

# EECPerspectives

The Newsletter of the University of Georgia Environmental Ethics Certificate Program

April 1999

## DEVIL'S ADVOCATE

by Rob Johnson

Those who attended Mark Sagoff's lecture on March 2nd expecting conventional views on environmental issues were surely surprised. Dr. Sagoff, a philosophy professor at the University of Maryland, seemed to delight in challenging the assumptions of his audience, which consisted primarily of ecologists and other scientists.



*Mark Sagoff (center) defends his position to Jim Morgenthaler (left) while Eugene Odum (right) looks on. Photo by Rob Johnson.*

One of the theories Sagoff attacked is the notion that "exotic" species do harm to ecosystems. Sagoff claimed that "exotic" or "intrusive" are just buzzwords with no real definition, and dared the crowd to come up with a mechanism by which you could "prove" that a species didn't originate in an ecosystem. After slyly noting that many indigenous species, such as jellyfish in his home state of Maryland, are far more annoying than many imported species, Sagoff made an interesting comparison between exotic species and "unwanted" human immigrants to the US. He also pointed out that most of our staple food crops, such as wheat and corn, are not indigenous to North America, but are not considered "invaders" because they are beneficial to mankind.

As controversial as these views may have been, Sagoff raised even more eyebrows with his opinions on the limitations of ecology as a science, boldly stating that "ecology should not, and cannot be a normative science." Sagoff claimed that there is so much variation among ecosystems, and so much variation within ecosystems over time, that no

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## DAVID DOUBILET: IN THE SPIRIT OF COUSTEAU

by Rob Johnson

The famed ocean explorer Jacques Cousteau has been an influence on just about anyone who has ever put on a wetsuit. However, when Cousteau died and NPR needed to interview someone about his legacy, to whom did they turn? None other than famed underwater photojournalist David Doubilet. When Doubilet was ten years old, he heard Cousteau speak and told him that he wanted to be an underwater photographer when he grew up. Cousteau quipped "Why not?" and the seed was planted for a rich career that has included nearly 50 National Geographic stories.

Doubilet's March 4th lecture on "The Aesthetic Value of the Sea" was quite possibly the biggest crowd-pleaser of the year. The seminar was co-sponsored by the Center for Humanities and Arts and attracted a standing-room-only crowd. The audience oohed and aahed like children at a 4th of July fireworks display as Doubilet presented a dazzling series of breathtaking underwater photographs, many of which contained colors brighter and more beautiful than any fireworks.

Doubilet's impressive slide show took the audience from the Red Sea's bizarre "gardens of eels" to the rich coral reefs of Indonesia, using ultraviolet light and creative photographic techniques to capture the mysterious beauty of the ocean.

But Doubilet's presentation was more than a collection of pretty pictures. He wove intricate stories of the many locations he has visited, using wit and humor to portray these areas as full-fledged communities, complete with complex social interactions and distinctive individual personali-

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*EECP Program Coordinator Dorinda Dallmeyer presented David Doubilet with the book *The Diversity of Fishes* (by UGA ecology professor Gene Helfman et al.) as a thank-you gift for his enjoyable EECP seminar. Photo by Lisa Vogel.*

# VALUES AT SEA

## ENVIRONMENTAL ETHICS FOR MARINE ECOSYSTEMS

### A STATE OF THE ART CONFERENCE

JUNE 3 — 6, 1999 + GEORGIA CENTER FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION + ATHENS, GEORGIA

**E**nvironmental ethics is concerned with systems through which we express judgments about the value of the environment. In all of our actions concerning the environment, we order and compare values of alternatives and then we act on these value judgments and are seldom scrupulous of the planet oceans. Yet the vast majority of analytical discussions of environmental ethics addresses terrestrial or fresh-water environments. This conspicuous absence may be attributed to the fact that humans live on land and own land.

## BACKGROUND

analyses. Frequently these fixed in culture or in education. The surface environment Earth are dominated by the

**T**he Values at Sea conference will consider issues of marine environmental ethics. Marine scientists and environmental ethicists from around the globe, as well as faculty and students from the University of Georgia, will explore a variety of topics that will hopefully lead to greater awareness of a "sea ethic."

