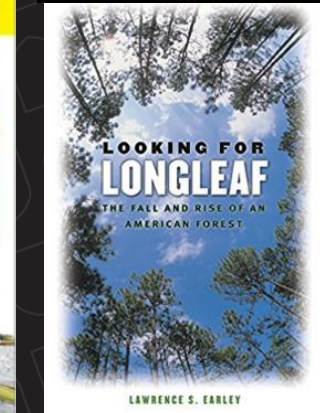
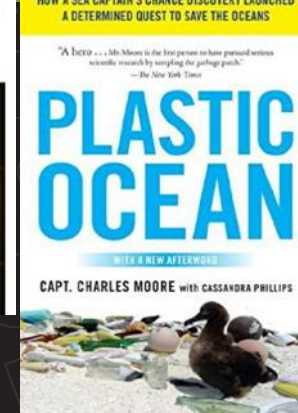
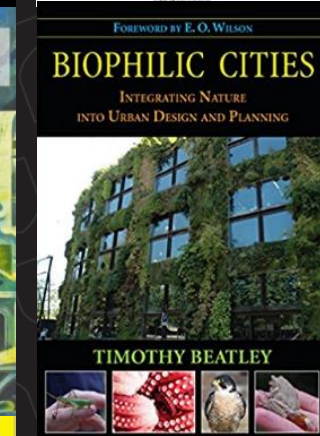
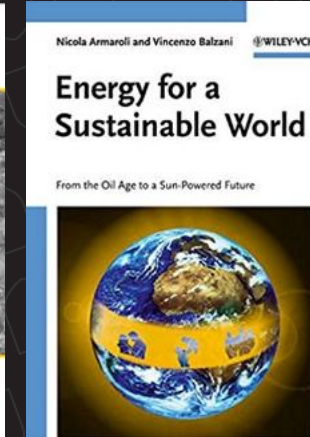
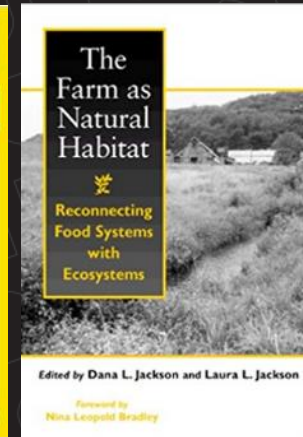
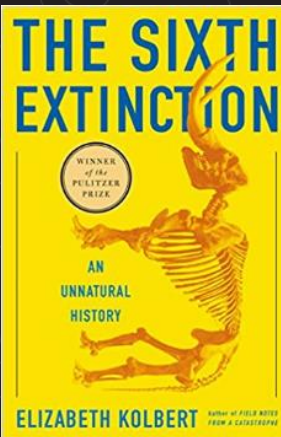
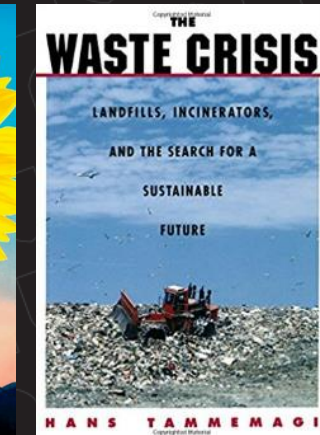
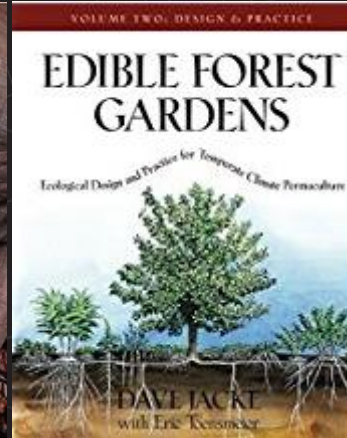
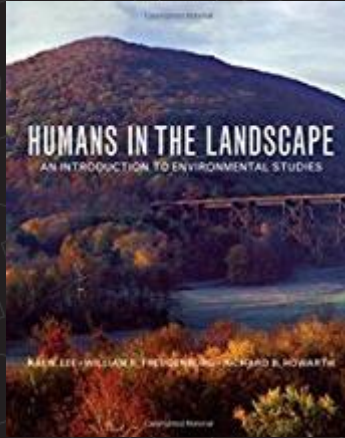


Interdisciplinary Courses



Ursinus College

WE ARE THINKERS AND DOERS.

