



MAY - JUNE 2006 AAEE e-monthly

*This update is designed to complement the OzEEnews newsletter, as more regular and brief communication to members. It is a snap shot only, relies on **members/chapters providing us** with information about their state activities, initiatives, and events, and does not attempt to be comprehensive. Please contact felicity.calvert@enviroment.nsw.gov.au if you have information to include. If you would like to know more, information is available from the contacts identified in each topic.*

Did you know?

- A great day for the future of AAEE

As you know the Association has received funding from the Department of Environment and Heritage to undertake activity designed to establish a secretariat for the organisation. If the Association is to become a more powerful force in facing the environmental challenges into the future it is essential that we move towards a more professional footing. This project will have a key role in achieving this vision.

Broadly the tasks for the project are as follows:

- Undertake secretariat establishment functions.
- Review the constitutional arrangements for the National Executive of the AAEE and make recommendations which would be considered at the 2006 AGM of the Association.
- Establish funding options for ongoing funding of the secretariat and the national office.
- Reach funding agreements with sponsors for the future delivery of national secretariat and office.
- Identify, in conjunction with the National Executive and Council, future directions for secretariat and location issues within the AAEE.

Roger West and his team at Westwood Spice have been appointed by the Association to undertake this task. There will be significant contact over the remainder of 2006 about this project. Please give them as much support as possible. Watch this space.

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- **Update on the Decade SIG and Introducing Wendy Goldstein**

It is a pleasure to introduce AAEE members to our new /Decade of Education for Sustainability Special Interest Group Leader Wendy Goldstein. Since Victoria Coleman packed her bags for Greener Pastures (or at least colder ones) and England we have been wondering where we would ever find someone with as much talent. With 14 years of experience in education and communication for sustainability, internationally and in Australia, I think we can breathe easy that Wendy certainly fills the bill! I had the pleasure of spending some time with Wendy to discuss her ideas for the Group and here are a couple of things that she would like to start with: **Building the Strategy** - what can the group share with each other and achieve as a result and **Supporting New Initiatives** - after our successful wins with the Department of Environment and Heritage to adopt a leading role in Decade planning in Australia, Wendy is keen to see our hard work come into fruition by continuing to play a part in representing AAEE's members and advising the federal government with its plans.

Wendy will be in touch with Group members soon and will also update other members through OzEEnews and/or this email bulletin. If you would like to become a member of the Decade SIG please contact Sandy at aeeau@yahoo.com.au

- As AAEE president, Grahame Collier participated in the launch of Oceanwatch's new teaching resource for primary schools "*Our Valuable Estuaries*" which he recommends as a great resource, contact Monique Needham at monique@oceanwatch.org.au for a copy.

What's happening?

- OzGreen adult leadership program- *Leading with the Heart* 1-3 July at Inana Community, Bucketty (1 hr North of Sydney) \$330 (inc GST and fully catered veg food) go to www.ozgreen.org.au to register
- Do you have the Bunbury AAEE conference in your diary? The response to the Call for Abstracts has been just fantastic. Be there during the first week in October. Start planning now.
See <http://www.promaco.com.au/conference/2006/a2e2/index.htm>.
- STUDENTS OF SUSTAINABILITY 2006 ~ AUSTRALIA
July 9-15, 2006 ~ Brisbane, Australia
Students of Sustainability (SoS) is the largest student-run environment based conference in Australia. Each year SoS offers an opportunity for students, activists, academics, environment and Indigenous groups, and members of the wider community from around Australia to come together to share and gain knowledge, skills, and information on environmental and social justice issues.
<http://www.studentsofsustainability.org/>

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- **HAND - In HAND**
Pathways for a sustainable future in the early years through environmental education November 24-26th November 2006 At the Christchurch College of Education. The first early childhood environmental conference in Australasia. Put it in your diaries now! Tell interested colleagues. Registration dates to be finalised. Details can be found on the website which will be updated regularly as programme is finalised.
<http://ecteacher.interact.ac.nz>
- **Green Capital- Australia's leading corporate sustainability program presents MYOPIA – Short-termism, a barrier to corporate sustainability**
 - Sydney: 28th June 2006 7am-10am, Sofitel Wentworth and
 - Melbourne: 4th July 2006 5pm-8pm, Sofitel Melbourne
Go to www.greencapital.org.au to register.

Jobs / Funding Opportunities

- Environmental Trust funding for:
 - Eco Schools Grants Program - Schools who did not receive an Environmental Trust grant in 2005 are eligible to apply.
Closing date for Eco Schools: **5pm 9 June 2006**
 - Environmental Restoration and Rehabilitation Available to:
 - Community organisations and non-profit associations
 - State and local government organisations. Closing date for Restoration & Rehabilitation: **5pm 23 June 2006**
 - Protecting our Places Aboriginal Grants Program. Available to any Aboriginal community group or organisation. Workshops for the Protecting our Places program are currently being held and have been advertised in detail in Indigenous newspapers. Remaining workshops will be held in: Armidale, Parramatta, Nowra and Cobar. For more information and to register for these workshops please phone (02) 8837 6093.
Closing date Protecting our Places **5 pm 23 June 2006.**
 - Project Environment 2006 - The Gould League wants to reward schools for planning and working towards creating a sustainable future for their school with two types of prizes:
 - Start-up grants (4 grants of \$2250 each) and
 - On-going support grants (3 grants of \$500 each)
Competition closes **18 September 2006** go to www.gould.nsw.edu.au for more information.
 - Student Challenge 2006 - a one-week program for students finding solutions for a sustainable environment:
 - 9-15 December: Forests of the Watagan Mountains and
 - 6-12 January: Kangaroo Island
Cost \$1200 and includes food, accommodation and local transport go to www.earthwatch.org/australia for more information.
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