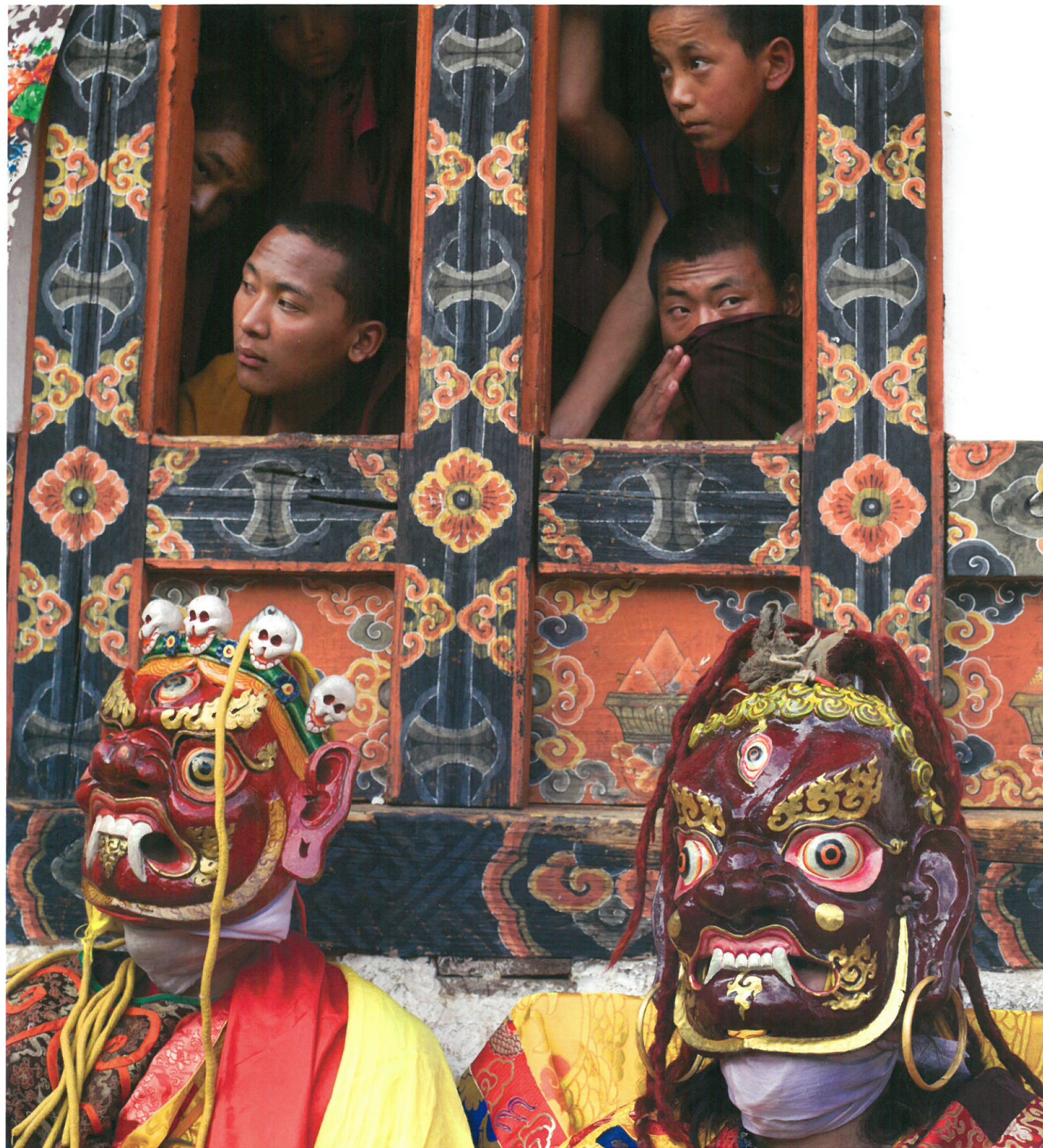




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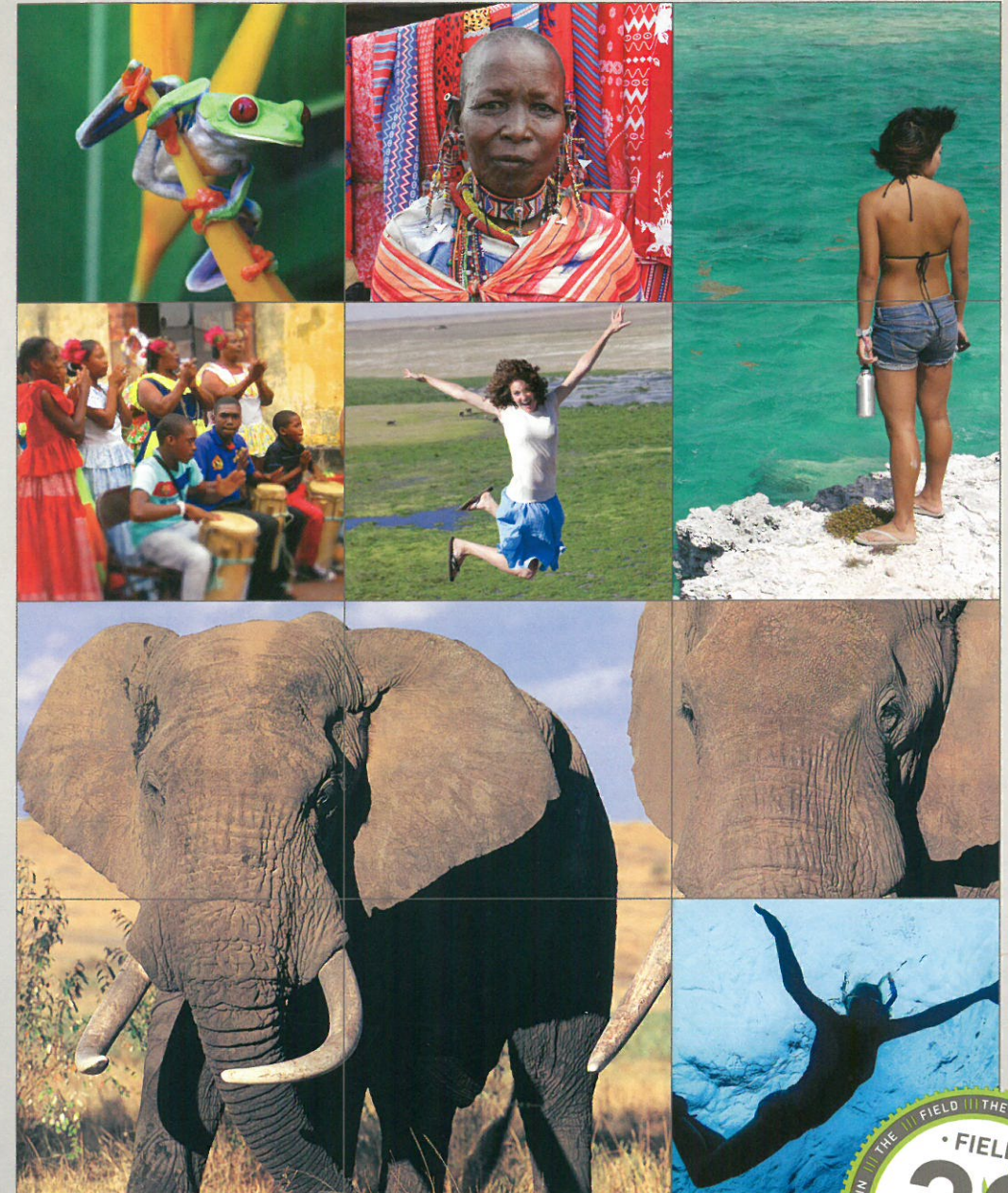
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THE SCHOOL
FOR FIELD STUDIES



11
ANNUAL REPORT

LETTER FROM THE CHAIR



Dear friends,

What a pleasure it is to look back on 2011, our 30th year in the field, and realize that once again, nearly 600 students have lived and studied around the globe at an SFS field station! Whether they were counting lions in the Serengeti or fish in Turks and Caicos, planting trees in Australia or working the organic garden in Costa Rica, hiking the mountains of Bhutan or the grasslands of East Africa, these students share a unique experience that has changed them forever.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I want to thank our amazing faculty and our tireless global staff, without whom our programs would not take place. I also want to thank every donor who supports our mission and enables us to continue the legacy of excellence we have enjoyed for so long. And I want to thank the parents and students who share our dream of increasing environmental literacy while pursuing high adventure, learning to live and work in another culture and developing an understanding of the complexity and interdependence of human and natural systems.

