

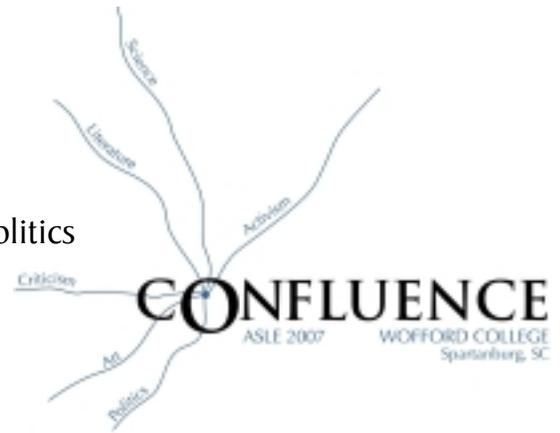
# CALL FOR PROPOSALS

## Seventh Biennial Conference of ASLE

Confluence: literature • art • criticism • science • activism • politics

June 12-16, 2007

Wofford College, Spartanburg, South Carolina



The Association for the Study of Literature and Environment (ASLE) invites proposals for its Seventh Biennial Conference, to be held June 12-16, 2007, at Wofford College in Spartanburg, South Carolina. Taking as our theme the many streams of environmental interest and activity that flow together to form ASLE's mission, we seek proposals for papers (15-minute presentation time), panels, roundtables, poster sessions, workshops, and other performances that pertain to our theme or otherwise explore the relations of language, place, nature, and culture.

Proposals are especially encouraged on (but not limited to):

- coastal literature, art, and issues
- literature and environmental issues, particularly of the South
- science and ecocriticism
- environmental politics and art
- activism and environmental education
- class and environmental justice in literature and criticism
- issues of interdisciplinary research and teaching

Submit one-page proposals by January 15, 2007, using our web site: <http://www.wofford.edu/asle>.

Direct any questions to Karla Armbruster at 314-961-2660, ext. 7577, or [armbruka@webster.edu](mailto:armbruka@webster.edu).

Preformed panels and roundtables are encouraged. Audiovisual requests must accompany the proposal. Participation is limited to one presentation per person (participation as chair or member of a workshop, seminar, or workgroup will not count as a presentation). All participants must be ASLE members by the start of the conference.

## CONFERENCE SITE

Spartanburg, South Carolina, is a community of forty thousand located in the foothills of the beautiful Blue Ridge Mountains. Boasting a revitalized downtown, the city offers a lively nightlife as well as opportunities to explore the area's ecological diversity, including a downtown garden and woodland preserve, arboreta at three local colleges, and nearby Croft State Natural Area. With true Southern hospitality, the city will welcome ASLE with an opening reception showcasing food from local restaurants and "environmentally active" businesses and organizations.

Wofford College, our host, has a completely wired campus (and many indoor and outdoor wireless areas), and all of the classrooms we will use for concurrent sessions are computer equipped with projection and Internet capabilities. Wofford's historic 19th century Old Main building includes an auditorium that seats 700 and offers a state-of-the-art sound and video technology system. Conference housing options include the Spartanburg Marriott, brand-new apartment-style accommodations, more traditional dorm rooms, and camping in an "ASLE tent village" on campus (with access to bathrooms).

Spartanburg is easily accessible by car or air; the Greenville-Spartanburg International Airport serves most major airlines and is located just 20 minutes from campus. The Charlotte and Asheville airports are each just about an hour away.



Wofford's Old Main Building

## GRADUATE STUDENT AWARDS

The Association for the Study of Literature and the Environment will honor the best work of graduate students by sponsoring two awards for papers presented at the conference: the best scholarly paper in ecocriticism and the best work of environmental creative writing. Awards include a prize of \$100 each, and papers must be submitted by May 18, 2007. For details, please check the conference web site.

## CONFERENCE INFORMATION AND SPECIAL OPPORTUNITIES

Please see our web site (<http://www.wofford.edu/asle>) for more detailed information, updates, and registration.

## PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS AND SEMINARS

Although ASLE has offered pre-conference workshops in the past, at the 2007 conference we will provide several more structured workshops and scholarly seminars led by prominent environmental publishers, writers, and critics, including:

- Place-Based Publishing Workshop (led by John Lane, Wofford College; Betsy Teter, Hub City Writers Project; and John Harris, Monadnock Institute at Franklin Pierce College)
- "Conjuring Place," a workshop for poets and writers of creative nonfiction (led by Ann Fisher-Wirth, University of Mississippi and Sheryl St. Germain, Chatham College)
- A Workshop in Narrative Criticism (led by John Elder, Middlebury College)
- Seminar on environmental justice and ecocriticism (led by Rob Figueroa, Colgate University)
- Seminar on ecocriticism and science studies (led by Stacy Alaimo, University of Texas, Arlington)
- One more seminar to be arranged; check our web site!

Each workshop and seminar will last three hours and will be limited to 15 participants. Advanced registration is required and will begin October 15; registration will close March 15 (or when full, whichever is earlier) for workshops and January 15 for seminars. Some pre-conference preparation will be required for seminars, including short position papers; as titles of position papers will be listed in the conference program, we encourage (but will not require) seminar participants to consider attending the seminar in lieu of presenting at the conference itself (rather than doing both).

Please check the conference web site for further information and updates regarding individual workshops and seminars.

## WORKGROUPS

In addition to paper and poster presentations, this year's conference will feature workgroups on the following topics:

- Criticism and Theory: Is there a distinctly "ecocritical" method?
- Engagement and Activism: How should ecocriticism become more publicly engaged?
- Writing and Discourse: What are the current issues and problems in ecocomposition?

Each workgroup will meet for a three-hour period during concurrent sessions and will give conference-goers the opportunity to discuss a question of common interest for longer than ordinary sessions allow. Participation will require pre-registration and be limited to fifteen people per workgroup. Selection will be determined on a first-come, first-served basis, with a final deadline of March 15; workgroups may require some pre-conference preparation.

## POST-CONFERENCE FIELD TRIPS

As usual, there will be a variety of exciting half-day field excursions on Thursday afternoon and several post-conference field trips, ranging from whitewater rafting on the National Wild and Scenic Chattooga ("Deliverance") River to exploration of Gullah culture on the coast of South Carolina. Please register for field excursions and trips when you register for the conference; space will be available on a first come, first served basis.