## PURPOSE

**T**he following distinguished scholars have accepted invitations to speak at the Values at Sea conference: **Dr. Robert E. Johannes**, Consultant, on "Indigenous Management of Coral Reef Ecosystems" • **Dr. Bryan Norton**, Georgia Institute of Technology, on "The Value of Marine Biodiversity" • **Dr. Baird Callicott**, University of North Texas, on "Marine Fisheries and Environmental Ethics" • **Barbara Ornitz, Esq.**, on "Oil Pollution



## SPEAKERS

and an Ethic of Care" • **Dr. Ken Tenore**, Chesapeake Bay Laboratory, on "Educating Marine Scientists about Ethics" • **Dr. Conner Baily**, Auburn University, on "Ethics and the Marine Environment for the Developing World"



**D**etailed registration information will be available in May. Recipients of *EECPerspectives* will receive registration information at that time. For additional information about the Values at Sea conference, contact the EECP office at 706-542-0935 or Dorinda Dallmeyer at 706-542-5141.

## DETAILS

*Values at Sea: Environmental Ethics for Marine Ecosystems* is presented by the University of Georgia (UGA) Environmental Ethics Certificate Program, with assistance from the UGA School of Marine Programs, Georgia Sea Grant, and the Dean Rusk Center for International and Comparative Law at the University of Georgia. Funding for this conference has been provided by the National Science Foundation and by a State of the Art Conference grant from the Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs at the University of Georgia.

## Shorelines, Scientists, and Ethics

by Matthew Johnson

During his January seminar, Dr. Orrin Pilkey shared with EECP students, faculty, and friends his views on the subject of scientists as consultants and his insights on the ever-changing nature of the shorelines.

Pilkey began the seminar by sharing his perspective on the persistent difficulties faced in the preservation of lighthouses. Lighthouses serve as important indicators of beach movement, and occasionally the sea reclaims the area that a lighthouse occu-



*Dr. Orrin Pilkey, Director of the Program for the Study of Developed Shorelines (PSDS) at Duke University, spoke to the EECP in January. Photo courtesy of the PSDS.*

pies. Pilkey explained the three paths a community can take when a lighthouse is in danger: hard stabilization, soft stabilization, and relocation are all options for protecting these historic structures, and in the case of Cape Lookout, North Carolina, for example, all three routes have been advocated. Pilkey explained that although hard stabilization and soft stabilization often enjoy short-term success, they only prevent the inevitable. The progress of the oceans can only be slowed, not halted.

Pilkey next attacked the controversial question of whether or not scientists can work as consultants and main-

tain scientific and academic integrity. Pilkey clarified that consulting or "client science" creates a credibility problem for research science. Consulting not only discredits the scientific community, it also compromises the quality of education, according to Pilkey. Students are taught that unless they avoid radicalism, they may lose clients. Pilkey went on to say that consulting scientists are often acting as salespeople when they contribute to academic publications and associations, and he believes that this deceptive creeping of commercialism into academia is particularly problematic.

The final topic of Pilkey's lecture was mathematical modeling of geoscientific phenomena, and he expressed a distinct lack of faith in the prevalent practice. Models of Earth surface processes may explain why and how but not where or when, according to Pilkey.

Pilkey's seminar included a good deal of technical scientific information, yet it was enjoyable and informative for scientists and non-scientists alike. He explained intricate scientific concepts so clearly that deep technical knowledge was not necessary to grasp the dynamics of the problems he outlined, and the EECP audience clearly enjoyed and appreciated his excellent talk.

To find out more about Orrin Pilkey's work, see *The Corps and the Shore* (Island Press) or *Living by the Rules of the Sea* (Duke University Press).

*Matthew Johnson is an undergraduate English major and an EECP student.*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Seminar: The Coming Transformation of the Georgia Coast

Tuesday, April 13

Ecology Auditorium, 7:30 PM

**Ben Blount** is Professor of Anthropology and Linguistics at the University of Georgia. His research interests focus on community-based knowledge of the environment and natural resources in coastal and marine ecosystems.

### Philosophers' Walk: Transplantation (A Forest Preserve)

Tuesday, April 20

Ecology Building Foyer, 5:30 PM

**Wilbur and Marion Duncan** will discuss environmental management practices at their private forest preserve. A picnic supper and transportation are available for a small fee. **Please RSVP to 542-0935 by April 14.**

### EECP Executive Committee Meeting

Wednesday, April 21

EECP Office, 132 Marine Sciences, 4:00 PM

### State of the Art (SOTA) Conference on Marine Ethics

June 3-6, 1998

Georgia Center for Continuing Education

Speakers from UGA and around the world will address topics such as the Value of Marine Biodiversity, Educating Marine Scientists About Ethics, Indigenous Management of Coral Reef Ecosystems, and others.