**We apply what we learn in
interesting, unconventional ways.**



Ursinus College

Professional Development – Team Projects



Small-scale group activities



Working on recycling and composting management at Ursinus



Ursinus College

Professional Development – Alumni Insights



Amos Almy speaks to ENV 100 students from Mt. Rainier National Park, WA.



Ursinus College

Interdisciplinary Collaboration – Berman Museum of Art



- “Stratigraphic Fiction” – Exploring the Anthropocene
- “Min(d)ing the Landscape” – The photography of Edward Burtynsky
- “Diary of the One Swelling Sea” – Contemplation of our connection to the oceans
- “Grass Roots: African Origins of an American Art” – Exploring the social-ecology of sweegrass basketry

Professor talks with artist about
Anthropocene

Understanding
ethnobotany and
gendered work

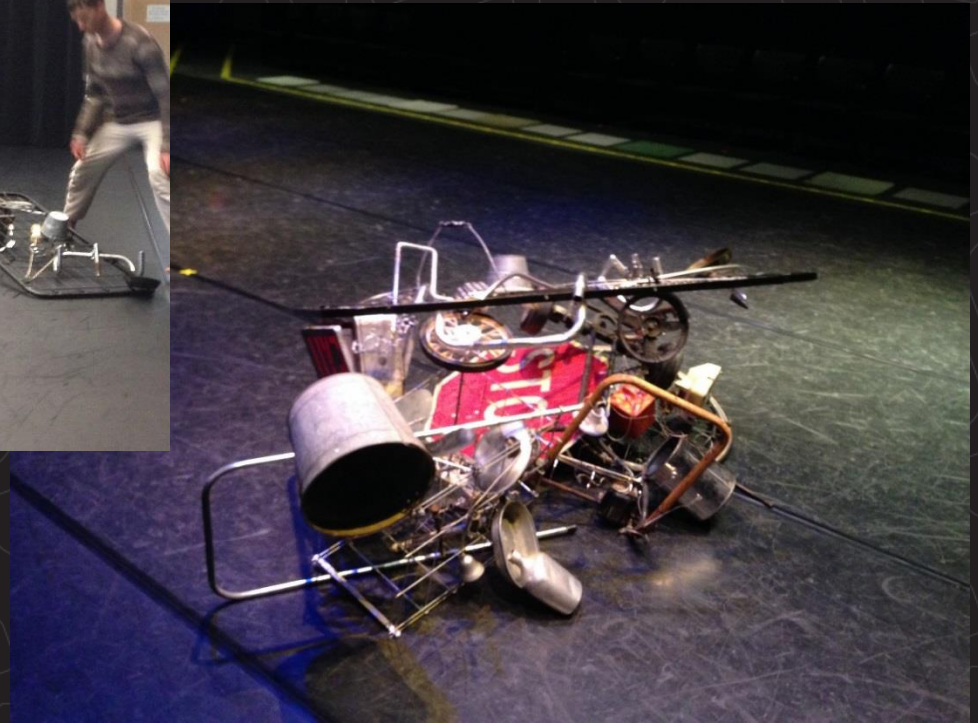


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Interdisciplinary Collaboration - Dance



Dance students use ENV student generated oral histories of urban gardens in West Philadelphia to interpret vacant lot reclamation.



Ursinus College

THIS IS NOT THE CLASSROOM YOU SEE ON TV.

