

A newsletter for students, alumni and friends
at the UW Bothell Interdisciplinary Arts & Sciences

BRIDGES

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IAS Focus: Bachelor of Science

NEW MAJOR IN IAS: THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

By Professor Warren Gold



Professor Warren Gold

With population growth, urbanization, and technological advances, human impact on ecosystems is accelerating. Environmental challenges abound at multiple spatial scales, from local backyards to the Pacific Northwest bioregion and beyond to the global level. In the Pacific Northwest these environmental problems take many forms, such as the degradation of aquatic environments in streams and the Puget Sound or climate change impacts. As science has investigated these problems it has become clear that they are extremely complex, with interacting factors and dimensions that cross many disciplinary boundaries. Understanding these issues and devising solutions increasingly requires scientists that possess both disciplinary expertise and strong capabilities for collaboration across the sciences and beyond.

The Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences program now offers a Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Science (BSES). The IAS BSES degree prepares students to address complex environmental challenges facing the world today.

Housed in the IAS program, the BSES degree combines focused study across a range of the natural sciences with a broadly interdisciplinary curriculum, equipping graduates to think critically about ethical, historical, and policy considerations of environmental problems. The environmental science courses offered emphasize hands-on, experiential learning. By participating in community-based projects ranging from wetland restoration and conservation planning to analyses of regional air and water pollution, students gain practical experience and make a positive difference while they are still in school.

The BSES contains two pathways of study: Conservation & Restoration Ecology (CRE) and Earth System Science (ESS). These pathways focus student learning in robust and identifiable areas of environmental science, allowing students to develop a core area of expertise. The CRE pathway serves students with biological and ecological interests, while the ESS pathway provides additional opportunity to investigate physical and chemical aspects of environmental problems. Due to the interdisciplinary nature of environmental science, there is considerable curricular overlap between the two pathways. Environmental science students in each of the major's two degree pathways develop the depth of scientific understanding, interdisciplinary perspectives, and creative problem-solving skills needed to investigate and design solutions to these problems at local, regional, and global scales.

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Letter from the Director

Dear Alumni and Friends of IAS,



Bruce Burgett

Greetings, it's an exciting and busy time in IAS. The IAS Director could write that sentence nearly every fall, but it seems particularly true this year. We've done a lot of curriculum development, program launching, and faculty and staff hiring. Let me take a moment to update you on a few of the highlights.

This fall, we are excited about launching four new undergraduate degrees. Our Interdisciplinary Arts (IA) degree is the first at UW Bothell to focus on arts-making as a central element of the curriculum. Our degrees in Environmental Studies (ES) and Science, Technology, and

Society (STS) share the goal of allowing students to explore relations between the study and the practice of science in the twenty-first century.

Our redesigned Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science (BSES) invites students to focus more closely on the practical work of environmental restoration and earth science. Our Individualized Study (IS) degree allows students to make connections across the degree options in IAS and the programs at UW Bothell. Our hope is that these self-directed students will show us where the future of our curriculum lies.

We are also excited this fall about the launch of our second graduate program: the Master of Arts in Cultural Studies (MACS). As many of you know, our Master of Arts in Policy Studies (MAPS) has been in existence since 2001. MACS echoes MAPS in more than name. The faculty involved in both graduate programs are working together to map linkages between policy and culture. The students, no doubt, will show us where those maps can lead.

Before signing off, I should note that we've changed the name of our newsletter. No one liked "Highlights." It conjured bad memories of grammar school. "Bridges" is what IAS is all about: building connections between diverse areas, fields, and practices, both on and off campus. It also names one of the central features of the region of which IAS and UW Bothell are a vital part: the bridges that connect us to one another in and around the Puget Sound.

If you are interested in helping us to build those bridges, please let me or Lindsey McCarthy (LMccarthy@uwb.edu) know. We are eager to nurture and develop connections among our current students, our community partners, and our graduates.

Bruce Burgett

IAS Director and Professor

IAS Alumni: T. Christine Drake

A recent graduate of the Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences Program (IAS), T. Christine Drake '05 reflects on her experiences at UW Bothell. Christine fills us in on her academic and personal achievements since her graduation.



T. Christine Drake

I knew as I entered my first class in the Interdisciplinary Arts & Sciences Program at the University of Washington Bothell, that I was about to experience something very different. As an adult learner, I was actively seeking a dynamic learning environment that would challenge my critical thinking skills with contemporary issues and provide an integrated community-based

I knew as I entered my first class in the Interdisciplinary Arts & Sciences Program at the University of Washington Bothell, that I was about to experience something very different. As an

atmosphere through multiple disciplines.

