Connecting a Non-Forestry School Urban Forestry Course to Urban Greening Nonprofits (UGNP’s) or How Can UGNP’s Find Student Interns, FT Employees and Case Study Partners at Non-Forestry Schools?

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Forestry Schools & UFM

• Most forestry students want to be rural lands foresters
• Some students enroll in arboriculture – tree climbing!
• Fewer students enroll in urban forestry
• Arboriculture/UF students really well trained in tree biology!
• So, good place to look but opportunities are scarce
• Each Sp ~40 seniors/masters students enroll in UFM class
• Majors - Environmental Mgmt (UG’s) & MSES/MPA (Grads)
• Not Arboriculture but Urban Forestry (i.e. social-ecological system)
• Class projects: B’ton/IUB neighborhood case studies
• Always searching for class project opportunities!
How to Connect with Instructors/Programs

• Explore environmental degree programs (UF/UE type course?)
  • Environmental Science/Studies/Management
  • Sustainability with an Environmental Focus
  • Urban Studies with an Environmental Focus
  • Nonprofit Management (note: I speak to NPM class each year)

• Find interested faculty
  • Class Visits – Guest Speakers, Panel Members, Job Fairs
  • Present Questions You Would Like to See Addressed
  • Case Study Projects – small to large

• Offer Internships, Full-time Positions, Volunteer Events, etc.
• Guest appearances each year
  • Community Forestry
  • Youth Tree Team
  • KIB Geographer/Data Geek
  • All advertise Internships & Job Announcements
Staff Interaction with Students

- Staff conduct in-class exercise – they record findings!
- Draft “Tree Canopy Report: Indianapolis-Marion County”
  - Individual student homework assignment
  - Identify 3 most important themes
  - Each theme – identify most important user/customer
  - Results summarized and provided back to KIB
- Case Study – TBD – Maybe the KIB Tree Canopy Planner?
The Connection: Urban Greening Nonprofits & Non-Forestry Schools

• Opportunity to Raise Your Flag in a Classroom
• Source of Interns & Full-time Employees
• Schedule Events with Students
• Class Projects
• Case Studies
• The Possibilities are Endless!