The ES Program at Middlebury makes much of the fact that ours is the oldest such program in the country. Yet age alone means little. What matters is the quality a program offers, and quality comes not from the passing years but from the people who are involved during those years. As excellent teachers and scholars become involved with our program, we excel. And as they move on to other things, we are the lesser for it. Thus, it is with no small regret for us that this year marks the retirement of Don Mitchell from Middlebury College.

Don came to Middlebury College in 1985 as a lecturer in both English and film and media culture. Don's interest and experience in both the aesthetics and literature of the pastoral life naturally led him to gravitate toward the ES Program, where he has been an affiliate member of the program since 1996. Don’s played a key role in the ES curriculum, teaching in our introductory sequence, first with Visions of Nature (the original literature-based introductory course) and subsequently with Nature’s Meanings (the current core humanities course). Not only did Don bring a wealth of personal and professional experience to bear in offering courses grounded in the humanistic perspectives on the relationship between humans and the environment, but he also gave students an opportunity to share in those experiences. For several generations of students, the highlight of their four years here at Middlebury may well have been the evenings spent in Don and Cheryl’s sheep barn in New Haven helping the ewes birth their lambs.

Don did more than simply teach courses for the program, however. He was also a major facilitator of curricular developments to improve the cohesion of the introductory sequence as a whole. Beginning in the 1990s, the ES Program was the fortunate recipient of a series of grants to help us create stronger links across traditional disciplines. As I recall it, Don served as the nucleus to move our work forward. He hosted all of our meetings at his house, which, by the way, achieves levels of energy efficiency and sustainability that are impressive even by modern standards, yet was designed and built by Don and his family long before it became fashionable. Among the more notable outcomes from those meetings were the creation of Nature’s Meanings; the development of the ES core colloquium panel, where each semester the instructors of the three core courses discuss a common topic together at the Woodin Colloquium; and the redesign of the environmental science introductory course to focus more on sustainability. In short, Don has been at the center of much of this past decade’s progress in strengthening the program’s major.

Don will be sorely missed here, but we sincerely hope that he will not be a stranger. Regardless of whatever adventures await following retirement, he will always have a home here in the ES Program at Middlebury College.

To learn more about the ES Program, visit www.middlebury.edu/academics/ump/majors/es.

—Steve Trombulak, Professor of Environmental and Biosphere Studies
As the Middlebury College Organic Garden begins its seventh summer, I’ve been thinking about the way in which student volunteers and interns link their academic work to their experiences in the garden.

Since her freshman year Emily May ’10 has been active in the student group that manages the garden. In the summer of 2007 Emily donated many volunteer hours to the garden and became intrigued by our “insectary plantings.” That experience led Emily and Dan Kane ’09 (an intern in 2007) to develop a Biology 500 independent project to investigate the steep decline in pollinator populations. The findings of that project led to an application and award of an Environmental Council grant to design and plant a pollinator garden outside McCordell Bicentennial Hall in spring 2008. Among passers-by, the garden has instigated conversations about pollinators, their loss of habitat, and what can be done to restore it. All this led Emily to her thesis topic: How does distance from natural habitat—forest edge and hedgerows, for example—affect pollinator abundance and diversity and the pollination of vegetable crops?

Dan Kane’s interest in pollinators and his summer as an Organic Garden intern led him to apprentice with VT Ayr Cheese, a local artisan cheesemaker that produces milk from a sustainably managed herd of Ayrshire cows. After graduation this May, Dan will be an intern on Kingbird Farm, an organic farm near Ithaca, New York, that specializes in raising grass-fed beef cattle. As a biology major, Dan is particularly interested in the plant-breeding program the farm runs in affiliation with Cornell University’s Public Seed Initiative.