**Ursinus works hard to change the
way you think.**



Ursinus College

Experiential Learning – Campus

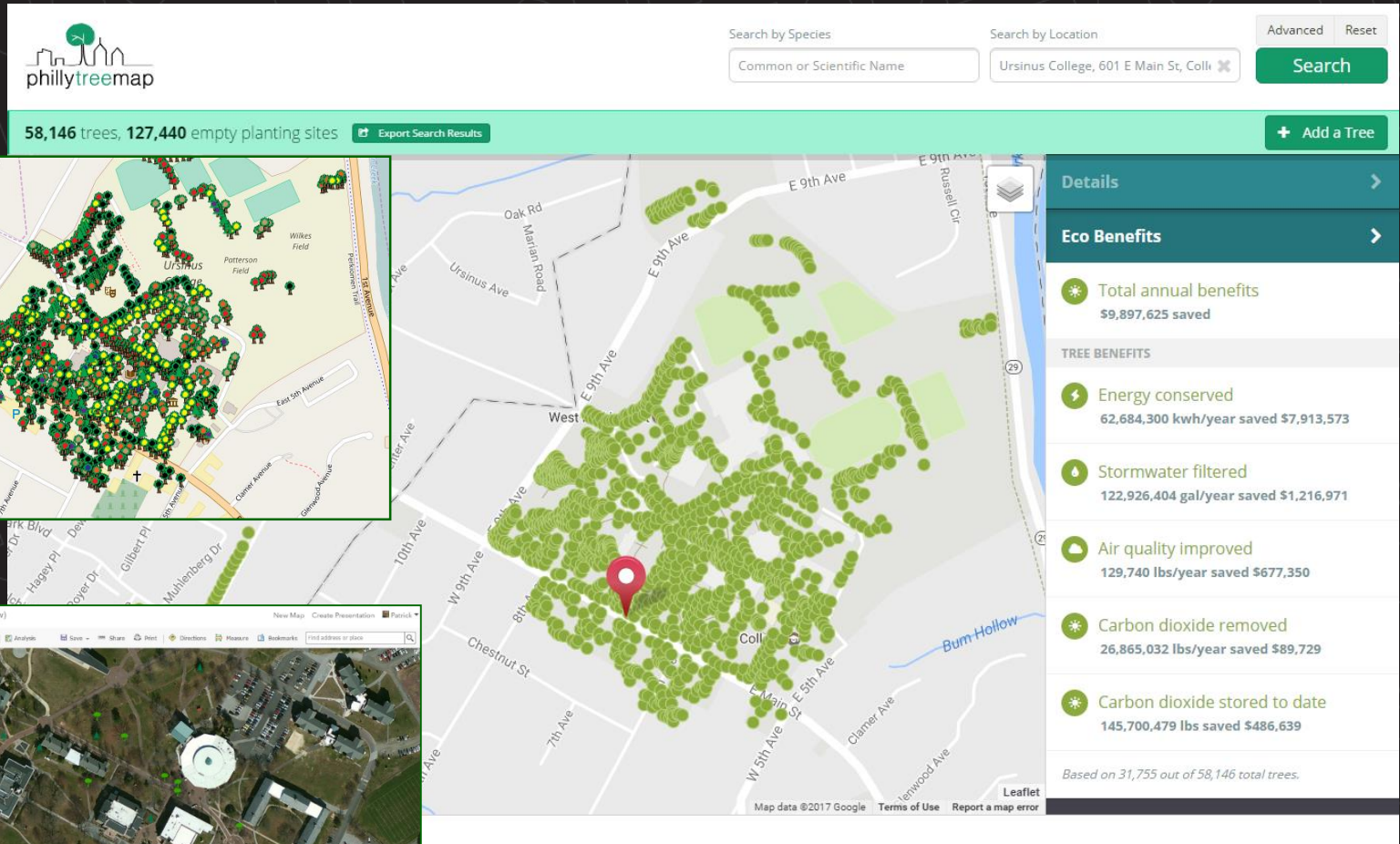


Nature observations at Ursinus' naturalized stormwater basin



Place attachment and trees in the urban forest

Experiential Learning – Campus



Understanding benefits of campus trees using digital tools

Field Visits — Nearby Conservation Areas



Exploring area reforestation dynamics



Ursinus College

Field Visits – Water Systems



Stream discharge analysis



Drinking and water processing facility visits



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Field Visits – Waste Systems



Recycling, waste-to-energy, and
composting facilities



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Field Visits — Land Use



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What our Alumni Say

“I think the department prepared me very well. I feel knowledgeable in my field, I feel like I am a strong writer, I feel I have a strong work ethic because of my experiences in the ENV department at Ursinus. I feel that I am able to critically think about problems in both my professional and personal life. I also feel like the department prepared me to lead and to work cooperatively with others.”



Field Visits – Geology



Geology students visit Valley Forge NP.



Field Visits – Energy / Hazards



Fueling Society students visit Centralia as part of the Anthracite region field trip.



Field Visits – Urban Ecologies (NYC/Phila)



Urbanization students explore urban green infrastructure in Brooklyn and West Philadelphia.



Ursinus College

Field Visits – Climate Change (Lake Ontario)



Climate Change students ply the waters of Lake Ontario for a sediment core.



Ursinus College

Field Visits – Urban Sustainability



Exploring niche food species, culturally important varieties, and principles of permaculture.



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What our Alumni Say

“I found that the department was very unique in that students like myself didn't view much of the course work, or the course readings, as an obligation as much as we did an opportunity to develop a deeper understanding and become more involved/engaged with the topics. For the first time in my academic career I looked forward to being presented new topics, new issues, and new areas of study.”



Experiential Learning – Stream Clean up!



