



Henry David THOREAU FOUNDATION™

SPOTLIGHT

Our Revitalized Web Site Filled with Features!

The Henry David Thoreau Foundation™ proudly announces that its brand-new web site has come to life in cyberspace. With a host of features, the site is still accessible at the same address: www.thoreauscholar.org.

New contents include the following:

- A revitalized image for the Henry David Thoreau Foundation, with logo, graphics and color scheme that reflects its philosophy of balancing human welfare with the health of our global environment.
 - A substantial group of Henry David Thoreau Scholars™ profiles to represent both the four undergraduate classes and Scholar alumni. Profiles feature photographs of our Scholars, plus information on how they pursue their academic and career goals with an environmental focus. We plan to add more Scholar profiles at regular intervals, so please feel free to contact us if there's something you'd like posted about you.
 - A complete list of Henry David Thoreau Scholars and Scholar graduates, including their college or university and high school.
 - Online issues of the most current *Spotlight* newsletter and *Henry David Thoreau Environmental Digest*,™ official journal for our Scholar graduates.
 - An application for the Henry David Thoreau Scholarships™, available for downloading.
 - Information on colleges and universities that have received Henry David Thoreau institutional grants for their environmental programs, together
- continued on back page*



Northeastern University Environmental Engineering Receives 2005-06 Thoreau Grant

Northeastern University's College of Engineering has received a \$25,000 grant from the Henry David Thoreau Foundation for the 2005-06 year.

With these most recent funds, more than \$150,000 in Foundation support has benefited the University's Engineering and Arts & Sciences programs since the Foundation began in 1999. This overall funding has also supported three Henry David Thoreau Scholars,* provided honoraria to their faculty advisors, made possible student undergraduate internships, and brought an earlier grant to the University.

* Stacie L. Bush, '03; Kerri J. Murphy and Kehinde S. Oshodi, '05. Stacie, a graduate of the College of Arts and Sciences, works as a biologist at NovoBiotic Pharmaceuticals and is pursuing a Ph.D. in Biology at Northeastern University. Kerri, a graduate of the College of Engineering, will enroll in law school at Pace University. All three alumnae are members of the Henry David Thoreau Society for the Environment.

Dr. Ferdi Hellweger, Assistant Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering, spearheads the EnviroPolis Urban program designed to enhance urban environmental education. This new Northeastern University program is the beneficiary of the most recent Henry David Thoreau funds. The one-year program has a dual purpose: 1. to recruit people for the environmental field and 2. to develop environmental leaders.

Funds from the Henry David Thoreau Foundation will now bring increased opportunities for Northeastern students in the urban environmental area. They will go on field trips to Boston and Tampa facilities, attend the Water Environment Federation WEFTEC.05 Conference in Washington, DC, and take part in a one-day workshop at Northeastern University that will focus on the environmental impact of Hurricane Katrina.

A prolific researcher, teacher and consultant, Professor Hellweger serves as the Associate Director of the Center

Volume 6 • Number 1
Fall/Winter 2005
www.thoreauscholar.org

Philip R. McCabe, Henry David Thoreau Foundation Trustee, at right, appears with Professor Ferdi Hellweger of Northeastern University's College of Engineering, recipient of a \$25,000 grant. Also in the photograph are Kehinde S. Oshodi and Kerri J. Murphy, two Henry David Thoreau Scholars who graduated from Northeastern's College of Engineering this spring.

for Environmental Studies at the University. He received a B.S. in Civil Engineering from Northeastern University, an M.S. in Environmental and Water Resources Engineering from the University of Texas at Austin, and a Doctor of Engineering Science in Earth and Environmental Engineering from Columbia University.

In 2004, he developed a program called OUR Charles, also known as Opportunities for Undergraduate Research on the Charles River. "The Charles River is in the heart of Boston and accessible to millions of people. However, it is presently too polluted for us to take full advantage of its recreational potential (swimming). Significant improvements in water quality have taken place over the past years, but more research is needed," he explained.