Here's to the next 30 years!

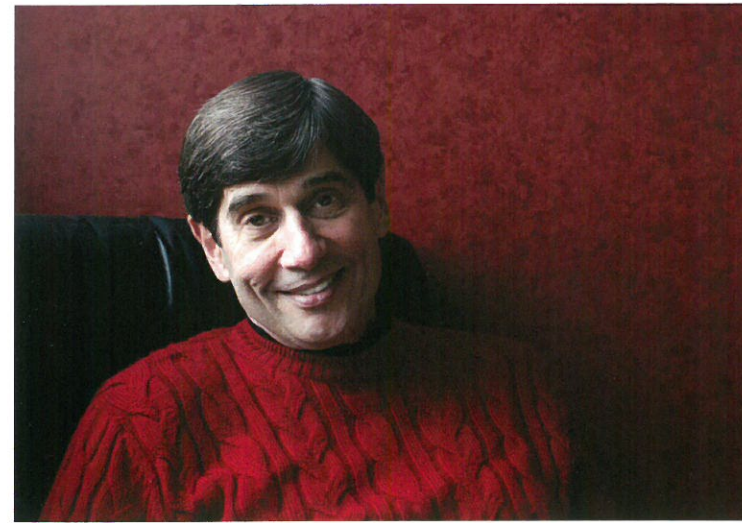
Appreciatively,

Terry L. Andreas

Terry L. Andreas
Chair, SFS Board of Trustees



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear friends of SFS:

As we look back on a productive 2011 fiscal year which marked our 30th year in the field, I'm delighted to report that SFS continues to operate smoothly in the present and to move energetically towards an expanded future. Following on the heels of a rigorous strategic planning process, the Trustees and staff have initiated a course of action that will incorporate prudent growth, more effective resource allocation, and new partnerships.

The last six months, in particular, have been especially productive. An intense planning and implementation process has made possible the widely-anticipated September 2012 opening of a new program in Panama ("Tropical Island Biodiversity and Conservation Studies") on the archipelago of Bocas del Toro.

Furthermore, we have set in motion a program development agenda that moves us towards the addition of two new programs over the next four years. Although no specific sites have been identified, preliminary investigations are under way on several continents.

An SFS-wide emphasis on improving our sustainability efforts has led to a proliferation of greening initiatives at the Centers and here at SFS headquarters (which, by the way, is now located in new facilities here in Beverly, MA — the result of a March 2012 move). In this regard, it is noteworthy that the SFS Center for Sustainable Development Studies in Costa Rica leads the way, having been recently certified as a "Sustainable Agriculture" farm by the Rainforest Alliance — a remarkable accomplishment of our Atenas faculty and staff, and a strong endorsement of our approach to environmental health.

With a new President coming on board this summer, a talented and dedicated staff here at home and in the field, an expanding number of college and university affiliates, and loyal alumni and friends, we are excited about the next 30 years of SFS in the field!

Thank you for your confidence and support.

John Waggett

John Waggett
Interim President

NEW PROGRAM



Tropical Island Biodiversity & Conservation Studies

PANAMA

Understanding Tropical Islands as Delicate Systems

This fall, we are excited to welcome an inaugural group of undergraduates to Panama for a new program: Tropical Island Biodiversity and Conservation Studies. This program, SFS's first new program since it introduced Bhutan in 2010, is an extension of our very popular marine program in the Turks and Caicos Islands.

Our classroom in Panama is the archipelago of Bocas Del Toro, located along the Caribbean waters of Almirante Bay and Chirique Lagoon hosting coral reefs and large stands of old-growth rainforest. Bocas is a place where forest and shore come together and present almost limitless opportunities to study the ecology and conservation of both the marine and terrestrial realms. This dynamic interface between forested islands and life-filled waters will drive our understanding of fragile habitats, natural resource use, and indigenous ways of life based on deep relationships with the environment.

"Few places on Earth rival the biodiversity of the Panamanian Caribbean," said Assistant Dean Dr. Mark Seifert. "Bocas del Toro is a veritable ecological playground and a perfect place for undergraduates to learn about protecting and managing delicate natural systems and habitats. The ocean, shore, and forest will be our classroom. We can't wait to bring students into this dynamic living laboratory."



