

# ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES NEWSLETTER

*A PERIODICAL E-NEWSLETTER FOR AND BY ENVIRONMENTAL  
STUDIES STUDENTS AT KENT STATE UNIVERSITY*



## NEWSLETTER HIGHLIGHTS

Welcome to the spring of 2022 semester and happy belated new year. Thank you for taking the time to read this edition of the ENVS department newsletter. In this edition, we welcome you with letters from the editors, highlight several internships, spotlight an esteemed professor and an ENVS alumni. Stark ENVS is highlighted with events and courses offerings for the summer. Again thank you and have a blessed semester!

## IMPORTANT DATES

### Kent Environmental Society

**March 2** Next Meeting (due date for club dues)

**March 9** Clothing and plant exchange @ Location TBD

**April 4-8th** T-shirt Drive

Donate the most shirts to win a plant

### Future Environmental Professionals Club (FEPC)

**Feb 22nd/March 8th/March 22nd** General body Meetings  
@ 7pm via ZOOM

**Feb 23rd** 12-2pm EPA Career Fair- Virtual Engineer and  
Scientist Career Panel

<https://www.epa.gov/careers/virtual-engineer-and-scientist-career-panel>

### Office of Sustainability

**Jan. - March 26** Campus Race to Zero Waste

**March 2, 9, 16, and 23** E-waste drive

from 7:30am -3pm in the KSU R-17

Parking lot, between S. Willow Street and S. Lincoln St.

### **All earth month events**

[Earth Month | Kent State University](https://www.kent.edu/sustainability/earth-month)

<https://www.kent.edu/sustainability/earth-month>

# LETTER FROM THE EDITORS

*by: Kathryn Burns*

Dear Readers,

First of all, I would like to personally thank all of those who read and support this newsletter. After hearing from Dr. Kaplan that people were impressed with the last newsletters, I was truly delighted. Last year I wrote a little bit for the newsletter, but this semester I have stepped up to be a co-editor with Thomas. We have been brainstorming some exciting ideas so stay tuned for the next editions to come. This feature includes an alumni spotlight, much like the internship spotlights we want to show students the unique opportunities that you can take on as an environmental studies major. There will be many more additions to the upcoming newsletters that I am truly excited to showcase.

As the environmental studies major grows and develops this newsletter will do just the same. That being said, we are always looking for student input and for our team to expand. We truly want this newsletter to be a central hub for students in the environmental studies major or any degree similar to having an outlet to express themselves or share interesting information that they have come across. Speaking on behalf of Thomas, Dr. Kaplan, and everyone else who has worked to put this edition together, we hope that you enjoy reading the third edition of the Environmental Studies Student Newsletter.

Sincerely,

**Kathryn Burns**

Co-Editor of the  
ENVS Student Newsletter





# INTERNSHIP SPOTLIGHT

by: Theresa Russo

I was fortunate enough to have the opportunity to intern for the national park service in Utah. I worked as a Visitor Use Monitoring Assistant in Bryce Canyon National Park, known for the largest concentration of Hoodoos in the world. I spent the summer hiking the trails and going to the park's viewpoints collecting visitor data. I also spent time evaluating resource damage in the backcountry. This internship allowed me to experience the park system and the beautiful state of Utah. If you would like to hear about more opportunities on finding internships in the Southwest, please follow the link: <https://www.suu.edu/iic/internships/>



# INTERNSHIP SPOTLIGHT

*by: Alyssa Lortie*



Sarah Denison had the opportunity to be a naturalist aide at Lorain County Metroparks. Interning at the Lorain County Metroparks will provide a lot of diversity in terms of your day-to-day workday. Over the course of the summer, she visited every Metropark in the county and worked with people in every aspect of the nonprofit. Some of the things she did included lead guided paddling trips/boating programs and various summer camps. She also took care of different nature center animals like snakes and turtles. It was a fun surprise to take on the theatre program and assist in the making of different productions she states. Other aspects of the internship include outreach and company-wide brainstorming.



# INTERNSHIP SPOTLIGHT

*by: Alexandria Hahn*

My time with the Let's Grow Together Coalition was rewarding and inspirational. I was put on the Walls Elementary School Community Garden team and some of our weekly tasks were to take care of the garden by watering and doing maintenance. My side project was to help figure out parts of a sensory garden which let me be creative and get to know some of the community volunteers. Some highlights from being a part of this internship include learning how to garden, getting to eat things you helped grow, and becoming more involved in the greater Kent State community!



# ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

by: Kathryn Burns



Nathan Stanley is a recent graduate in 2020. His degree was a Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Studies with a minor in Geography. He plans to transfer into the sustainability division at Goodyear soon. As for choosing environmental studies as a major, he realized that Environmental Studies aligns with his core values. Starting out as a business major, Nathan felt that environmental studies were a collection of his interests under many different subjects about the natural world.

He is currently an Area Manager at the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company in the Racing Division. When talking about classes that he took at Kent State University that helped him the most, Nathan credits the urban studies courses. The urban studies courses often focus on the collaboration of group projects and conversing with clients. He credits these classes with helping him learn how to communicate in an effective way.

