



General Meeting

Wednesday, March 8, 2017

6:00pm, Student Lounge

Attendance: 12

Next Meeting: March 22, 2017

Meeting Agenda:

- Rachel Stevens talk on Climate March
- Danniele Fulmer PELC update
- Solutions Conference update
- Earth Week update
- Potential event in the fall with Energy Institute
- Possible ELS dodgeball team

1) Rachel Stevens talk on Climate March

- She's a VLS grad, attorney at ENRLC, and former ELS member
- She's also a member of the Vermont Chapter of Sierra Club—they're looking to promote campus presence.
 - o Potential for sponsorship
 - o Rachel wants to build a relationship between Sierra Club and ELS. Her office is right next door at the ENRLC. She has a weekly call with Sierra Club representative.
- People's Climate Change March: "100 days of resistance"
 - o Saturday, April 29 @ 1pm to about 4pm
 - o Tagline: "To change everything, we need everyone."
 - o Major host sponsors: sierra club, 350.org, VNRC, black lives matter, peace for justice center, and more
 - o Two marches: one in DC, one in Montpelier
 - **DC march:** The plan is to gather around the Capital Building, surround the White House, and end at the Mall. Senator Leahy is hosting the Vermont presence in DC. Anyone w/in 12-hour drive, Sierra Club National will help fund the trip to DC; they can probably fund half the travel costs. Sierra Club Vermont Chapter and ELS can help fund the rest. Rachel has info to submit forms for funding. We can order buses. One bus can fit about 80 people.
 - Rachel needs at least 1 "bus captain" per bus. Major job will be to make sure that the same people who got on the bus to DC, come back on the bus. We need to find our own bus, but there's a list of approved buses.
 - BYO road snacks.
 - This is an over-night trip. We'd have to do housing. Rachel will check to see if we can get funding for housing. If you have friends in DC, ask if they'd host people.
 - Anyone who can go should go to DC! But we also want to help promote the sister march in Vermont. E.g., op-eds.
 - **Montpelier, Vermont march:** Bernie Sanders will be there. Sierra Club already has a permit for the State House lawn. We're not sure if it can be an actual march or just a rally.
 - We need help coordination carpools and ride-shares.
 - We also need help for day-of support/volunteers. E.g., equipment setup, booths directions, press team, sound assistance, tech assistance, security team to work w/police, food trucks. There will be a sign-up list.

- As it gets closer, we can have poster-making parties. We can coordinate with T-shirts, possibly wearing our ELS Earth Week shirts.
- We need help promoting the events! Look out for Facebook events. Rachel will send Corey the existing link for the official link, and Corey will make a VLS-focused Facebook event.
- “Green Drinks” at Worthy, probably Wed. March 22nd, hosted by Sierra Club. They will invite everyone in the community and wider community as well. Opportunity to promote the March, get volunteers, & suggested donations. That’ll help us gauge how many buses we should get. Might have two events: one at Worthy Burger and one at Worthy Kitchen.
- Table at the solutions conference for sign-up for the March.
- If you have any questions, let Corey know and she’ll compile a list to send to Rachel, or you can visit Rachel at the ENRLC.

2) Danniele’s PELC update.

- Conference was last weekend in Eugene, OR.
- For those interested in going next year, especially 1Ls who didn’t get a chance to go this year, you can get funding through the school!
- Great chance to network, see beautiful Oregon, and it’s also a huge VLS alumni event.
- Theme: “One cause one voice”
- Mixture of hippies and professionals who all care about the environment
- Good diversity of panels and performers. There were 2–4 keynotes each day. The Raging Grannies were hilarious (group of older women who performed environmentally-related songs/dances). Danielle has a video of them on her Facebook. One day there was a cellist who played the cello to recordings of whale sounds. There was also an astronaut.
- Tim DeChristopher was a keynote speaker, he’s a climate change activist and founder of the environmental group Peaceful Uprising. His perspective was interesting. He argued to flip the entire system—very radical but still interesting.
- VLS is really well-known. Melissa Scanlin was featured on a slide.
- Wallus Jay Nickels was Danniele’s favorite speaker: humans have a deep connection to water, and we should use it to guide our environmental advocacy. It’s easy to get angry, but we should try to appeal to gratitude and trust to encourage more people to join and build the movement.
- Fight for Clean Energy: focused on how special interests are getting in the way of solar development in many states. Use FOIA to expose the bad actors.
- Climate Change Refugees and Obligations
- Climate change and public lands
- Meet the Plaintiffs from the Our Children’s Trust case—used public trust doctrine to get standing to sue federal government to failing to meet various responsibilities.

3) Earth Week Update

- 19 people have signed up for T-shirts. If you want one, please sign-up. They want to get an order in so that we can tie-dye our shirts in advance before Earth Week.
 - Should we order twice? Originally, thought we’d do a pre-order for ELS and then a second order for the rest of VLS. We need to order 40 shirts in an order. It’s probably easier to order them all at once. We can still tie-dye ELS shirts in advance.
 - Should we add the Climate Change March tagline: “To change everything, we need everyone”?
 - It’ll cost more money: \$9.67 (\$8.05 is the current price)
 - ELS members can pay \$10, everyone else can pay \$12.
 - Tie dye cost: \$18 kit would tie dye 15 shirts. Walmart has cheap options too. We can
 - But it’s good PR
- We should use Earth Week to promote the Climate Change March.
- River Cleanup
 - White River Partnership has already got a bunch of things planned for Earth Week, including a river clean up the week after. Danniele can collaborate with the WRP to do a river cleanup next year or fall
 - Zack Caulden: wants to do a road-side cleanup for the Saturday of Earth Week.
- Trivia
 - We’re set to host that Thursday during Earth Week.

- We get to decide where half of the money goes. Should we donate the money towards the Climate Change March? We should donate all the money we make that week to the March. It's a great way to get the community involved in environmental issues.
- We need to come up with three rounds (the last two are current events & super secret picture round). Kate will pull up some of her old environmental trivia questions from undergrad. Potential categories: geology rocks; tree ID; animal ID; invasive species ID; famous people who are env advocates; "green" theme (good for people who aren't so attuned to environmental things).

4) Solutions Conference Update

- Signup sheet went around for volunteers day of; we're passing it off to other groups too
- Friday, March 24 from 8:30 am to 5pm

5) Energy Institute Request

- They want to bring Hilary Thompkins to VLS next fall. She played an important role in protesting the Dakota Access Pipeline.
- Keep it in mind, and we can give them an answer later.

6) ELS Dodgeball Team

- Saturday, March 25 @ 12pm
- Interested players: Corey Dani, Kate, Ben, Mia, Michael, Eli, Lottie, & Bri
 - Corey will sign us up
- \$5 per person. Proceeds go to GLAM.

Questions, comments, ideas? Email cmikatstevens@vermontlaw.edu!