Talking Trash students participate in Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy's annual stream clean up



Ursinus College

Experiential Learning - Stewardship



Land Ethic class plans and installs rain gardens in Hunsberger Woods (Borough Open Space).



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Experiential Learning - Stewardship

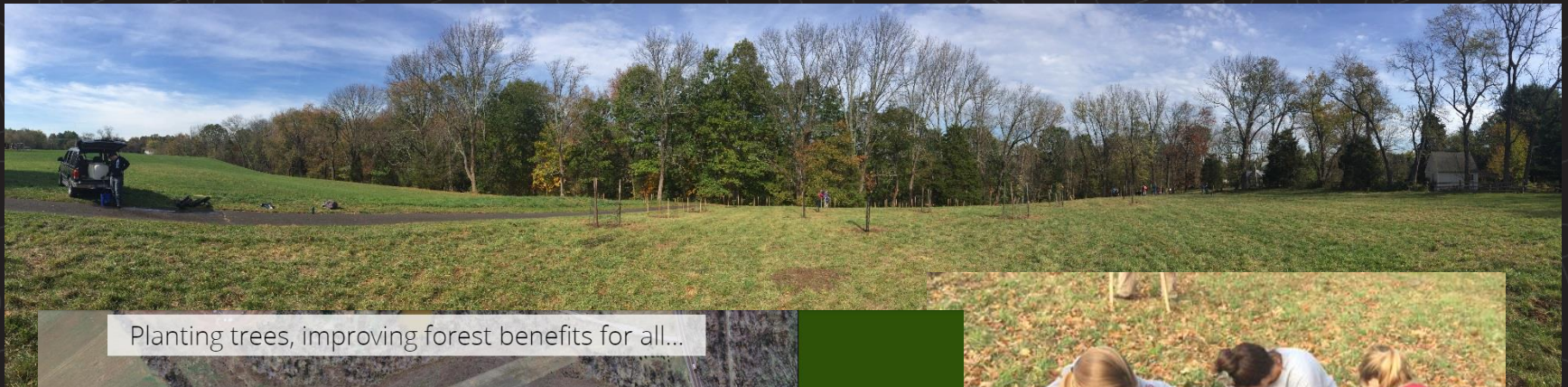


Urban Sustainability students assist with stormwater basin naturalization in planned unit development. Students later use social science methods to study community involvement and perceptions.

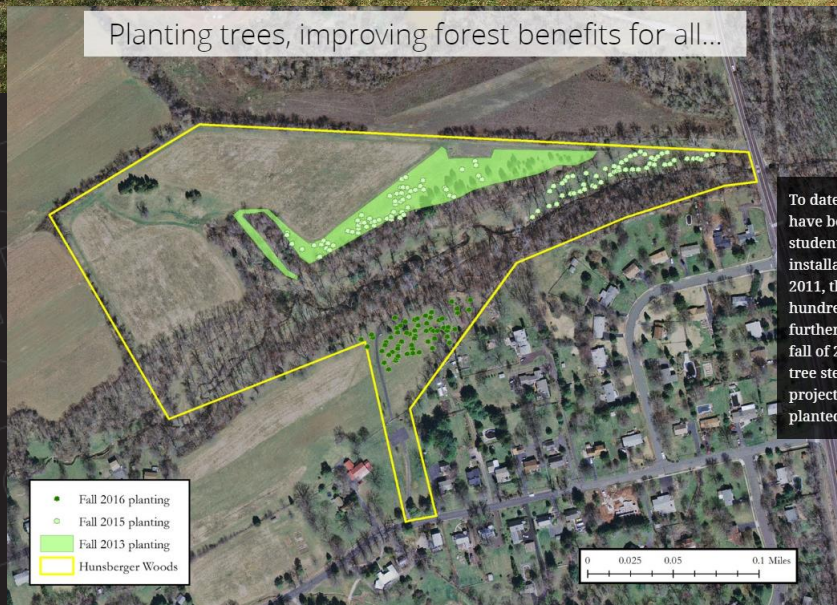


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Experiential Learning - Stewardship



Planting trees, improving forest benefits for all...



To date, five separate projects have been undertaken by ENV students. These include the installation of rain gardens in 2011, the planting of several hundred trees in 2013, and further tree plantings in the fall of 2015 and 2016. Student tree stewards work to monitor project progress and maintain planted trees and shrubs.



Forests & People students work on reforestation efforts in Hunsberger Woods.



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Experiential Learning – Applied Research



Urbanization students document innovative strategies to incorporate biophilia into the suburbs.