For more information on any of these programs, contact the EECP at 706-542-0935 or via the Internet at <eeep@arches.uga.edu>.

## Pauly Warns of Marine Devastation

by Maggie Kelly

On Tuesday, February 9th, many EECF faculty and students gathered to hear Daniel Pauly, a widely traveled, widely published, and widely respected expert on global marine fisheries.

Pauly first guided us through a statistical journey of charts, graphs and other Power Point delights, expounding as he went on important observations and theories regarding not only the state of global marine fisheries, but the state of the world's oceans as a result. Pauly encouraged us to picture an underwater devastation—one in which our continental shelves are ploughed and littered with fishing gear, somewhat like a "giant New Jersey" of the sea. Furthering the parallel between the destruction of marine and land environments, he commented that the underwater destruction leaves ocean beds comparable to "at best, meadows; at worst, junkyards."

Pauly's contributions to understanding the effects of fishery are immense. One of his major observations deals with trophic levels, and how a deeper understanding of their workings can both teach us about the effects of fishery operations and provide us with a means for understanding and cultivating a respect for the rich history of marine life.

Pauly explained that between 33 and 40% of all primary producers go towards human use. He arrives at this high number by considering how our consumption effects those members of aquatic life at all parts of the trophic levels. As our larger species are overfished, we move to smaller and smaller fish species. This has the effect of reaching farther into the foodchain and, significantly, depriving the larger animals of their food sources.

A less scientific aspect of the problem involves economics and policy decisions. Pauly explained that, under the current way of viewing the system, companies see it in their best interest financially to overfish. This is largely related to government subsidies that encourage these devastating and unsustainable practices.

And make no mistake about it, our current system of fishing (or overfishing) is unsustainable. Pauly gave concrete data explaining how the practices invite a succession of collapses. As the human population continues to grow exponentially, and the way we generate provisions continues to be linear, a crunch in marine food sources is inevitable.

Maggie Kelly is an undergraduate English major and an EECF student.



Ecology professor **Gene Helfman** talks with EECF speaker **Daniel Pauly**. Photo by Rob Johnson.

## Spring Issue Available Soon

Available soon, the Spring 1999 issue of *Ethics and the Environment* (Vol. 4, No. 1) includes the following articles: "Luc Ferry's Critique of Deep Ecology, Nazi Nature Protection Laws, and Environmental Anti-Semitism," by Susan Power Bratton.

"Democracy and Ecological Soundness," by Jordy Rocheleau

"Narrative, Imagination, and the Search for Intelligibility in Environmental Ethics," by Roger J.H. King

"Property Rights, Human Needs, and Environmental Protection: A Response to Brock," by Clark Wolf

Book Review of *Brute Science: Dilemmas of Animal Experimentation* by Hugh LaFollette and Niall Shanks, reviewed by Keith Burgess-Jackson

The issue also includes the following papers from the symposium *Feminism and Ecological Communities*:

"Feminism and Ecological Communities: Notes," by Naomi Zack

"Flourishing," by Lorraine Code

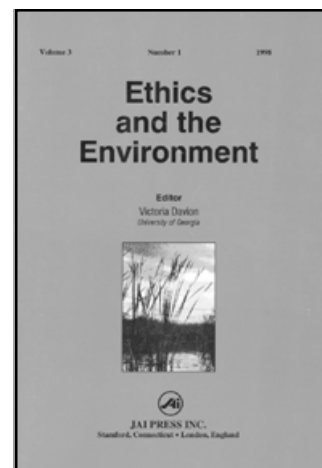
"Theoretical Versus Applied Ethics: A Look at Cyborgs," by Victoria Davion