Corinne Almquist ’09, an Environmental Studies major with a focus in religion, spent the summer of 2008 as an intern at the Organic Garden. Her internship experience became a direct link to her involvement in social justice and sustainable food projects on and off campus. She has just been awarded a highly selective Comp-
Walking to the Garden

One of the best parts of holding class at Middlebury’s Organic Garden is always the walk out and back. We schedule discussion sections to start a few minutes later than usual, so that everyone will have time to follow the path slanting in from Route 125 to that mound of prime soil with its water tank, garden shed, and artfully laid-out beds. Some enthusiasts materialize on their mountain bikes, but most students settle for a relaxed stroll. In the fall, early arrivals may graze contentedly on the cherry tomatoes, grapes, or beans ripening on their vines, while Jay Leshinsky and his corps of volunteers look on tolerantly.

After the class has assembled we often choose to meet in the airy structure designed by Hubert d’Autremont ’07 as a senior project a couple of years ago. Folks lean back against the supporting posts, surrounded by glimpses of the campus, the garden, and the TAM (Trail Around Middlebury) where it disappears into a fringe of woods. Discussions in my own recent classes, which tend to revolve mainly around the topics of literature, agriculture, food, and education, have sometimes been enhanced when Jay, his guests, and other visitors to the garden come to sit with us and join the conversation.

Middlebury is one of only 10 U.S. colleges invited to participate in the program, because of its “impressive reputation and commitment to environmental sustainability,” said Compton Foundation Executive Director Edith Eddy.

Corinne Almquist ’09 is an ES major with a religion, philosophy, and environmental focus. Her project will organize a Vermont gleaning program to salvage surplus and unused crops for Vermonters in need.

Walter “Tripp” Burwell ’09 is a joint ES/biology major with a conservation biology focus. He will live in Barrow, Alaska, working with Inupiat Eskimos and scientific research groups and learning how native ecological knowledge intersects with science for better communities.

Bill McKibben received The Marc van der Heyden Service to Vermont Award from the Vermont Campus Compact Board of Directors. The award recognizes “a distinguished individual with ties to Vermont who—through his or her actions, scholarly or professional work, and/or sustained civic engagement—has influenced, inspired, and motivated others.”

When a class meeting is over, students with no commitment immediately afterward may remain in the garden to do some reading or to lend a hand with the harvest. But even those who need to leave right away report how refreshed and energized they feel when they do get back to campus. The walking, the time together out of doors, and the distanced perspective on the world of labs and libraries have managed to reset the day’s clock for them.

I feel so lucky that this space for stewardship, nourishment, and renewal has been made available to our community by the Middlebury Organic Garden. It’s just far enough away to complement our efforts in the splendid facilities of our main campus; just close enough to offer the ready possibility for fellowship and dialogue that hold many other responsibilities for students and teachers alike.

Many others—present students and graduates, parents, faculty members, and local residents—surely feel a similar gratitude. If you count yourself in this number please do contribute now to the campaign in order to support Jay’s inspired and inspiring leadership, the dedicated student interns who care for the garden throughout the summer, and the other remarkably modest costs for this unique resource.

Visit www.middleburyinitiative.org/organicgarden for more information.

—John Elder, College Professor

STUDENT AND FACULTY AWARDS

■ May 22 began with our annual Snake Mountain Hike and culminated in a reception at the Franklin Environmental Center at Hillcrest. There, Corinne Almquist ’09 was honored with the annual Scott A. Margolin ’09 Environmental Studies Award, which recognizes an outstanding senior ES major. Her thesis examined Christian responses to mountain-top removal mining in Appalachia.

■ The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) have named John Elder, College Professor of Environmental Studies and English and American Literatures, the 2008 Vermont Professor of the Year. John also received Vermont Campus Compact’s Award for Excellence in Community-Based Teaching, which is given to one faculty member from a VCC member campus who has made public service an integral part of his or her teaching.

■ Two ES graduates were awarded prestigious Compton Mentor Fellowships, created to support graduating seniors.

■ The Sustainable Endowments Institute 2008 Report Card rated 200 schools and ranked Middlebury as one of six overall sustainability leaders.

