

**ELS Meeting**  
October 5, 2010

**Committee Updates**

- Edu Committee
  - Great opportunity to teach kids about environmental issues
- Advocacy Committee
  - organizing a panel spotlighting renewable energy and maybe a lobby day with VPIRG
- Freshwater Working Group
  - first meeting last Monday
  - regular meeting every other Monday
  - committee projects: film, farmer best practices book, bottled water/tap water taste test
- Ocean & Coastal
  - first meeting TBA after fall break. Sorry!
  - planning ongoing for Spring Conference
  - email update on gmail about first meeting
  - email Shannon Eckmeyer for details
  - brown bag lunch series to begin again
- Arborist Society
  - meetings every other week after ELS meetings
  - MulchFest idea to be discussed
- Campus Greening Committee
  - Last meeting on Sept. 30
  - No 1Ls in attendance?!?
    - 1L Feedback: folks are interested but last mtg. was a bad day
  - want interest: email Allie Silverman or Lisa Campion to get involved. if bad time email them
  - meeting every other week (Next Meeting: Thurs, Oct 13 at 12:45).

**Budget/Fundraiser**

- Budget Update
  - SBA approved most of what we requested
  - \$300 short (balance comes from dues)
  - If you have *any* change in an event, please let Alice know
  - Zephyr is handling all reimbursements; give receipts to her and she will give you a check
  - If you have multiple receipts for one event, turn them all in at once if possible
  - ELS received an extension from SBA on fundraiser money until end of semester
- Fundraiser Update
  - We are late on labeling because of new fundraising rules
  - Our fundraiser is schedule for the week of Nov. 1
  - We are selling bamboo utensil sets (\$10) and wrap-n-mats (\$7)
  - These items help cut down waste

- The mats might be usable when purchasing food from café, but need to check
- ELS is seeking to arrange a discount for students using their own utensils, etc.
- look out for email to scheduling shift for tabling

## **Opportunities for ELSers**

- Environmental Law Institute
  - Independent research center
  - offering free associate membership for law students, which includes:
    - free journal subscription the forum
    - event updates
    - etc.
- American Bar Assoc./EPA Law Students Climate Challenge
  - encourage law schools to participate
  - can seek recognition
  - programs include: waste wise program; purchasing renewable energy through EPA's Green Power Partnership program, reducing electricity use 10%, etc.
  - Is this something ELS should participate in? Or encourage VLS to participate in?
- 350.org 10.10.10
  - President Obama to put solar panels on the White House!
  - Letters for the global work party
    - only 280 letters so far, goal of 350
    - sending next week
    - take some now and get friends to sign, etc.
    - can sign online
- National ELS Societies – Lisa Campion
  - national conference every year
  - held at VLS in 2008
  - Lisa Stevens went to New Orleans for last year's conference
  - next year in Boston – so close, can't say no
    - date to be posted on website
    - maybe in march? during spring break last year
  - national governing board is defunct
    - no national leadership? whaaat?
    - Talk to Lisa Campion or see her recent email for info about how YOU could be involved in the national governing board of Environmental Law Societies
      - simple application process

## **Event Planning Coordination**

- Katie Thomas, 1L Senator, taking on role in event planning coordination
  - need to know about upcoming ideas for better coordination and efficient access of student body

- With Katie's help we will improve coordination with VLS event planning staff
- Katie will send email out with her contact info
  - send out ideas, brainstorm, etc. about upcoming events
  - email will include a link for a google calendar to check for dates and make updates
  - include detailed update about what's going on
- Help Katie Help You!
  - She is looking for help in conceptualizing how to be useful, helpful, etc.
  - Send her ideas about how she can be helpful
- questions/suggestions
  - good idea; will be helpful!
  - VLS admin revamping event planning; b/c ELS is so active it's hard for admin to coordinate all events
  - event coordination will help us be able to plan more events and will make event planning easier
  - google calendar is helpful
- New ELS facebook group
  - join group; post events
  - keep events consistent with what is posted on our website

### **Idea Proposals**

- Mulch Fest – Michelle Donnelly
  - Idea to coordinate with Arborist Society for a Christmas tree mulching event in January
  - Idea was successful in NYC
    - could take mulch home or leave for park service to use
  - application at VLS
    - open up to community/students; work with community groups
    - woodchipper?
      - maybe get resources through partnerships with local groups
    - incorporate fun events to attract people
      - music, kids events, enviro lesson, etc.
    - if no VLS support, can try to do it elsewhere in SoRo, like the town green.
    - Proposed Date: Saturday before classes start in January
- Idea proposal: Greenhouse
  - Idea is flexible depending on interest
  - location will depend on size
    - depending on where the new gym ends up being, the greenhouse could be located nearby
  - whether to move forward with a formal business proposal to VLS administration. Ideas:
    - use compost from café
    - use produce to supplement café's needs

- would reduce demand from local farmers (so need to focus on foods local farmers don't produce; seedlings; individual plots, etc.)
  - would take a lot to supplement cafe
- who would oversee/manage?
  - hope for work study and summer program for MELP students
  - volunteer at this point
  - several professors also interested
  - collaborate with SoRo Highschool/incorporate educational component
- Open to different uses
- look for email from Ashley Romeo

## Upcoming Events

- 10.10.10 Event
  - Learn more here: <http://www.350.org/oct10>
  - Tree Planting (Saturday, October 9 @ 10:00 am)
    - Sharon Elementary School, at Exit 2)
    - tree planting for outdoor classroom
    - building solar oven
    - Contact Dierdre Gish: [DGISH@vermontlaw.edu](mailto:DGISH@vermontlaw.edu)
  - VLS letter writing
    - See Bryan Mornaghi about signing a letter or writing your own
- NYU Arctic Law Symposium (October 22)
  - Arctic/Enviro issues
  - Email Jacqueline Feil ([jfeil@vermontlaw.edu](mailto:jfeil@vermontlaw.edu))
- Telluride Mountain Film Festival (Nov. 10)
  - great ELS tradition
  - really cool short films
  - theme: Zero Emissions Tour
- Deepwater Horizon Event @ Boston College (Nov. 12)
  - Email Lisa Campion ([lcampion@vermontlaw.edu](mailto:lcampion@vermontlaw.edu))
- Environmental Activist Summit (Nov. 13)
  - Details to follow
  - In Randolph, VT
  - great networking opportunity

## General Announcements/Open Mic