"SisterWomanChainsaw II," by Kim Hall

"Tenuous Connections in Impure Communities," Maria Lugones

"Engaged Moral Agency," by Sarah Lucia Hoagland

"Flourishing, Praxis, and Charm: An Author's Response," by Chris J. Cuomo



## EECP Students

### Graduate and Non-Degree Students

Sandra Crismon	Anthropology
Susan Crow	Landscape Architecture
David Daniel	Agricultural Education
Bret Diamond	Anthropology
John Fennel	Philosophy
Betty Foster	Journalism
Cari Goetcheus	Historic Preservation
Cecilia Herles	Philosophy
Robert Johnson*	Journalism
Jill Johnston	Botany
John Johnston	Ecology
Chris Peredney	Environmental Toxicology
David Saiia	Strategic Management
Chelsea Snelgrove	Philosophy
Laura Straehla	Historic Preservation
Joe Vancura	Law
Mitchell Zuckerman*	Ecology

### Undergraduate Students

Beth Allgood	Interdisciplinary Studies
Debra Bailey	Botany
Susannah Barnes*	Landscape Architecture
Scott Boehm	English
Carrie Brooks	Ecology/Geology
Tommy Brooks	Forest Resources
Yumi Chang	Economics
Vicki Collins	Environmental Health Science
Clarissa Cunningham	Political Science/History
Eric Davis	Geology
Steffanie Enko	Ecology
Nicole Fincher	Speech Communication
Erica Grinder	Recreation & Leisure Studies
Tara Harned*	Women's Studies
Kirsten Huffstetter*	Interdisciplinary Studies
Michelle Johnson	Philosophy
Matt Johnson	English
Jennifer Johnston	English
Megan Jones*	Biology
Michael Katz	Env. Economics & Management
Andy Keller*	Environmental Health Science
Maggie Kelly	English
Thomas Larson	Environmental Health Science
Crystal Leaver*	History
Mike Lewis*	Education
Casandra Lloyd*	Ecology
Kristan Majors	Ecology
Molly Neely*	Ecology
Lynn Nguyen	Env. Economics & Management
Cristiano Nuernberg	Biological Engineering
Olivia Orza*	Ecology
Emily Patterson	Anthropology
Lori Powell	Recreation Resource Mgmt.
Kelly Scannell	Political Science

Whitney Self	Political Science
Kate Suggs	English
Ellen Sutherland	Ecology
Elizabeth Tart	Political Science
Nathan Taylor*	Philosophy/Ecology
Derrick Thomas	Education
Donald Thompson	Ecology
Jason Voyles	Political Science

## EECP Faculty

Merryl L. Alber*	School of Marine Programs
Wyatt Anderson	Franklin College of Arts & Sci.
Ben Blount*	Anthropology Department
Peter Brosius	Anthropology Department
Terry Centner	Agricultural Economics
Walter Cook	Sch. of Forest Resources (retired)
Betty Jean Craig	Center for Humanities & Arts
John F. Crowley*	School of Environmental Design
David Dallmeyer	Geology Department
Dorinda Dallmeyer	Rusk Center
Victoria Davion	Philosophy Department
Bruce Ferguson	School of Environmental Design
Frederick Ferre	Philosophy Department (retired)
Richard Field	Ga. Center for Continuing Edu.
Laurie Fowler	Institute of Ecology
Frank Golley	Institute of Ecology
William Griswold	Journalism & Mass Comm.
Bruce L. Haines	Botany Department
Peter Hartel	Crop & Soil Sciences Department
Kathryn Hatcher	Institute of Ecology
Robert Hodson	School of Marine Programs
Catherine Howett	School of Environmental Design
Albert Ike	Public Service & Outreach
Carl F. Jordan*	Institute of Ecology
Andy Keeler	Agr. & Applied Economics
Asterios Kefalas	Management Department
Milton Lopes*	Inst. for Ldrship. & Comm. Dev.
Steve McCutcheon	U.S. EPA College Station Lab
Judith Meyer	Institute of Ecology
Eugene Odum	Institute of Ecology (retired)
Bernard Patten	Institute of Ecology
Theresa Perenich	Family & Consumer Sciences
William L. Power	Religion Department
H. Ron Pulliam	Institute of Ecology
Todd Rasmussen	School of Forest Resources
Mac Rawson*	Sea Grant College Program
Fausto Sarmiento*	Ctr. for Latin Amer. & Carib. Stu.
Matt Smith	Biologic & Agr. Engineering
Mary Alice Smith	Env. Health Science Department
Allen Stovall	School of Environmental Design
Malcolm Sumner	Crop & Soil Sciences Department
Richard G. Wiegert	School of Marine Programs
John S. Willis	Cell Biology Department
Clark Wolf	Philosophy Department

\*New to the EECP this year.