One of the numerous areas examined by OUR Charles students concerned remote sensing of water quality, using satellite imagery to correlate bacteria concentration with turbidity. Henry David Thoreau Scholar Kehinde S. Oshodi

continued on back page

More Thoreau Scholars and Graduates Pursuing Their Environmental Goals

Exciting developments have transpired at the Henry David Thoreau Foundation since publication of the last *Spotlight* newsletter. They involve significant growth in our network of Scholar alumni as members of the Henry David Thoreau Society for the Environment,™ plus the renovation of our web site (www.thoreauscholar.org). The new web site is described in greater detail on page 1.

Jennifer Galvin, Trustee of the Henry David Thoreau Foundation and Advisor to the Society, presided over the induction of 15 new Scholar graduates at our annual spring luncheon. These recent additions more than double the total membership of the Henry David Thoreau Society for the Environment: to 34, in its second year of operation.

Joining the Society in 2005 are Teresa M. Aubele, a graduate of Southampton College and East Bridgewater High School; Vanessa K. Carr, Columbia University and Lexington High; Nicole G. Desrosiers, Duke University and Barnstable High; Jennifer L. Dziubeck, Connecticut College and Ashland High; Shoshana M. Friedman, Oberlin College of Arts and Sciences and Newton North High; Christopher D. Golden, Harvard College and Cohasset High; Matthew J. Looft, University of Vermont and Leicester High; Nicholas R. Malizia, Clark University and Hudson High; Kerri J. Murphy, Northeastern University and Somerset High; Kehinde S. Oshodi, Northeastern University and Presentation of Mary High; Max R. Piana, Wesleyan University and Mohawk Trail Regional High; Julia H. Porter, Harvard College and Silver Lake Regional High; Jonathan D. Rainey, College of the Holy Cross and Cathedral High; Andrew C. Riely, Macalester College and Newton South High; and Lani T. Stinson, Bates College and Mount Greylock Regional High.

The 2005 *Henry David Thoreau Environmental Digest*, an annual showcase of Scholar graduates and activities, now appears online at www.thoreauscholar.org. Look for it under the Alumni Network link. Besides biographical sketches, this issue contains abstracts by several contributors. The number of these articles will grow in future issues.

“Each year, we expect to add 10 or more new Scholar alumni to our Society roster,” Ms. Galvin explains. “Soon we aim to award our first annual \$5,000 grant to our member who has made the strongest contribution to his or her field. Our organization is evolving into a networking vehicle for our Scholar graduates and, in the long term, will become a powerful voice for articulating and resolving environmental issues.”

She speaks with great enthusiasm about the ways that Scholar graduates’ lives continue to unfold after they complete their undergraduate studies and prepare for their long-term careers. “We have a number of graduate students around the country. Several of them are in Texas at Baylor, the University of Houston Law Center and the University of Texas at Austin. Two others are enrolled in overseas programs at the University of Glasgow and the University of Norwich—East Anglia. Others work in a wide variety of fields, ranging from financial investments and pharmaceuticals to urban planning and environmental management. One student teaches in a private school. Another is an entrepreneur and owns her own greenhouse in western Massachusetts. We also are very proud of our Henry David Thoreau Scholar graduate who continues his groundbreaking on-site research on the nutritional and environmental impacts of bushmeat consumption in Madagascar.”



Henry David Thoreau Scholar 2005 graduates, newest members of the Henry David Thoreau Society for the Environment alumni organization. They appear with Jennifer P. Galvin, Trustee of the Henry David Thoreau Foundation, and John R. Galvin, President (front row). Ms. Galvin also serves as Advisor for the Society. Second row, left to right: Nicole G. Desrosiers, Duke University; Julia H. Porter, Harvard College; Kerri J. Murphy, Northeastern University; Teresa M. Aubele, Southampton College; and Kehinde S. Oshodi, Northeastern University. Back row: Andrew C. Riely, Macalester College; Jonathan D. Rainey, College of the Holy Cross; Nicholas R. Malizia, Clark University; and Christopher D. Golden, Harvard College.