Wildlife Management Studies

KENYA + TANZANIA

EAST AFRICA

OUR WORK

The Tarangire-Manyara ecosystem of northern Tanzania and the Amboseli-Tsavo ecosystem in Kenya just north of Mount Kilimanjaro are home to indigenous communities, such as the Maasai, and wildlife sanctuaries in which elephants, lions, baboons, and other creatures roam. Students study how changes in land-use and natural resources can be managed to foster the well-being of local communities while safeguarding and promoting biodiversity conservation.



Our expedition in the Serengeti was a photo-album of snap-shot moments filled with wonder and appreciation: elands running through the sparse woodlands of Acacia xanthophloea, a leopard cub bounding up to his mother and pawing at her chin as she bent forward to lick him, lions mating and snuggling under the savannah sun, hippos wallowing and yawning in the calm waters of the riverine marshes and hyenas prowling around our camp at night, howling their cackling call to the cloud-covered Great Plains moon.

— Kate Thompson
Penn State
SFS Kenya/Tanzania Fall '11



The School for Field Studies introduced me to a world of knowledge that is a treasure to me and invaluable to my future personal and professional pursuits. This dynamic program was like nothing I've experienced. The education I received was rich and expanded with every new day, and it was only made more effective by learning in hands-on environments and subject-related locations with such great people.

— Jenny McCarty
University of Denver
SFS Kenya/Tanzania Fall '11

WHO WE ARE (1/1/12)

KENYA

Moses Makonjio Okello, Ph.D., Senior Director, East Africa & Center Director, Kenya

John Warui Kiringe, Ph.D., Associate Professor in Wildlife Ecology

Shem Mwasi, Ph.D., Lecturer in Wildlife Management

George Ekisa, Ph.D., Lecturer in Environmental Policy & Socioeconomics

Tara Hetz, B.S., Student Affairs Manager

TANZANIA

Vedasto Ndibalema, Ph.D., Center Director

Christian Kiffner, Ph.D., Lecturer in Wildlife Management

John Kioko Masila, Ph.D., Lecturer in Wildlife Ecology

John Mwamhanga, M.S., Lecturer in Environmental Policy & Socioeconomics

Bernard Kissui, Ph.D., Research Associate

Whitney Morgan, M.A., Student Affairs Manager



See page 15 for details on the SFS Safari trip!



Sustainable Development Studies

COSTA RICA

OUR WORK

Costa Rica is known worldwide for its conservation efforts, which have attracted millions of tourists to the country's parks and reserves. However, the ongoing transition from an agriculture-based to a service economy threatens Costa Rica's biodiversity and society. Students examine management schemes, identify the benefits of protected areas, and determine which systems offer the best option for economic development and the preservation of biodiversity. In the fall of 2011, the farm at the SFS Costa Rica field station in Atenas became Rainforest Alliance Certified.™

Wow. That is the first word that comes to me when I reflect on my semester spent with SFS in Costa Rica. The eye-opening experiences, the intriguing lectures, the intelligent and engaging professors and my amazing fellow students all made this past semester one of the most enriching experiences of my life.

— Hayden Shea
Middlebury College
SFS Costa Rica Fall '11



WHO WE ARE (1/1/12)

Gerardo Avalos, Ph.D., Center Director
Achim Haeger, Dr. forest, Lecturer in Natural Resources Management
Jose Edgardo Arevalo Hernandez, Ph.D., Lecturer in Tropical Ecology
Sergio Molina-Murillo, Ph.D., Lecturer in Environmental Policy & Socioeconomics
Breezy Salmonsens, B.S., Student Affairs Manager