■ Middlebury was named #1 in Sierra Magazine’s “10 Coolest Schools: Our Annual Green College Guide” in the September/October 2008 issue.

■ In April 2009, Middlebury won a Chill Out: Campus Solutions to Global Warming Award from the National Wildlife Federation for its new biomass gasification plant.

■ The new Middlebury Master Plan, designed by Michael Dennis & Associates, received a 2008 Honor Award for Campus Planning from the Boston Society of Architects. Sustainability is a core theme of the entire plan.

■ The Janet Halstead Franklin ’72 and Churchill G. Franklin ’71 Environmental Center at Hillcrest, designed by SAS Architects of Burlington, Vt., earned two honors: —LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Platinum certification, the highest designation given by the U.S. Green Building Council. It is the first building in Vermont and the seventh in the nation to achieve the certification, under the LEED NC 2.2 standards.

Franklin Environmental Center at Hillcrest earns LEED Platinum


■ The Axinn Center at Starr Library was one of 12 projects recognized in the Boston Society of Architects’ 2009 Sustainable Design Awards. Awardees were praised for aesthetic achievements, energy efficiency, thoughtful material use, systems development, and site and transportation planning. Designed by CBT architects in Boston, the Axinn Center also involved Efficiency Vermont, Otter Creek Engineering (East Middlebury), and Andropogon Associates of Philadelphia (landscape architecture).
CIVIC ENGAGEMENT IN ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

Global Action

A group of students, led by Sierra Murdoch '09.5, spent their winter term launching Power Past Coal. This online volunteer organization unites environmental and human rights activists and organizations nationwide to push for an end to mountaintop removal mining and coal-based energy. For more information, visit www.powerpastcoal.org.

Several Middlebury College students contributed videos to Planet Forward, an online Web community linked to a PBS show designed to broaden the national dialogue on energy and climate change. Students whose video clips were broadcast attended the live taping of the show, and Farhan Ahmed '09 participated in a panel with the Obama administration’s top energy adviser, Carol Browner. Frank Sesno ’77, Emmy Award-winning journalist and head of Planet Forward explains, “In this age of citizen journalism, we are inviting all Americans to join the debate, offer opinions, and let their voices be heard.” Sesno is professor of media and public affairs at George Washington University, whose Public Affairs Project coproduces Planet Forward. For more information, visit www.planetforward.org.

Community Connected Classes

- **ENVS 401 SENIOR SEMINAR PROJECTS**
ENVS 401, Fall 2008: Nan Jenks-Jay Students worked with Rural Vermont on new models for land stewardship, identifying where environmental and agricultural regulations conflict or offer collaborative potential; with the U.S. Forest Service and the Moosalamoo Association on engaging the community in land management through stewardship contracting in the Moosalamoo National Recreation Area; and with the College to develop land use and forestry management goals and recommendations for the Bread Loaf lands.

ENVS 401, Spring 2009: Jon Isham Students focused on engaging communities nationally and globally to reduce CO2 concentrations in the atmosphere to 350 ppm (www.350.org). With the Institute for Sustainable Communities they developed training modules on energy efficiency and smart growth for cities committed to the U.S. Conference of Mayors Climate Protection Agreement; with ECOLOGIA they developed talking points and strategies for effective negotiations with China at the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change in Copenhagen this fall; and with 350.org they prepared resources to assist students studying abroad in organizing culturally appropriate climate change actions. This class culminated with a conference entitled, “Getting to 350: Building Strategies for 21st Century Aspirations.” See blogs.middlebury.edu/350workshop/about.

