

November 1, 2004

Dear ASLE Members,

I regret to say there was an error in the election statements in the Fall 2004 issue of *ASLE News*, which you should be receiving soon if you have not already. Please substitute Vermonja Alston's election statement below for the one printed in the newsletter (I inadvertently used her statement from last year). She is running for Executive Council.

(You will also be receiving a hard copy of this message in the mail, but I wanted to reach as many people with the correction as soon as possible.)

Please accept my apologies for any inconvenience this has caused.

Karla Armbruster  
Editor, *ASLE News*

**Vermonja Alston**, *York University*

Once again, I am delighted to have been nominated for a seat on ASLE's Executive Council. After two years as a scholar in residence at Middlebury College, I have crossed the border to take up a position as Assistant Professor in the Department of English at York University, where I teach Postcolonial Caribbean Literature and Theory. My research interests include: the treatment of globalization and environmental justice issues in literature and film; critical tourism studies; and the relationship between issues of social justice and environmental justice. Trained as an anthropologist as well as a literary scholar and an attorney, I have undertaken a study of the impact of "ecotourism" on a small village in southern Belize. In both my research and teaching, I interrogate the historical relationship between globalization and environmental justice issues. Global environmental crises demand postnationalist ecocritical studies.

As a member of ASLE, I have advocated greater attention to the relationship between the global and the local in literary and cultural studies of environmentalism. As an interdisciplinary scholar of literature and anthropology, I will continue to urge greater outreach to scholars and activists in other disciplines. Interdisciplinarity permits the cross-fertilization of ideas and approaches, which will insure the continued vitality of ASLE as an organization of innovative, imaginative and vibrant scholar/activists. In closing I paraphrase the late June Jordan, who argued that if we are to build healthy human environments, we must attend to the effect of everywhere on anyplace ("Letter to R. Buckminster Fuller").