Experiential Learning – Campus Waste

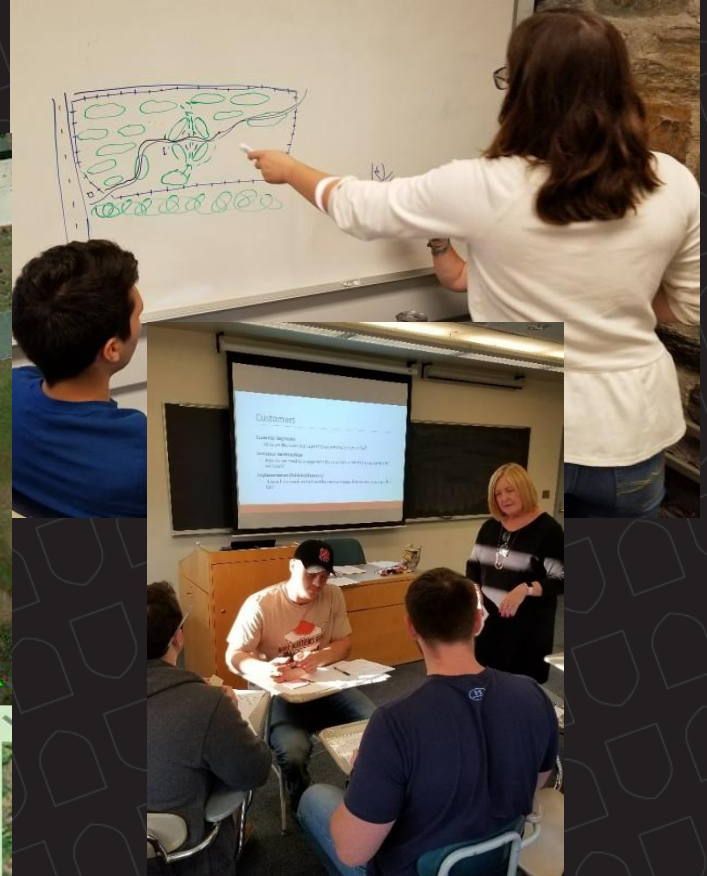


Students use experimental designs to address contamination issues with campus composting process.



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Experiential Learning – Applied Research at WERS



Urban Sustainability students develop new food forest at the Whittaker Environmental Research Station (WERS), our ecological agricultural research facility.



Ursinus College

Experiential Learning – Applied Learning at WERS



Community & Food Systems students discuss benefits of conventional vs. organic agriculture at WERS.



What our Alumni Say

“The broad focus of the major and its interdisciplinary approach has helped me adapt to a field that I have no formal training in. This adaptability has helped me overcome obstacles and excel in my career.”

“Capstone’s hands-on, project management, team work, and practical skills are useful to any career. Great professors- caring and genuine. Lots of opportunities for extra curricular groups and activities.”



Experiential Learning – Study Abroad



Research Opportunities with Faculty

LANDSCAPE RESEARCH, 2017
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/01426397.2016.1267131>



Resistant actors, resistant landscapes? A historical political ecology of a forested conservation object in exurban southeastern Pennsylvania

Patrick T. Hurley, Megan Maccaroni and Andrew Williams

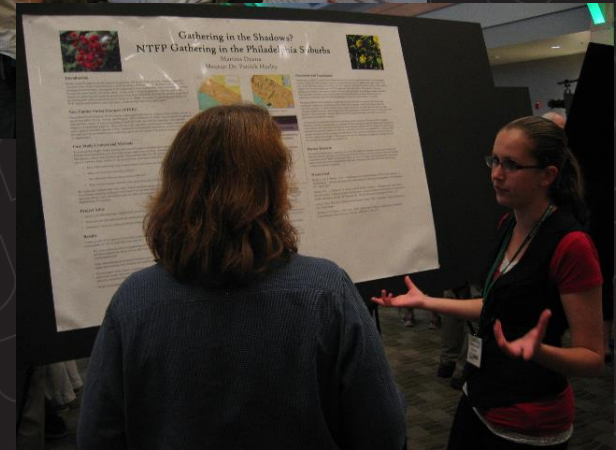
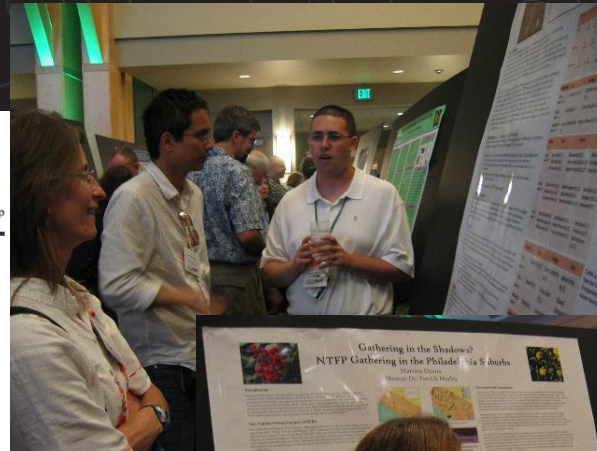
Department of Environmental Studies, Ursinus College, Collegeville, PA, USA