- **ENVS 350, FALL 2008: JOHN ELDER PORTRAIT OF A VERMONT TOWN**
The 15 students in this class were invited to gather stories about Starksboro, Vermont’s history, residents, and values in this first phase of a multiyear Art and Soul civic engagement process. Starksboro was awarded an Art and Soul planning grant by the Orton Family Foundation in partnership with the Vermont Land Trust. The program uses stories and the arts to spark community discussions that can inspire sustainable town planning. Students interviewed more than 60 residents and shared the stories with the town using digital and print means. Visit www.orton.org/projects/starksboro.

Power Shift 2009

Nearly 200 Middlebury students and several faculty and staff members traveled to Washington, D.C., to attend Power Shift 2009, a climate conference that attracted over 12,000 youth activists from around the country. The four-day event (February 28 to March 2) included dozens of workshops and panels, and a chance to hear speakers such as House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar, EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson, and Middlebury Scholar in Residence Bill McKibben. Many of the Middlebury participants were first-year students.

There’s nothing better than being motivated by greater knowledge . . . to create the positive change that we need.

new to climate issues. They returned to campus motivated to get more involved in climate activism at Middlebury. “Not only did students leave more energized to lead their communities, but they learned more about the complex policy and science that surround the issue,” said Nate Blumenshine ’09.5, one of the organizers of the Middlebury delegation. “There’s nothing better than being motivated by greater knowledge, rather than rhetoric, to create the positive change that we need.”

Post-Power Shift, the Sunday Night Group, Middlebury’s student environmental group, has been acting on ideas germinated at the conference, such as establishing a Vermont youth environmental network. Ben Wessel ’11, the head organizer of the Middlebury delegation, expressed excitement about the momentum generated by the conference. “The sheer number of Midd Kids who have pushed up to me on campus with a new idea to engage young people in the community or their policy recommendation to get a climate treaty passed this year is astounding,” he says.

—Emily May ’10
A sampling of recent projects:

HARC 0130, Spring 2009: Andrea Murray
Intro to Architectural Design
This studio class takes students through group drawing and analysis projects, and an individual final design vignette. The final project must be designed for a nearby site, be suitable for actual development, and must involve community members in its development. The project must potentially benefit both the community and natural environment.

HARC 0231: Andrea Murray
Architecture and the Environment
This required course for joint ENVS/HARC majors introduces students to architecture and its impact on our community and natural environments. Speakers and field trips help us examine sustainability.

Architecture thesis students designed a new home for the Ripton-based Jefferson Legacy Foundation and preliminary concepts for planning and expansion of the Sheldon Museum. John McCleod advised on both these projects.

ECON 265: Jon Isham
Environmental Economics
Students worked on several local climate change projects including the economics of using locally grown willows to run our biomass facility, ways to encourage local food production, and how to assess community-wide energy needs. Other projects included developing plans for green affordable housing and for “greener” hockey rinks and ski areas.

CONSORTIUM CONVENED

From September 26–28, 2008, Steve Trombulak led us in hosting the 24th annual meeting of the Northeast Environmental Studies Consortium (NEES) at the Bread Loaf Campus. Eighty-five colleagues from 25 institutions shared energy, ideas, and the mountain scenery “vibrating with color,” as Bill McKibben noted in his opening remarks.

We closed our time together with the question: “What are the coming decade’s next big challenges for environmental studies in higher education?”

Some selected responses:
“…We have been much less successful at promoting and integrating diverse world views—political, religious, philosophical—into an understanding that our environment is not a ‘special interest issue’ but a common cause for all, rich or poor, conservative or liberal.”

“We must encourage a broadening of the conversation to include voices from communities of color and the environmental justice movement.”

“We need full engagement with the arts.”

“How do we responsibly get beyond characterizing the things that are going badly (climate change, biodiversity loss) and point toward plausible responses, if not ‘cures’ then at least mitigations? We risk inadvertently inducing fatalism.”