I discovered quickly that individual participation was a critical component of academic success and that we were all simultaneously teaching and learning from one another as we listened to our classmate's diverse life experiences. We gained universal acceptance as we celebrated our differences and learned how our individual strengths complemented each other to produce quality-driven group projects.

Courses like Human Rights in the United States

Student In Public Action!



Kirstin Dillhoff and one of her students Brianna Goux

Kirstin Dillhoff (Society, Ethics and Human Behavior, IAS)

has recently received the Parent Teacher Student Association Childrens Award with her UW Bothell Internship at a local elementary school.

Kirstin answers questions posed by UW Bothell Community-Based Learning Coordinator Michelle Cruver about her work at Margaret Mead Elementary School.

MC: Tell me about your internship. What kind of work did you do?

KD: I served as a volunteer classroom aide and sign language teacher in Helen Kraft's 4th grade classroom, at Margaret Mead Elementary school in Sammamish, WA. While there, I assisted many of the students during Helen's lessons. I worked one on one and in small groups helping the students successfully complete assignments. There was great diversity in the classroom and I had the opportunity to work with many different learning styles. I discovered how unique each student's learning capacity is. In Spring quarter I was trained as a proctor in WASL testing. Through this experience, I found a true appreciation of what it means to be a teacher and have decided to pursue teaching.

MC: Why did you select this as your internship?

KD: Helen Kraft is a neighbor and a close friend of mine. My little sister Cassie was in her class five years ago. Knowing my passion for American Sign Language, Helen invited me to her class to teach sign language to her students once a week starting last November. I immediately fell in love with the students and the teaching process. By Spring quarter I knew that by using the UW Bothell internship course (BIS 495) I could immerse myself even more in the job. The administration at Margaret Mead, as well as Helen's peers, welcomed me as an intern at the school.

MC: What did you like best about this experience?

KD: This experience allowed me to take on more responsibilities as a volunteer than I had previously held. I was able to attend workshops on PowerPoint and training on dealing with difficult student behavior. What I enjoyed most of all was Helen and the team of 4th grade teachers. I enhanced my understanding on how lessons were planned, how student conflicts were resolved, and the similarities and differences between teaching styles. By the end of the year, I had developed a positive relationship with Helen's students, teammates, and most of the 4th grade students. It was very hard saying goodbye to the students

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Alumni Continued

and Race, Immigration & Ethnicity helped me approach problems from a more holistic perspective.

I learned to not make assumptions or rush to judgment and that my actions and words contribute to the perpetuation of stereotypes. I learned to ask why and challenged traditional constructs by exploring new approaches to old problems.

My dedication as a lifelong learner is quite evident as I eagerly pursue daily challenges with my role as a Communications Program Manager for Puget Sound Energy. Program management gives me an opportunity to demonstrate the strong research, writing, and analytical skills I acquired at the University of Washington Bothell. The IAS program gave me access to the tools and resources I needed to be successful in my career and the confidence to use them. I have learned to become a better listener and to ask questions, I have grown a deeper appreciation for diversity in the workplace. My education and work experiences have heightened my self-awareness and

propelled my desire to do the best I can with all endeavors.

The UW Bothell helped me discover my creative voice and unbridled passion for research and writing, but I am hungry for more. I have since completed my M.B.A., with an emphasis in Human Resource Management, and am looking forward to my next challenge. I have found that I have an insatiable hunger for community-driven initiatives and may have political adventures in my future.

I am also a budding photographer who actively seeks out beauty in everyday, ordinary things and love to capture “subjects” in their natural, unassuming state. I love to write and may pursue some form of published journalism. Keep your eyes peeled for an unknown author, Christine Drake. Regardless of where future opportunities take me, I hope to make conscientious choices that positively affect my family, friends, community, environment, and world. I will forever subscribe to the philosophy that “It takes each of us to make a difference for all of us” and I have the University of Washington Bothell to thank for that!

IAS Newsletter Gets a New Look!

The IAS Newsletter has changed! A shorter, condensed version of the newsletter will now be mailed twice a year, once in Spring and once in Autumn. This new format will allow us to bring you even more recent updates and information about what IAS is doing next! To submit ideas, please email Lindsey McCarthy at LMccarthy@uwb.edu. We'd love to hear from you!

