

PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE

ENVS and EnviroAlums Reunion

October 9 – 11, 2009

“A Crisis Is a Terrible Thing to Waste: Creating a Durable Future”

Friday, October 9

2:00 - 7:00 p.m.	Registration	AJL Center Atrium
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Reception and Dinner	Carnegie Root Room
8:30 - 9:30 p.m.	Welcome and introduction Marvin Krislov, President of Oberlin College Keynote address: <i>Environmental Education at Oberlin: Past, Present, Future</i> David Orr, Paul Sears Professor, Environmental Studies.	Science Center West Lecture Hall

Saturday, October 10

8:00 - 9:00 a.m.	Registration	AJL Center Atrium
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Tours of Jones Farm <i>Bus leaves from AJL Center on Elm Street at 9:00, 10:00, and 11:00 a.m. Bus leaves from Jones Farm (returning to AJL Center) at 9:45, 10:45, and 11:45 a.m.</i> Walking tour and discussion of the George Jones Farm: The George Jones Farm and Nature Preserve provides a unique model for linking a college community with a broader regional food system. The Jones Farm is owned by the college and leased to the New Agrarian Center which manages the property to mix a working organic farm with education and training programs for youth, college students, and the broader region. This tour will show examples of how the farm transitioned from a commodity grain farm with denuded topsoil to a center for regenerative systems applied to food, energy, and shelter.	
9:00 - 10:30 a.m.	Tours of SEED House (<i>Organizer: Isabelle Rozendaal</i>) 9:00 and 9:45 AM at Seed House. See how students experiment to conserve resources and live simply.	SEED House 20-22 Lorain St
9:00 – 10:30 a.m.	Panel Discussion: Creating a Climate-Neutral Oberlin (<i>Organizer: Nathan Engstrom</i>)	Science Center West Lecture Hall

Oberlin (college and city) are committed to achieving climate neutrality and are in the process of establishing exactly how they can accomplish this formidable challenge.

Panelists – John Petersen '88 (OC faculty), Cindy Frantz (OC faculty), Nathan Engstrom (OC Sustainability Coordinator), David Sonner (President, Oberlin City Council), Geoff Andrews (Superintendent, Oberlin City Schools), Steve Dupee (Director, Oberlin Municipal Light and Power System)], Eric Norenberg (Oberlin City Manger), Brian Burgess (energy expert and member of several City Committees on energy issues)

10:30-11:00 a. m.

Panel Discussion:

Employing Real-time Feedback to Curtail Resource Use
(Organizer: John Petersen '88).

The Great Lakes Protection Fund awarded Oberlin \$812,000 to develop and implement real-time monitoring of electricity and water use in Oberlin, city and college. This session will describe the collaboration among city, college, and Oberlin College alumni founders of Sustainable Community Associates and Lucid Design Group.

Panelists: John Petersen '88, Director Environmental Studies Program, Cindy Frantz, Associate Professor of Psychology, Stephan Mayer, Professor of Psychology, Rumi Shammin, Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies, Michael Murray '03, President and CEO, Lucid Design Group, Vladi Shunturov '05, Chief Technical Officer, Lucid Design Group, Naomi Sabel '02, Partner, Sustainable Community Associates

11:00-12:00 a.m.

Student and Alumni posters & tables on environmental activities, internships, and programs

Science Center Commons

(Possible Organizers: Maggie Zimmer, Madeline Marvar, Isabelle Rozendaal, John Andreoni)

OBIWeb ~ Connecting, Networking, and Staying in Touch
(Organizer: Alumni Office)

12:15-2:00 p.m.

Lunch for alumni and ~75 students

Groups organized around specific topics (e.g. water, poverty, biodiversity, renewable energy, arts and sustainability, environmental justice, sustainability initiatives, sustainable investing, etc.)
Box lunches with groups meeting at various locations (i.e., Science Center Atrium, Lewis Center Atrium, ROOT Room)

2:30-4:30 p.m

Concurrent Seminars and Workshops

a. Climate Policy: Washington and the World (Organizer, Karen Florini)