FEATURED SPEAKERS

February 24, 2009
Scott A. Margolin ’99
Lecture in Environmental Affairs, “Penguins as Marine Sentinels” by Dr. P. Dee Boersma, Wadsworth Endowed Chair in Conservation Science, biology department, University of Washington

Professor Boersma’s academic research in conservation biology has focused on seabirds, particularly penguins, as indicators of environmental change. Since 1982, she has directed the Magellanic Penguin Project at Punta Tombo, Argentina, in her role as a scientific fellow for the Wild Life Conservation Society.

With great enthusiasm and energy, she shared examples from 23 years of research on Magellanic penguins in the South Atlantic, assessing their biological characteristics and the effects of human perturbations and policy changes on their survival. With compelling evidence—e.g., a 22 percent decline in breeding pairs over the past 20 years—she demonstrated how climate variability challenges these penguins.

Video lecture available at: www.middlebury.edu/academics/ump/majors/es/environmental+video+archives.htm

November 11, 2008
“Microfinance’s Role in International Development and the Kiva Story” by J.D. Bergeron, senior manager, Kiva Fellows Program. Part of Middlebury’s Corporate Social Responsibility speaker series, co-sponsored by the Program in Environmental Studies, Office of Environmental Affairs, Career Services Office, and the Rohatyn Center for International Affairs.

April 7, 2009
“If You Love This Planet and Your Health,” Helen Caldicott, M.D., cofounder of Physicians for Social Responsibility and international advocate discussed the medical and ecological implications of nuclear power.
CO\textsubscript{2016}: Make Neutrality a Reality

For those of you who haven’t heard, Middlebury is well on its way to becoming carbon neutral by 2016. The Board of Trustees set this goal in the spring of 2007 as a result of campus-wide support, and with the recent opening of the new biomass gasification system, the College’s annual carbon footprint will decrease by about 40 percent. To address the remaining 60 percent of Middlebury’s carbon emissions, the College is taking a multifaceted approach. Three teams comprising faculty, students, and staff (including president’s staff) began meeting this spring, each focusing on either carbon neutrality and the master plan, community engagement in carbon reduction efforts, or measurement and reporting of carbon neutrality efforts. As part of this next step the College is also pursuing options to diversify the campus energy infrastructure including wind, concentrated solar thermal, solar photovoltaic reflectors, and increasing use of biomass fuels.

The College’s commitment to carbon neutrality has not wavered with the current economy. Our environmental progress in improving energy efficiency, increasing use of renewable resources, and conserving resources continues to make good economic sense as well—a connection the College continues to pursue and publicize.

Environmental Council Grants

What do an exercise bike, compost, an NFL athlete, and homemade jam have in common? They were all aspects of projects funded by Middlebury’s Environmental Council (EC). Each year, the Environmental Council supports creative ideas that promote sustainability and deepen understanding of environmental issues on campus. This academic year, the EC awarded nearly $18,000 to 17 different grant proposals. Students, staff, and faculty gathered in the Franklin Environmental Center at Hillcrest on May 4 for a Grants Fair where 12 of the projects were featured.

Some projects were physically installed on campus, such as a pollinator garden at the College organic garden and the weather station at Dragone Track, which Tim Parsons, the College horticulturist, uses for integrated pest management. There were projects that move around, like the ski team’s biodiesel truck, which now runs on waste vegetable oil from the dining halls, and projects you move yourself, like the pedal-powered hydrogen bike.

Additional grants funded by the EC included a campus competition to reduce electricity, Bike Week, sending students to Power Shift in Washington, D.C., supporting student research and efforts to get Vermont to adopt a renewable-energy business-tax credit, and supporting a student to attend the UN Climate Change Convention in Poland.

This full story can be found at www.middlebury.edu/administration/enviro.

