

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

March 24, 2004

12:15 pm 107 C Osborne

NEXT MEETING: TO BE ANNOUNCED

Members Present: Marj Aelion, Bruce Coull, Marilyn Gartley, George Lampl, Scott Lindenberg, Gene Luna (briefly!), Jamie Russell, Tom Syfert, Tom Knowles. Staff and guests: Susan Cutter, Jacquelyn Cunningham, Trish Jerman, Karl Rains, Nathan Gauthier

Dr. Susan Cutter, Geography, provided this month's Research Spotlight, discussing the Hazards Research Lab, which she directs, and its various projects. General information about the lab can be found at <http://www.cla.sc.edu/GEOG/hrl/index.htm>. Of particular note is the Spatial Hazard Events and Losses Database for the United States (SHELDUS) which can be accessed at www.sheldus.org as well as through the Hazards Research Lab. The database allows the user to sort hazards by location, type, losses, etc. USC administrators may also be interested in the Handbook for Conducting a GIS-Based Hazards Assessment at the County Level, prepared for the SC Office of Emergency Preparedness.

The presentation sparked some discussion about USC's emergency plan, which is currently being updated, and its planning efforts, which were described as informal. Dr. Cutter made several helpful suggestions.

Jacqueline Cunningham, College Director of Instructional Technology in the College of Liberal Arts Computing and Information Technology Center demonstrated the screen saver she developed with four students (2 from art, 2 from computer science.) The screen saver offers specific information about resource use at USC, along with suggestions for conservation. It can be set to run continuously over a 3.5 minute cycle. The screen saver, called Earth Saver, can be downloaded at <http://www.cla.sc.edu/infosys/sui/index.html>.

Discussion of modifications to the Carolinian Creed, carried over from the last meeting, was somewhat hampered by the absence of several key people. However, the group followed Gene Luna's suggestion that we communicate interest in including stewardship in the Creed in some form or fashion to Dr. Pruitt, understanding that the Creed itself is displayed in bronze on the Horseshoe and is not likely to be changed.

Announcements and Updates:

- Kirstin Dow, Geography, has accepted the position of Director of Academic Programs for the "Green Dorm" which will open in August, 2004.
- USC, along with 4 other schools in the southeast, has been named a Hydrogen Technology Learning Center by the State Technologies Advancement Collaborative (STAC). According to Tom Davis (Chem Engineering), the fuel cell in West Quad was very helpful in obtaining the funding, which will be used to educate students, potential end-users, and the public about the potential of a hydrogen economy and hydrogen technologies.
- USC Housing was presented with the Carolinas Recycling Association Green Building Project of the Year award (even as we met.)
- Representatives of the bike committee will meet with Dr. Sorensen on March 31 to discuss past work on campus, and potential future coordination with the City and COG on bike/pedestrian issues.

*Reminder: **Earth Day, April 22.** Conservation Awards Nominations being accepted for faculty, staff and students. Announcement and Nomination form attached.*

*Reminder: Household **Electronics Recycling Day, April 3, 9:00 – 2:00.** Colonial Center Parking lot at Blossom and Gadsden. Drop off your old keyboards, phones, etc. on your way to Showcase events on the Horseshoe. Flyer attached.*

Minutes prepared by Trish Jerman