- b. Between The Silos: How Chicago is Bringing Government, Nonprofits, and Businesses Together To Approach the Climate Crisis (*Organizer, Andrew deCoriolis*)
 - 1. Urban land use planning and open space conservation. Lenore Beyer-Clow (Policy Director, Openlands [www.openlands.org])
 - 2. Sustainable design, education, and organizing a sustainable business community. Peter Nicholson (Founder/Executive Director, Foresight Design Initiative [www.foresightdesign.org])
 - 3. Leading by example and the top down approach to governmental sustainability. Sadhu Johnston, Chief Environmental Officer, City of Chicago [www.chicagoclimateaction.org/]
 - 4. Entrepreneurship and behavior change, Manda Aufochs Gillespie, Founder, The Green Mama [www.thegreenmama.com/]).
- c. Urban Green in New York City: Obie experiences in the Big Apple (*Organizer: Michael Bobker*).
 - 1. Cities Going Green: Why do cities matter? Why do Obies keep cropping up in the mix? Michael Bobker
 - 2. Not-for-Profits on Center Stage: How non-profits show environmental leadership from neighborhoods to city level. Finding career opportunities and the skills required. Richard Leigh
 - 3. City Government Gets Progressive: What NYC is doing in terms of environmental plans and goals. Creating career opportunities at the agency level, working on the inside, and learning about NYC. Erin Morey
 - 4. Universities Beyond the Ivory Tower: Graduate study in the city includes exciting opportunities for urban engagement. Michael Bobker
- d. Sustainability in Cleveland (*Organizer: Brad Masi*)
 Shaking its infamous distinction as the city with a river that burned, Cleveland is emerging as a model for sustainability and green development. Learn about how Cleveland rose to #2 in the United States in local food systems and innovative policies and practices for dealing with the thousands of vacant/foreclosed properties that presently plague the city. The following alumni will discuss vacant land re-utilization strategies and urban food access in inner-city Cleveland through a community-based food share distribution and education program: Jim Rokakis OC '77 (Cuyahoga County Treasurer), Anthony Houston OC '88 (Neighborhood Stabilization Program in East Cleveland), and Brad Masi OC '93 (co-founder of City Fresh and New Agrarian Center).
- e. The Uses of Environmental History in the Search for Sustainability (*Organizers: Richard Tucker and Crystal Fortwangler*). Join environmental historians to discuss how environmental history can contribute to our contemporary public and policy debate on climate change and sustainability.

1. America's Ecological Empire and Over-Consumption of Global Resources, Richard Tucker (Adjunct Professor, Environmental History, U of MI, Ann Arbor, MI [rptucker@umich.org]);
2. Why Sustainability Needs Environmental History, Crystal Fortwangler (Visiting Professor, ENVS, Oberlin College [Crystal.Fortwangler@Oberlin.edu])

2:30-4:30 p.m.

Concurrent Tours and Activities

- a. Sustainability in Downtown Oberlin: A Walking Tour (*Organizer: Liz Burgess*): The tour will consider sustainable downtown businesses emphasizing those associated with Oberlin alumni (e.g., Ginko Gallery: Liz Burgess; Black River Café: Joe Waltzer; Full Circle Fuels: Sam Merritt; East College Street Project: Naomi Sabel, Ben Ezinga, Josh Rosen; others).
- b. Tours of Adam Joseph Lewis Center: 2:30 and 3:15 PM (*Organizer: Lewis Center Staff*)
- c. Tours of Trail Magic: a climate-neutral, positive-energy home: 2:30 and 3:15 PM (*Organizers: Carl and Mary McDaniel*): Trail Magic, built in 2008, is a passive/active solar home that uses less energy than it acquires and produces from onsite sunshine: ~55% via passive design features, ~25% from wood, ~15% from 3.1 kW of photovoltaic panels, ~5 from an evacuated tube domestic hot water system.
- d. Nature walk with Professor Emeritus David Benzing: *North central Ohio's vegetation as it prepares for winter*: The site to be visited is a preserved stand of mostly mature flood plain forest along the East Branch of the Vermilion River. Interesting plants will be identified and various aspects of their biology described. The current threats (invading exotics, pathogens, insects such as the emerald ash borer, etc.) to woodland vegetation in this region will be discussed.

5:00-7:00 p.m.

Reception and Buffet Dinner
Alumni (& Students by invitation)

Carnegie
Root Room

7:30-9:00 p.m.

Various Activities

1. Social time in Lewis Center
2. Music (TBD) (*Facilitator: Kristin Braziunas*)
3. Humor (TBD) (*Facilitator: Kristin Braziunas*)
4. *PolyCultures: Food Where We Live*: Lewis Center Auditorium, 8:00 PM. This documentary film shows how re-aligning our food systems around principles of ecological design can improve community relations, health, and local economic development. Features diverse perspective and inspiring stories from Northeast Ohio's food system, including students and graduates from Oberlin involved with the George Jones Farm and