**RECENT ACTIVITY RELATED TO CARBON NEUTRALITY**

- Opening of biomass gasification plant
- Lowering winter thermostat set point for all campus buildings to 68°
- New student parking fee will support carbon neutrality initiatives

**Biomass**

Biomass gasification is more complex than a household wood stove in that it superheats wood chips and then ignites the smoldering gases, producing heat to make steam that is distributed throughout campus to heat and cool buildings and used to generate electricity. The smoke and ash from this process circulate through a cyclone, forcing larger particles to drop out. The remaining emissions are filtered to remove fine particulate matter. The filtration system in Middlebury’s biomass plant is rated to remove 99.7 percent of the exhaust particulates, so most of what one sees coming from the smokestack is water vapor.

Overall, the biomass plant’s emissions are cleaner than those resulting from Number 6 fuel oil, and in fact, gasifying wood emits significantly less of the sulfur compounds that contribute to acid rain.

Further efficiency measures of this system include using the exhaust from gasification to preheat water returning to the boiler and using the steam to cogenerate electricity before it is distributed throughout the campus. Additionally, ash produced in gasification will be used by local farms as a soil amendment. For more information, please visit the biomass blog at blogs.middlebury.edu/biomass.

**SusTainaBiliTy noTEs**

The college’s new biomass plant went online this year.

Bike Sale Raises $2,720 for Middlebury Bike Shop. The Middlebury Bike Shop sold 85 abandoned campus bicycles at their recent sale, providing students, staff, and faculty with an easy and low-cost way to get around campus and town.
Alumni News

Hal Beecher ’70 completed his two-and-a-half-year term as president of the Instream Flow Council (IFC) in October 2008. His term ended with FLOW 2008, a conference on the science, policy, and public dialogue of freshwater management. The conference featured panels on four successful water management efforts based on case histories presented in a new IFC book on water management for which Hal is a contributing author. Hal continues to manage the water team in the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, working on water management for salmon and other fish and wildlife.

Mark Mauriello ’79 has been appointed head of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection.

Peter Morgan ’01 is an attorney with the Sierra Club in San Francisco. After Middlebury, Peter managed the Nature Conservancy’s Massachusetts Islands Program. He received his JD from Stanford Law School and an MS from Stanford’s Interdisciplinary Graduate Program in Environment and Resources, where his focus was the intersections among law, policy, and conservation biology.

David Wright ’05 and Asher Burns-Burg ’05 teamed up this past September to participate in Climate Ride 2008. David is working at energy/environmental consulting firm ERG, helping the federal government design and implement sustainability initiatives; Asher specializes in climate policy and program development at the global climate change consulting firm ICF International. Their multiday, 300-plus mile bike ride to raise awareness about climate change started in New York City and ended on the steps of the Capitol in Washington, D.C. They’d love to engage any interested Midd Kids in Climate Ride 2009!

Jake Pepper ’08 is working in Chicago for Environmental Systems Design, a mechanical, electrical, and plumbing design firm. Jake’s work focuses on LEED consulting for the building sciences group and energy modeling for new construction projects. He joked that he’s probably the sole liberal arts graduate among the firm’s 250 employees—and he finds that background (as well as his J-term independent study to become a certified LEED consultant) to be very beneficial.

Bobby Levine ’08 has received three prestigious awards for his algae-based alternative energy research. A Ph.D. candidate in chemical engineering at the University of Michigan, Levine was awarded a graduate fellowship from the Graham Environmental Sustainability Institute, an NSF Graduate Research Fellowship, and most recently—as a member of “Team Algal Scientific”—the University’s inaugural Clean Energy Prize. Sponsored by DTE Energy and the University of Michigan, this clean energy business competition was “designed to move new energy technology from the laboratory to the marketplace.”

Justice for All

January Term 2009 brought alumna Susie Strife (’02) back to campus to teach a course entitled Environmental Justice. Strife recently completed her dissertation at the University of Colorado on environmental perceptions and concerns of children growing up in environmental justice settings. She currently teaches sustainability courses at the university and is sustainability education and outreach specialist for the Boulder County Commissioner’s Office.

