

29 September 2004

Dear EnviroAlum,

Two years ago a group of us met in Oberlin to launch an Alumni Association affiliate group dedicated to promoting environmental awareness, issues, and activities in the Oberlin community. You may access our website through the web page of either the Alumni Association (www.oberlin.edu/alumni) or the Environmental Studies Program (www.oberlin.edu/envs) to read about EnviroAlums (E).

At E's Steering Committee meeting on 11 September 2004, we decided our foremost task for the coming year was to inform alumni about the Oberlin College Environmental Policy (EP) (www.oberlin.edu/presidnt/environment.html) and work to have EP implemented. To accomplish these tasks, E will focus on the following two activities:

- 1) **Discuss EP at as many Oberlin Alumni Clubs as possible.** We need you to volunteer to work with other E members in your region to discuss EP with your regional Oberlin Alumni Club. And to discuss EP and the enclosed petition to all Obies you know. Steering Committee members will help you as needed. Please volunteer on your membership form.
- 2) **Work to help Oberlin implement EP.** We request your signature on the enclosed petition to President Nancy Dye and the Board of Trustees.

The petition is self-explanatory, but I will give a little more background. Funds must be raised ASAP to fund EP if Oberlin is to continue to lead in environmental education and thereby do the right thing. But Oberlin does not have the financial resources in hand to do it. David Orr stated he has offered to raise money for implementation of EP, but he has not been asked to do so.

In the early 1990's Orr stated he would do the same thing for the proposed environmental studies building. It took the college years to grant him permission, but when it did, he secured the 3 million dollar naming gift from the Lewis family in less than two years, money that would not otherwise have come to Oberlin. The millions more that have been raised as a result of the Lewis family gift and the success of the Lewis Center make raising more millions for "green" projects easier.

This is a win-win situation but President Dye and the Trustees need to know that the Oberlin community is solidly behind implementing EP. Please consider what Oberlin has done and can do if it leads other educational institutions to do similarly by implementing EP. If you agree with E's Steering Committee, please sign the petition and return it to the Alumni Association office. And do encourage other alums to do likewise. Petition available on E website and from Alumni Office.

Please join us in Oberlin's tradition of making a better world. And lets have a good time doing it together!

Best regards,

Carl N. McDaniel
Chair, EnviroAlums

Enclosures: SC Meeting Report, Membership Form, Petition, EP and Oberlin's Social Fabric, List of Student Activities, List of Alumni Clubs and regional coordinators.