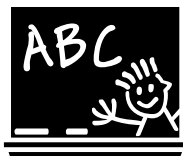
# CONGRATULATIONS!

Two rounds of "Hip, hip, hooray!" for **Peter Hartel**. Peter is one of only 15 scholars accepted to the 1999 National Bioethics Institute, which will be held at Iowa State University in Ames, Iowa, in May and June. Peter is also the first recipient of an EECF faculty travel grant, which will enable him to present a workshop on agricultural ethics at the annual meeting of the American Society of Agronomy, the Crop Science Society of America, and the Soil Science Society of America in Salt Lake City, Utah, in October. (See related information on the EECF faculty travel grants on page 7.)

And a round of "Hip, hip, hooray!" for EECF student **Chelsea Snelgrove**, who received the inaugural award from the Margaret Shippen Kleiner Environmental Ethics Graduate Student Support Fund. (See related article on page 7.)

*We'd love to share your good news!*

Please let us know of any major professional events in your life that we could feature in the "Congratulations" section. Use the "Please Help Us Stay Current!" form on the back page to send us news.



## News for Students

### Georgia Wildlife Federation Internship Program.

The Georgia Wildlife Federation (GWF) is the state's oldest and largest private conservation organization. The purpose of the GWF Internship Program is to provide the conservation leaders of tomorrow with the practical experience necessary to continue to affect positive change through careers in environmental policy, education, and community outreach. Intern projects range from assisting the Adopt-a-Stream program, to researching and developing Wild File Flash Cards, to developing the GWF Website. **Applications for the summer semester are due April 15.** Contact the GWF at 770-929-3350 or on the Web at <[www.gwf.org](http://www.gwf.org)> for more information.

### Canon National Parks Sciences Scholars Program.

The Canon National Parks Services Scholars Program will award four scholarships of up to \$25,000 for doctoral students to conduct dissertation research in the National Park System. In addition, four Honorable Mentions will be awarded a one-time scholarship of \$2,000. Doctoral students in the biological, physical, social and cultural sciences are eligible. Contact the UGA Office of Student Financial Aid for application materials. **Deadline: June 15, 1999.**

## News From the Rest of the World . . .

**Ethics for a Crowded Planet: A Religious Perspective** is the topic of a symposium to be held in Gainesville, Georgia **April 10, 1999**. EECF faculty member **Eugene Odum** will be a presenter at the symposium, which is sponsored by the Elachee Nature Science Center, Gainesville College, Brenau University, and a number of area churches. There is no fee for the symposium, but contributions are welcomed. Contact the Elachee Nature Science Center at 770-535-1976 or on the Web at <[www.elachee.net](http://www.elachee.net)> to register or get more information.

**Information on graduate study in environmental ethics** can be found on a website maintained by Environmental Philosophy, Inc. The site lists universities that feature graduate programs in environmental philosophy and ethics. The address is <[www.cep.unt.edu/other/html](http://www.cep.unt.edu/other/html)>. You will also find on this site a link to "Graduate Studies and Theses Completed—Various Universities." Take this link to see a list of works completed at both U.S. and overseas schools. This site is maintained by Holmes Rolston at Colorado State University and can be reached directly at <<http://lamar.colostate.edu/~rolston/grad-st.htm>>.

**Interested in animal rights issues? The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS)** is compiling a list of university courses that address animal ethics, animal rights, or animal welfare issues. If you have information on such a course or would like the list, please contact Dr. Jonathan Balcombe, The HSUS, 2100 L Street, NW, Washington, DC 20037 or via e-mail at <[balcombe@ix.netcom.com](mailto:balcombe@ix.netcom.com)>.

**Opposed to animal rights? You can receive regular updates of news about the animal rights movement from an anti-animal rights perspective.** Send e-mail to <[majordomo@carnell.com](mailto:majordomo@carnell.com)> with SUBSCRIBE ARNEWS in the body of the message to begin receiving information about animal rights protests, medical advances due to animal experimentation, and more.

### David Doubilet: In the Spirit of Cousteau

*continued from page 1*

ties like Boris the king crab. Much like Cousteau, Doubilet feels that it is not merely his duty to study the underwater world. He uses his skills as a photographer and as a storyteller in an attempt to make us care about the underwater world where he has spent much of his life. He hopes his new book, *Water, Light, and Time*, will further this end. Somewhere, I'm sure Cousteau is smiling.

