, **Dr. Lisa Nelson**, returns from sabbatical this year, and will once again be teaching RS 303 in the spring. **Dr. Terry Young** will be on sabbatical during the entire academic year, so **Dr. Andy Moss** from the English and Foreign Languages Department has joined the faculty and is teaching RS 510 this fall.... **Dr. Kyle D. Brown**, recently spoke about environmental sustainability and the Center at the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Cal State Fullerton, and at RBF Consulting in Irvine, CA. ....**Nita Ounlavong** has joined the Lyle Center staff as the temporary Administrative Support Coordinator....In September, the Center participated in the parade on “Pomona Day” at the Los Angeles County Fair. The Center’s Site Technician, **Juan Araya**, drove the tractor, powered by bio-diesel, and pulled the Center’s new Solar

Power Cart. Thousands of spectators lined the streets and cheered Juan, along with several MSRS graduate students and faculty...**Dr. Denise Lawrence** and **Dr. Ron Quinn** recently completed teaching RS 501: Regenerative Practices. Twenty-one students took the two-week intensive course including a number of our new MSRS students, as well as grad students from biology, landscape architecture, public administration, and urban and regional planning.



*The Lyle Center participated in the “Pomona Day” parade at the L.A. County Fair in September.*

## Center Makes Annual Call for Faculty Fellows

The Lyle Center is once again offering its faculty fellowship program for Cal Poly Pomona faculty in 2006-07. The Center hopes to name up to two fellows this year, to join **Dr. Graciela Brelles-Marino**, **Professor Joan Woodward**, and **Dr. Terry Young** in being honored with this distinction.

The Faculty Fellow program fosters scholarly and creative activities that further the Center’s mission. Faculty Fellows receive a mini-grant of \$4,500 and the title of Lyle Center Faculty Fellow. During the fellowship period, Fellows are required to present their work in an informal seminar at the Center and must prepare a summary of their work for the Center’s web site.

The mission of the Lyle Center is to advance the principles of environmentally sustainable living. The Center uses the term “regenerative” to emphasize the development of systems that restore and revitalize themselves, ensuring a sustainable future. The Center supports a comprehensive and ambitious research agenda which includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- Renewable energy
- Landscape ecology
- Environmentally-sensitive building & landscape design
- Ecological restoration
- Sustainable agriculture & aquaculture
- Sustainable community development
- Human behavior & sustainable systems

- Environmental & economic policy analysis
- Environmental education & cultural awareness

Fellows may take advantage of the Center’s 16 acre site to conduct research.

Cal Poly Pomona faculty are encouraged to consider connections between their scholarly agenda and the broad mission of the Center. Applications are due November 15, 2006. Faculty who are interested should visit the Center’s web site for more information on how to apply ([www.csupomona.edu/crs](http://www.csupomona.edu/crs)).

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Cal Poly Pomona Professor Emeritus, **Rod Tapp** (landscape architecture), led the team who installed the mosaic panels. Tapp's firm, *Land Design*, worked over the summer with Hesselgrave and Lyle Center staff to install the panels.

The Center will be hosting a celebration in honor of students, donors, the installation crew and Professor Hesselgrave on **Thursday, October 14th, from 4:00 to 6:00 pm**. The event will feature live entertainment, wine and appetizers. Parking will be available in Lot K off Temple Avenue, and a shuttle will be provided up to the Center. Please come and see the full-color version of the mosaic in person, and join us in celebrating this beautiful piece of work.

## Christina Hughes Retires from Center

After nearly 6 years as an administrative staff member, Christina Hughes retired from the Lyle Center on September 29th, 2006. Known for her piano performances in the Commons during her lunch break, Christina has served as the public face of the Center, greeting visitors, answering the phone and leading tours. In 2005 she was promoted to Administrative Support Coordinator, facilitating the application process, course scheduling and student records for the Center's programs.

Christina joined the Center staff in 2000, and fondly recalls the flurry of activity surrounding the development of the Master's program at that time. She also describes

the student reunion held in 2004 to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the Center's opening, as a highlight.



*Hughes*

Christina is an accomplished artist, transforming recycled glass into wall hangings, candle holders, bowls and trays. She has exhibited her work in galleries in Pomona, Monrovia and Whittier. In her retirement she plans to devote more time to her art, as well as international travel with her husband, Mike. We will miss you Christina, and wish you the best.

### Winter Classes@the Center

*These courses are open to non-RS graduate and/or undergraduate students, as well as the broader community through open university. Contact the Center for more information.*

#### **RS 302: Global Regenerative Systems. 4 units. Dr. Jerry Mitchell**

Investigations of the global effects of human activities in the pursuit of food, water, energy, shelter, and waste sinks. Meets General Education Area D4, Social Science Synthesis Requirement.

#### **RS 499/499L: Solar Energy Systems. 4 units. Dr. Charles Ritz**

Covers the fundamentals of solar energy generation. Students will examine a variety of solar technologies to better understand their operation, feasibility, cost effectiveness and maintenance.

#### **RS 599/599L: Regenerative Methods & Applications. 4 units. Dr. Kyle Brown**

Investigation and application of regenerative principles and methods to contemporary environmental problems, encompassing a broad range of social and ecological considerations. Open to students in other graduate programs or undergraduate students eligible for 500-level courses.

#### **RS 640: Coalition Building. 4 units. Dr. Denise Lawrence**

Processes and methods of building coalitions to strengthen public awareness and create policy supporting regenerative practices. Open to graduate students in other programs through permission of instructor.



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