Nathan gives some advice for students within the environmental studies discipline. The first is to take advantage of the internships that environmental studies have to offer. The other piece of advice that he has is to be flexible with plans for after graduation. You never know all the doors and opportunities that are open or will open after graduation. Nathan highlighted that companies want well-rounded individuals who understand their company to the core and how each part works. Transferring into a sustainability division at a large company is easier said than done, so flexibility with plans can ease the pressure brought onto students during the start of their careers.

# INTRODUCING DR. HSIAO

*by: Justin Thompson*



Elaine (Lan Yin) Hsiao is an Assistant Professor in the School of Peace and Conflict Studies with a focus on environmental peacebuilding and international development. She is a critical socio-legal scholar and political ecologist, integrating peace and conflict studies with transboundary conservation and protected areas, Indigenous and community governance, human rights and rights of nature, and development alternatives. Much of her work seeks to address conflicts in conservation, conservation in places of conflict, and conflict resolution through conservation.

Dr. Hsiao got her BA from UCLA studying International Economics. After graduating, she moved to New York to attend Pace University's Haub School of Law where she earned her JD in International and Environmental Law and her LLM in Environmental Law.

Dr. Hsiao has engaged in numerous projects throughout East Africa. She explored the revitalization of ICCAS (areas and territories conserved by Indigenous Peoples and local communities), the concept of ecological peace, evolving peace theory for inter-species or more-than-human relations. She also led the IUCN WCPA Young Professionals Network from 2012-2016, developed and led a peace park learning expedition in Parque Internacional La Amistad (2011), held a Fulbright grant in Uganda (2010-2011), also co-produced a documentary film called "Transcending Boundaries", worked to establish a peace park on the border of Honduras and Nicaragua while at the UN University for Peace and served the Permanent Mission of the Union of Comoros at the U.N.

# Dr. Hsiao cont...

Currently, Dr. Hsiao Co-Chairs the IUCN CEESP Theme on Environment and Peace and its Task Force on Migration, Environmental Change, and Conflict, is a Member of the IUCN SSC Human-Wildlife Conflict Task Force and the Africa Interest Group of the Environmental Peacebuilding Association, and is an Honorary Member of the ICCA Consortium.

Dr. Hsiao advises students to take classes that **you** have a passion for and are interested in, and pursue the things that bring **you** joy. She recommends students outside of ENVS take a few environmental classes and even consider taking it as a minor. No matter what you end up doing, or where you end up later in life, the concepts of environmental studies can be applied and will help you to better understand the world. “We don’t all have to become environmental scientists to do something for the environment. But how we go about things matters... Even just taking a few environmental classes, the ones that really call to you and speak to what you’re already doing, is a good approach.”

Dr. Hsiao’s three tips and advice for students:

- Everyone should try traveling abroad and learning another language while you’re there.
- Experiential learning – take jobs and/or volunteer to get experiences that can help boost your CV or Résumé.
- Think long-game; take care of yourself so you don’t burn out. Also, realize that the impact we leave on the planet is part of a much bigger collective effort that other generations will carry forward.



# KENT STATE AT STARK ENVS NEWS

by: Dr. Christopher Post

**EnviroKents** at Kent State Stark are ready for spring! We are excited to gather in person, learn new things, make new friends, and spread the importance of taking care of our environment.

This semester we are happy to announce the following in-person meeting and events.  
(Open to all majors on all campuses)

**Feb 21st:** Making Plant labels for flash's food garden

**March 14th:** Planting seeds for flash's food garden and to give away at the Stark Campus' Earth Day event (Sunday, April 24)

**April 11th:** Kent State at Stark Earth Day prep and Officer Elections for 2022-2023

**April 13:** Featured speaker Erin Brockovich, environmental legal researcher and author; subject of film, Erin Brockovich starring Julie Roberts. More information on the way in March! more here: <https://www.kent.edu/stark/featured-speakers-series>

**April 24th:** Kent State at Stark Earth Day, More here as it becomes available: <https://www.kent.edu/stark/earth-day-celebration>

## FALL 2022 Environmental Studies and Geography on the STARK CAMPUS:

REQUIREMENT AREAS	
ENVS MAJOR REQUIREMENTS	BSCI 10110: Biological Diversity GEOL 21062: Environmental Earth Science
BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES ELECTIVES	BSCI 30274: Forestry BSCI 30361: Biogeography
GEOGRAPHY ELECTIVES	GEOG 41051: Natural Disasters and Society
METHODS ELECTIVES	SOC 32210: Researching Society GEOL 42035: Scientific Methods in Geology
SOCIAL SCIENCE ELECTIVES	GEOG 31070: Population and Environment GEOG 41800: Global Environmental Issues POL 40540: Politics of Development SOC 42565: Environmental Sociology
Other GEOG Courses Offered in Fall 2022	GEOG 17063: World Geography GEOG 21062: Physical Geography GEOG 22061: Human Geography

**For more information, please contact:**



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**You may also visit the official program  
website for additional information:**

<https://www.kent.edu/geography/environmental-studies>