Sacramento State to celebrate its first One World Initiative

Sacramento State will mark the end of its inaugural One World Initiative, “Global Perspectives on Water,” with a campus-wide celebration on Monday, April 29, in the University Union. The event, which is free and open to the public, will include student and faculty participation and a keynote address by world-renowned environmental activist Maude Barlow.

The idea for the One World Initiative came from the Provost’s Advisory Committee on Curricular Engagement and is implemented by the One World Task Force. The goal is to engage students, faculty and staff in an exploration of Sacramento State’s connections to the greater global community.

The University launched Global Perspectives on Water last fall and will focus on a different topic of international significance each academic year. “Global Perspectives on Migration” is the theme for 2013-14.

“We aim to choose themes that are not only of global importance but are also broad enough that they can be addressed by almost any discipline,” says Lisa Hammersley, a geology professor and chair of the task force. “In this respect, ‘global’ represents an exploration of one idea from all perspectives: cultural, global and disciplinary.

“Global Perspectives on Water seemed like the perfect theme with which to launch the initiative, as issues related to water span the globe and the curriculum. This breadth is reflected in the enormous diversity of events hosted by units across the campus this year.”

The water initiative has inspired dozens of campus events, including art exhibitions, workshops, student’s music compositions, public talks, cultural events, international guest speakers and movie screenings. Sac State’s Biological Sciences and Geology departments presented a series of ecology-geology lectures in partnership with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the California Landscape Conservation Cooperative, and the U.S. Geological Survey. And a number of professors have incorporated the topic of water into their courses.
Here is the schedule for Monday’s One World 2013 Celebration in the University Union:

**Student Symposium** – Noon-3 p.m. in the Redwood Room. Sac State students present their projects based on three themes: Water Stories, Peace and Conflict, and Health and Wellness.

**“What We Think about When We Think about Water”** – 4-5:30 p.m. in Hinde Auditorium. Faculty roundtable participants are Jim Baxter (Biological Sciences), Stephen Blumberg (Music), Michelle Stevens (Environmental Studies) and Kevin Wehr (Sociology). The moderator is David Andersen (Government).

**Maude Barlow** delivers the keynote address on “The Global Water Crisis – Coming to our Great Lakes” – 6-7:30 p.m. in Ballroom III. President Alexander Gonzalez and Lisa Hammersley will welcome and introduce the environmentalist from Canada. Barlow is an executive member of the San Francisco-based International Forum on Globalization and chairs Food and Water Watch, in Washington, D.C. She also is the author of 16 books, including *Blue Covenant: The Global Water Crisis* and *The Coming Battle for the Right to Water*. A book-signing will follow her talk.

For more information about the One World Initiative, go to [www.csus.edu/oneworld](http://www.csus.edu/oneworld). For media assistance, contact Sacramento State’s Office of Public Affairs at (916) 278-6156.

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