*Rob Johnson is a graduate student majoring in journalism and working towards a certificate in environmental ethics.*

## First Kleiner Fund Award

The EECP Executive Committee has made the inaugural award from the Kleiner Environmental Ethics Graduate Student Support Fund. The talented recipient is EECP student **Chelsea Snelgrove**. Chelsea is a Ph.D. student in philosophy, and the award allowed him to travel to Memphis, Tennessee, to present a paper at the Mid-South Philosophy Conference.



Chelsea Snelgrove. Photo by Peter Hartel.

Graduate students in the Environmental Ethics Certificate Program are eligible to receive awards from the Kleiner Fund in order to travel to conferences or meetings in which they will present papers on environmental ethics. The EECP Executive Committee reviews all applications for the funds.

Following is the abstract of Chelsea's paper.

### Abstract: Holism and the Possibility of Environmental Ethics

Presented at the 1999 Mid-South Philosophy Conference

by Chelsea Snelgrove

Environmental ethics depends upon the extension of ethical consideration beyond the human/nature division. A holistic view of the ecosphere could serve as the basis for such an extension. This essay considers two holistic views: the land ethic of Leopold and Callicott; and the deep ecology of Naess, and Devall and Sessions. These views propose some ecological unit larger than the individual human as the proper locus of moral considerability. I argue, rather, that holistic views are an inadequate basis for ethical deliberation because they fail to provide a means for arbitrating between the incompatible interests of individuals or smaller groups.

### Devil's Advocate

continued from page 1

meaningful generalizations can be drawn from ecological data. Sagoff suggested that a more strictly observational approach, in line with what is currently considered natural history, would be more productive. Although there were a few audience members who disagreed heatedly with Sagoff on the issue of exotic species, he seemed frankly disappointed that there was not a more visceral response to this second allegation, which cuts to the very heart of the scientific validity of ecology. However, he can rest assured that his provocative and stimulating comments will be food for thought at UGA for some time to come.

Rob Johnson is a graduate student majoring in journalism and working towards a certificate in environmental ethics.

## Deadline Necessary for Travel Grants

EECP Faculty: Are you planning to apply for an EECP Faculty Travel Grant? If so, please submit your letter of application to the EECP Executive Committee by 4:00 PM on **Tuesday, April 20**. This will assure that your request will be considered for the 1998-1999 fiscal year. Travel awards must be encumbered in this fiscal year, but travel does not have to take place within the fiscal year. There is great hope that these funds will be available to EECP faculty next year, but no guarantees!

### April 20, 1999

### YES! I want to help the EECP . . .

provide programs and special events to bring together students, faculty, friends, and scholars from around the world.

Your donation to the Environmental Ethics Certificate Program Fund supports Philosopher's Walks, evening seminar receptions, discussion groups, and other special programs. To contribute to the Fund, please complete the form below.

Please consider making your gift an annual pledge and assure continued support for the Environmental Ethics Certificate Program.

I wish to contribute:

\$25    \$50    \$75    \$100    \$\_\_\_\_\_

**This gift is an annual pledge. Please send me a reminder in the month of \_\_\_\_\_.**

**This is a one-time gift.**

Send this form and your donation payable to **UGA Foundation**

(Note: EECP Fund, #50R3900) :

University of Georgia Foundation  
Attn: EECP Fund (50R3900)  
Foundation Building  
Athens, GA 30602



Like the sea oat, your support is vital!

## Please Help Us Stay Current!

The EECP mailing list needs your help—please send us any updates to your mailing address, phone number, or e-mail address. Complete this form and mail it to the EECP office at 132 Marine Sciences, UGA, Athens, GA 30602-3636, or feel free to call (706-542-0935) or e-mail ([eeep@arches.uga.edu](mailto:eeep@arches.uga.edu)) your updates.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ I am a  student  faculty  friend  alumnus

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Comments \_\_\_\_\_

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### EECP 1998-1999 Executive Committee

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Frank Golley (Chair), Institute of Ecology

Victoria Davion, Philosophy

Peter Hartel, Crop & Soil Science

Theresa Perenich, Family & Consumer Sciences

Al Ike (Past Chair), Public Service & Outreach

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