2008 Masters in Policy Studies (MAPS) Student Conference

The 2008 UW Bothell Graduate Student Research Conference was held on May 15-16. Eighteen graduating Master of Arts in Policy Studies students presented their capstone projects to colleagues, students, and community guests. The research projects represented a variety of policy fields, including: health, climate change, AIDS, property rights, land use, criminal justice, labor, immigration, and culture.

Student Capstone Projects

Information Asymmetry as a Market Failure: Household Chemical Labeling and Children's Health
Jefferson Ketchel

The Jurisdictional Maze: The Impact of PL 280 on Crimes Committed in Indian Country
Jennifer Gray

Truth or Consequences: Assessing the Impact of Sex Education Curricula among Washington State Public School Youth
Courtney Bell

An Evaluation of Audit Tools Measuring Walkability
Teresa Tam

The Proliferation of Internet Technologies in Residential Real Estate Brokerage and Consumer Choice
Angela Borus

The UW Bothell Carbon Footprint: Strategies for a Sustainable Campus
Hannah Baweja



Property, Boundaries, and the Natural Environment
(L to R) Danielle Burhop, Hannah Baweja, Linda Ishii, Angela Borus

Property Rights, Regulatory Takings: Framing the Debate Across the West Coast
Danielle Burhop

Land Use Policy - Enforcement and Education
Linda Ishii

Contributing Factors to Fast Food Density Surrounding High Schools in a Two Mile Radius
Harpa Magnusdottir

Inconsistencies for Resource Tracking for the AIDS Pandemic
Arijana Wall

Policy Analysis of Washington State's trafficking legislation: examining whether it is an adequate tool to combat human trafficking
Mary Nguyen

Program Evaluation of the Washington State Newborn Screening Program
Manik Ahuja

Implementation of Running Start Policies: Qualitative Insights from Field Interviews with Program Coordinators
Joyce Carroll

Program and Funding Decisions at a Cultural and Performing Arts Center: A Case Study
Jacob Galfano

Are Education Reforms Improving Academic Achievements for Students: A Comparative Analysis of National and State Data
Anne Harrison

Monitoring Labor Standards: An Exploratory Analysis of the Fair Labor Association Monitoring Program
Jennifer Clarke

Immigration and Food Costs
Calaera Dollar

Economic Development in Seattle
Robert Baur



Globalization of Labor and Aid
(L to R) Jennifer Clarke, Calaera Dollar, Robert Baur

IAS Focus Continued

The BSES degree prepares students for a variety of career opportunities, including environmental monitoring, research, and consulting, as well as more applied fields such as environmental management, planning, advocacy, communications, and policy-making related to environmental protection and sustainable development. Students are also prepared to go on for graduate education in a range of natural science and environmental fields.



Student In Public Action Continued

at the end of the school year!

MC: Did this experience change what you have learned during your time at UW Bothell?

KD: During Spring quarter I took a cultural psychology class in addition to my internship at Margaret Mead. I found numerous connections between this course and my internship. I was able to form comparisons at my internship site when studying diverse cultures in class.

The previous quarter I took Interdisciplinary Inquiry. This class was focused on the environment, global warming, and the future of our earth. Simultaneously, the 4th grade class had a guest from the King County parks department who taught the students about Garbology. The students learned how long common household items take to decompose, what can be recycled, and the importance of being a global citizen. I was strongly impacted by the presentation and my learning at UW Bothell.

The following Spring quarter, I continued to incorporate my environmental learning into my internship position. Both Cultural Psychology and Interdisciplinary Inquiry filtered into my interactions with the students at Margaret Mead. I expect this will continue next fall as I continue volunteering in Helen's class, and taking classes at UW Bothell for my Bachelors of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies.

NEW OPTION IN IAS: INTERDISCIPLINARY ARTS



A new option, Interdisciplinary Arts (IA), is starting up this year in IAS. The IA option is designed for students who want to create art and to learn about the world through the creative arts. IA brings together creative writing, visual, media, and performing art, and explores the meaning and potential of art-making across diverse social and cultural settings. IAS course work includes studios, workshops, seminars, and community-based projects.

TUNE IN TO OUR SPRING 2009 ISSUE FOR MUCH MORE ABOUT THIS EXCITING NEW DEGREE OPTION!

Attention Alumni!!!

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Please send us information about your professional activities.

Contact: Lindsey McCarthy
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Academic Counselor, IAS
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