ABSTRACT

Exurban political ecologists (ExPE) are interested in landscape contestations, particularly where material-cultural entanglements play out through land-use decision-making processes. ExPE research highlights the role in-migrants and long-time residents play in the balance between conservation and development of landscapes, often highlighting informal and formal advocacy that shapes specific outcomes. These entanglements often appear to hinge on attempts to integrate conservation science into planning. Drawing on a case from south-eastern Pennsylvania, USA, this article examines the ways that exurban actors, histories of land-use and in-migration, and planning practice produce place-specific conservation. Here, conservation here derives from realising long-standing landowner desire for intervention, rather than implementation of science-informed conservation. The case demonstrates the role of geologically distinctive landscape advocacy, which enable a particular landscape history of the Metropolitan Philadelphia.

KEYWORDS

Exurban political ecology; landscape histories of urbanisation; landscape conservation; material-cultural entanglements; conservation objects



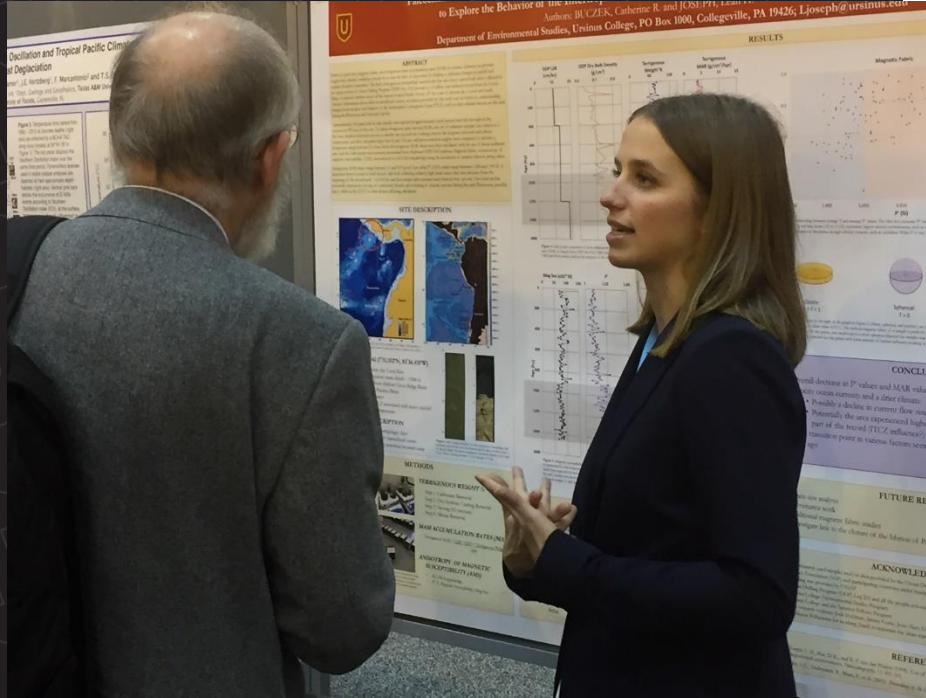
Poster presentations at the Association of Environmental Studies and Sciences conference (Burlington, VT)

In California for the American Association of Geographers conference



Ursinus College

Research Opportunities with Faculty



Poster presentation at the American Geophysical Union (New Orleans, LA)



Ursinus College

Where are they now — Our alumni



Sarah Huang with rice farmers in Vietnam.
(Ph.D. candidate, Purdue University)



Brooke Umberger with an Atlas moth.
(Manager, Conservatory Habitats, Hershey Gardens)



Lauren McGrath inspecting stream health.
(Director, Watershed Protection Program, Williston Conservation Trust)



What our Alumni Say

“Being able to forge relationships with professors that I still maintain today was/is the most valuable experience in the department. During my time at Ursinus they were my support system and also always pushed me to better myself. The same is true today as an alum.”



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