Strife spent the month asking Middlebury students to rethink and expand traditional notions of the word “environment” to include the places where people “live, work, play, and pray.” Class discussions and debates centered on whether it is “just” for minorities and the poor to bear a greater burden of pollution, waste, and hazards while having less access to environmental amenities such as parks and fresh food. The class also analyzed the challenges of verifying whether inequities exist and why. Ultimately, the students challenged each other to expand their understanding of environmental problems to include human social inequities. Sophomore Kate Olen, an ES/human ecology major in the class reflected that Strife’s class “continued to enlighten and excite me in ways I had never before experienced.” Olen particularly appreciated Strife’s passion for teaching “the broad, often frightening, implications of environmental problems” for marginalized social groups “regionally, nationally, and internationally.”

On January 26, Strife’s class welcomed guest speaker Nia Robinson, director of the Oakland, California-based Environmental Justice and Climate Change Initiative. Robinson’s provocative presentations shed light on the impact climate change has on minorities and the socioeconomically disadvantaged. Robinson offered powerful commentary on the underlying assumptions of the “green jobs” movement, and outlined a range of organizations working to keep issues of social justice at the center of climate change politics. Here, Robinson was the voice of millions—those often forgotten in discussions of climate change.

Increasingly, ES integrates justice concerns into program coursework in religion, history, geography, and sociology, as well as other disciplines. Those efforts are bearing fruit; this year, several senior thesis topics and internships examine issues of justice, equity, and the environment.

—Kathryn Morse, Director, Program in Environmental Studies
The following are selected new gifts made to the Green Funds during this past year:

**Class of 1959** ■ Gifts from members of the class established the Class of 1959 Green Fund in honor of their 50th reunion to ensure that the College’s environmental initiatives will continue in perpetuity by providing an annual income stream to support related priorities, including sustainable campus efforts, academic programs, and student life.

**Elisabeth B. Robert ’78** ■ This gift established the Robert Lake Champlain Ecology Fund to support student research related to Vermont-based environmental initiatives, particularly the ecology of Lake Champlain.

**Jonathan Berger ’67 and Linda Berger P’11** ■ An additional gift from the David Berger Foundation augmented the Berger Fund for Ecological Planning, which supports student work in environmental studies.

**Peter G. Curran ’80 and Bonni L. Curran** ■ An additional gift from the Peco Foundation augmented the Curran Family Fund for Faculty and Student Research, which supports student and faculty research related to environmental issues.

**Harry Drucker ’80 and Elizabeth Stolley Drucker ’80, P’08 ’11, Erika Lederman ’86 and John Kremer IV ’85** ■ These gifts support the Organic Garden Internship Fund, which ensures student internship opportunities at the Middlebury College Organic Garden.

**Gretchen Augat Reilly ’60** ■ An additional gift from Gretchen augmented the Gretchen Augat Reilly ’60 Environmental Studies Fund, which supports Middlebury’s environmental studies program and environmental initiatives.

**The Growald Family Fund and The Overbrook Foundation** ■ Contributions from these two foundations supported student participation in PowerShift 2009, a national conference on climate change.

**PROFESSORSHIPS**

**Anonymous** ■ This gift established the Professorship in Environmental and Biosphere Studies, the first endowed chair in environmental studies, to support faculty whose work contributes to an understanding of the biosphere as an integrated area of study. Professor Steve Trombulak (ES/Biology) was appointed as the first chair holder.

**Kathleen O’Connor Truscott ’83 and William F. Truscott ’83** ■ Their gift established the Kathleen O’Connor Truscott ’83 and William F. Truscott ’83 Professorship, which honors Professor John Elder and supports a professor whose work encompasses a humanistic approach to the study of the environment. Andrea Olsen (ES/Dance) was appointed the first chair holder.

Middlebury’s environmental programs are made possible by the generosity of donors to the Green Funds, which support sustainable campus initiatives, academic programs, and student life.

—Nan Jenks-Jay, Dean of Environmental Affairs and Kathryn Morse, Director, Program in Environmental Studies