

Macalester Civic Forum

Volume 2, Issue 1

2008

Article 4

THE ENVIRONMENT, CITIZENSHIP, AND THE PUBLIC GOOD

Contributors

CONTRIBUTORS

Alese Colehour '09 is a Biology major. Since her arrival at Macalester, she has been very active on and off campus working on issues of environmental sustainability and social justice. In her first year, she and Ellie Rogers worked with Facilities Management to plan and install a “Green” roof on the Turck-Doty dormitories. The two of them then won a \$10,000 P3 (People, Prosperity and the Planet) Grant in 2007 to install another Green roof on Kagin Commons. Alese has also taught environmental education for young children through the Civic Engagement Center at Macalester. She is currently studying abroad in Quito, Ecuador.

Timothy Den Herder-Thomas '09 is an Environmental Studies major focusing on building local sustainability initiatives into a global movement from an interdisciplinary perspective. He is an active MacCARES member, and sits on the board of Macalester’s Clean Energy Revolving Fund (CERF), which he helped found. Timothy serves on the Executive Committee of the Sierra Student Coalition, and is one of the pioneers of the February 2008 National Campus Energy Challenge, Cooperative Energy Futures—an ongoing community energy efficiency project based on the CERF model, and the World Energy Community Action Network (WeCAN), a social-networking-based community for uniting the climate movement.

Martin Gunderson is DeWitt Wallace Professor of Philosophy at Macalester College. He received his Ph.D. in philosophy from Cornell University and his J.D. from the University of Minnesota. For the past two decades he has been interested in areas where healthcare, civil liberties, and philosophy overlap. He has published on informed consent, physician-assisted death, suicide, medical privacy, confidentiality, and human rights. He is the co-author of *AIDS: Testing and Privacy*, and his articles have appeared in a variety of journals, including *The Hastings Center Report*, *The Kennedy Institute of Ethics Journal*, *the Journal of Social Philosophy*, *Public Affairs Quarterly*, and *Philosophy and Medicine*.

Momchil Jelev graduated in 2008 with a double major in Political Science and International Studies. His research interests are in the areas of European integration, human rights, and international organizations. He is a former president of the Macalester Model United Nations,

Civic Forum 2008

an alumnus of the Macalester Comparative Globalization Year Abroad program, and a member of the Institute for Global Citizenship's Student Council. In 2006, Momchil served as a Chuck Green Fellow at the Center for Victims of Torture. Before graduation, he completed an honors project on the EU as an international economic and security actor. Momchil was the winner of the Macalester Presidential Leadership Award in 2008. He will continue his studies at King's College, London, undertaking a Master's degree in International Relations in Fall 2008.

Roopali Phadke is Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies, earning her Ph.D. in Environmental Studies at the University of California, Santa Cruz; her M.A. in South Asian Studies at Cornell University; and a B.A. in Political Science at Wellesley College. Her teaching interests include Environmental Politics and Policy, Climate Change and Energy Issues, Water Management, and Citizen Science. Professor Phadke's research and teaching is at the nexus of environmental studies, international development, and science and technology studies. She studies issues like the democratization of science and technology decision-making and the hybridization of technical expertise and local knowledge. Her current research focuses on private and public development of water resources. She is also developing new projects in the fields of wind energy and desalination.

Clare Ryan '08 graduated with a Political Science major and minors in French and Legal Studies. Her research interest lies primarily in the role of children in legal and political systems. She was co-chair of Macalester's chapter of the *Pi Sigma Alpha* Political Science honors society and a former Chuck Green Fellow in Civic Engagement.

Assistant Professor **Christopher W. Wells** specializes in U.S. environmental history, with additional interests in the history of technology, cultural history, and urban history. He has published articles in *Agricultural History* and *Technology and Culture*, and is currently working on a book manuscript, "Car Country: Automobiles, Roads, and the Origins of Car-Dependent Landscapes in the United States," which focuses on the environmental ramifications of the nation's collective decision to reorient its landscape around automobiles before 1960. He is also fascinated by contemporary movements—such as Green architecture, the New Urbanism, and Smart Growth—that are trying to remake the

Contributors

world in a more sustainable fashion. He is actively involved in Macal-ester's EcoHouse and Clean Energy Revolving Fund.

Donald E. Worster is the Joyce and Elizabeth Hall Professor of U.S. History at Kansas University. His publications include *A River Running West: The Life of John Wesley Powell*; *The Wealth of Nature*; *Under Western Skies*; *Rivers of Empire*; *Dust Bowl*; and *Nature's Economy* (now available in five languages). He is a former president of the American Society for Environmental History and a member of the Western History Association, the Organization of American Historians, and the American Historical Association. Over the past two decades, he has lectured extensively in Europe, Africa, Asia, and Latin America, as well as throughout North America. Professor Worster is primarily interested in the emerging field of environmental history—the changing perception of nature, the rise of conservation and environmentalism, and especially the ways that the natural world has impinged on human society and provided the context for human life over time. He also has strong interests in comparative history (especially the U.S. and Canada), American regionalism (particularly the West), agriculture, and science and technology.