Henry David Thoreau Scholars, who joined the freshman class at their respective colleges and universities this fall. Front row, left to right: Hannah M. Specht, Carleton College; Rachel M. Freierman, Colby College; Amalia M. Aruda, Georgetown University; and Xuxuan (Conrad) Zhuang, Harvard College. Back row: Dermott McHugh and Tara C. McNerney, both Dartmouth College; Brendan L. Mackinson, College of the Holy Cross; and Luojia (Lucas) Shi, University of Michigan—Ann Arbor. Seated in front are Jennifer P. Galvin, Trustee of the Henry David Thoreau Foundation, and John R. Galvin, President. Not present for the group photograph are Spring Greeney, Harvard College, and Brenna S. Hughes, Dartmouth College.

Throughout his four years at Brockton High School, Yuxuan (Conrad) Zhuang ranked first in his class of more than 800 students. In recommending Conrad to the Henry David Thoreau Foundation, Dr. Susan E. Szachowitz, his Principal, described him as “exceptional, outstanding, intelligent, articulate, affable, committed to excellence, and possessing a very strong social conscience.” She added: “When Conrad is in charge, everything gets done.” William R. Finn, Science Department Head, taught him in his Advanced Ecology class. According to Mr. Finn, Conrad “radiates enthusiasm [and shows] his commitment to a safer and cleaner environment in all his work.”

Strong words? Yes, but well deserved. Conrad has now joined the select ranks of 2009 Henry David Thoreau Scholars, a group of 10. This fall, he begins his studies at Harvard College, which has also been the choice of six other Scholars and Scholar Graduates to date. He was accepted at Harvard through the Early Action process in 2004.

Conrad’s considerable achievements at Brockton High have included the Brockton School Superintendent’s Award for Academic Excellence, the Daughters of the American Revolution Good Citizen Award, and the Brockton High School Excellence in Community Service Award. Between 2001 and 2005, he gave more than 572 hours of community service to his Key Club—including environmental projects—plus Peer Tutoring, National Honor Society, Summer Free MCAS Tutoring, Brockton Public Library and volunteering at the Senior Center. Outside class, he worked for *The Enterprise*, Brockton’s newspaper, as well as at a legal firm and the Veterans Administration Medical Center.

Brockton High, with more than 4,000 students, has a diverse student population, with some 30 different languages represented. This large city lies 30 miles south of Boston and has a population of approximately 95,000. Conrad lives there with his parents, Hua Deng, a chemist, and Xinrong Zhuang, an engineer.



“A lot of people think that the environment cannot be protected because businesses and people wish to earn more money or make quick money, often at the expense of the environment. However, if people are educated about environmental protection, and use better methods to do business, the problem will be controlled.”

Xuxuan (Conrad) Zhuang
 Harvard College, Class of 2009

His Chinese heritage becomes a framework for his global environmental concerns, which call for harmony between human needs and those of our planet. He tells a poignant story. “A few years ago in southwestern China, people completely stripped the bark off thousands of trees, most of which were a few hundred years old or more, and sold all the bark to a drug manufacturer. Of course, later on, all these historical trees died because of their lack of bark. In this case, if people [had been taught] to carve small sections of bark during a certain period, they would still be able to have some bark to sell for income yearly. In turn, the drug manufacturer would also have bark to make its drug. And these centenarian trees could still live.”

While it’s too soon for Conrad to decide on an academic concentration at Harvard, he is interested in exploring biological sciences, business and commerce, the health professions, social sciences and history. “Through my studies, I hope to develop solutions and methods that protect the environment while promoting economic growth, business and community awareness,” he concludes.

Henry David Thoreau Scholars CLASS OF 2009



Brenna S. Hughes and swimming student.

Scholar	Institution	High School
Amalia M. Aruda	Georgetown University	The Winsor School
Rachel M. Freierman	Colby College	Cambridge Rindge and Latin School
Spring Greeney	Harvard College	Amherst Regional High School
Brenna S. Hughes	Dartmouth College	Middlesex School
Dermott McHugh	Dartmouth College	Milton Academy
Tara C. McNerney	Dartmouth College	Amherst Regional High School
Brendan L. Mackinson	College of the Holy Cross	St. John’s Preparatory School
Luoja (Lucas) Shi	University of Michigan—Ann Arbor	John C. O’Bryant School of Mathematics and Science
Hannah M. Specht	Carleton College	Mohawk Trail Regional High School
Yuxuan (Conrad) Zhuang	Harvard College	Brockton High School



Jane Goodall, renowned primatologist (left), shares a quiet moment with Jennifer Galvin, Trustee of the Henry David Thoreau Foundation. Dr. Goodall is also the founder of the Jane Goodall Institute (JGI). This nonprofit organization at www.janegoodall.org empowers people to make a difference for all living things. In the words of the site, JGI is “creating healthy ecosystems, promoting sustainable livelihoods, and nurturing new generations of committed, active citizens around the world.” JGI also encompasses the Roots & Shoots® program that “engages and inspires youth through community service and service learning.” Roots & Shoots has spread rapidly since its beginnings in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, in 1991. More than 6,000 groups—ranging in size from 2 to 2,000—have registered in more than 87 countries. Roots & Shoots is at www.rootsandshoots.org.

Northeastern Grant

continued from page 1

worked intensively with Professor Hellweger on this aspect of the program. Her research results became part of a report entitled *Remote Sensing of Water Quality on the Charles River*. Professor Hellweger is presently working with Kehinde and another OUR Charles student

on a paper that will be submitted to the journal *Remote Sensing of Environment*.

Kehinde graduated from Northeastern University this spring with a B.S. in Civil Engineering. She is now enrolled at the University of Texas at Austin, studying toward a master’s degree in Environmental and Water Resources Engineering.

New Web Site

continued from page 1

with contact information for each school.

Our web site rebuilding project was implemented during the spring and summer months, with the expertise and input of numerous people. Among those involved in this team effort were Tim Blackburn, Elizabeth Brinkerhoff, Ann Carlson, Jennifer Galvin, Ryan Kokoszko, Debby Levinson, Philip McCabe and Jane Nalieri.

Visit the new site regularly to see what’s new at the Henry David Thoreau Foundation and pass the word along!

Newsletter Staff

Editor and Publisher: Philip R. McCabe Sr.

Production Manager: Ann Carlson
Logo and Web Designer: Tim Blackburn

Editorial Contributors: Ann Carlson, Jennifer Galvin, Dr. Ferdi Hellweger, Northeastern University, College of Engineering; Jane Nalieri; Conrad Zhuang, Harvard College '09
Photography: Jennifer Galvin, Danny Pitts, Jet Commercial Photography

This newsletter is published periodically by the Henry David Thoreau Foundation, administered by Northeast Educational Services, Inc. Office address: 265 Medford Street, Suite 102, Somerville MA 02143, telephone 617-666-6900, fax 617-666-0345, web

www.thoreauscholar.org. Massachusetts high school seniors, with plans to pursue an interest in the environmental field, may apply for Henry David Thoreau Scholarships totaling up to \$30,000 for undergraduate education. They will usually be distributed at \$7,500 per year, for tuition use only, to the student’s choice of college.

Mission Statement

The Henry David Thoreau Foundation is dedicated to encouraging highly talented and academically successful young women and men to pursue undergraduate studies preparing them for leadership in advancing the quality of life for all individuals, protecting the environment, and ensuring equitable and sustainable use of the world’s natural resources.

Copyright Terms

The following terms are registered trademarks for Northeast Educational Services, Inc., parent organization of the Henry David Thoreau Foundation: Henry David Thoreau Environmental Digest, Henry David Thoreau Foundation, Henry David Thoreau Scholars, Henry David Thoreau Scholarship Fund, Henry David Thoreau Scholarships, Henry David Thoreau Society, Henry David Thoreau Society for the Environment.

Henry David THOREAU FOUNDATION

265 Medford Street, Suite 102
Somerville, MA 02143