Rainforest Studies

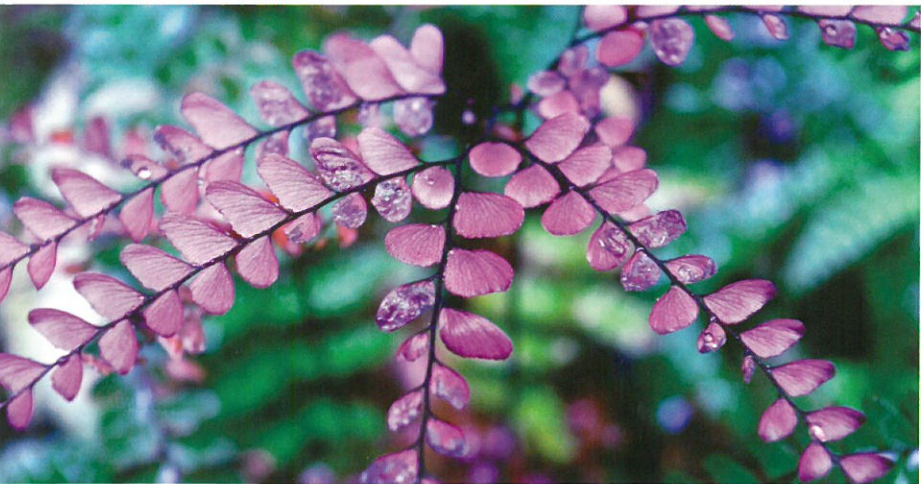
AUSTRALIA

OUR WORK

The astonishing biodiversity of Australia's rainforest and the country's dynamic conservation efforts make Queensland an extraordinary laboratory for studying rainforest management and restoration. Recent cyclones have damaged the already diminished rainforest, which makes it the perfect location to study methods for managing these hyperdisturbed areas. Our goal is to develop rainforest restoration and management strategies that benefit both ecosystems and human communities, and that can serve as a model for conserving other rainforests.

Field experience was an integral part of our learning program, effectively supplementing lessons in the classroom. Moreover, this time in the field doubled as great exposure to parts of the Wet Tropics region that I probably would never have seen as a typical tourist. Acclimating to a schedule so unlike that of our home institutions was challenging, but who could argue with the brilliance of learning about Australian geology and volcanism and then actually going out and standing at the base of a cinder cone from a volcano of old?

— Andrea Moshier
Clark University
SFS Australia Fall '11



WHO WE ARE (1/1/12)

Moni Carlisle, M.A., Center Director
Sigrid Heise-Pavlov, Dr. rer. nat., Lecturer in Rainforest Ecology
Justus Kithiia, Ph.D., Lecturer in Environmental Policy & Socioeconomics
Rohan Wilson, Ph.D., Lecturer in Forest Management
Amanda Freeman, Ph.D., Lecturer in Tropical Forest Management/Directed Research
Mary Kate Long, B.A., Student Affairs Manager



Marine Resource Studies

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS

OUR WORK

SFS partners with the Turks & Caicos Islands Department of Environment and Coastal Resources and the National Park Service to develop management strategies to conserve marine biodiversity and provide economic opportunities for island residents. With so many local residents dependent on marine resources for their livelihood, along with increasing resource consumption by tourists, finding viable options for managing fisheries and conserving critical habitats, including coral reefs, is crucial for long term economic, social, and environmental sustainability.

Suddenly, out of the blue water in front of us I saw a huge group of rays come towards us, gliding effortlessly on their strong black and white wings. I tried to count them as they approached, one, two...fifteen, sixteen... twenty two, twenty three... but every second I saw more and more rays join the group, making it almost impossible to get an accurate number. They flocked around us, enveloping us in their school.

— Karissa Lear
Clark University
SFS TCI Fall '11

The chance to enter the field and really get into some of the nitty-gritty aspects of science by constructing my own research question and utilizing data was an enormous draw for me since I considered it a test-drive for my desired career as a researching marine biologist. Put this in tandem with the fact that the research was relevant and vital to the South Caicos community made SFS an obvious choice over other more traditional abroad experiences.

— Evan Paul Henerberry
University of New England
SFS TCI Fall '11



WHO WE ARE (1/1/12)

Heidi Hertler, Ph.D., SFS Alumna - Virgin Islands Fall '87, Center Director
Aaron Henderson, Ph.D., Lecturer in Marine Resource Management
Alexander Tewfik, Ph.D., Lecturer in Tropical Marine Ecology
Eduardo Guevara, Ph.D.Ed., Lecturer in Environmental Policy & Socioeconomics
Kate Berge, M.S., Student Affairs Manager



Himalayan Forests, Watersheds, & Rural Livelihoods

BHUTAN

OUR WORK

SFS students are helping our local partner, the Ugyen Wangchuck Institute for Conservation and Environment, advance its research agenda in several priority areas, including community forestry, human-wildlife conflict, and watershed assessment. Students learn and apply field research techniques in both the social and natural sciences, including forest mensuration, species identification and enumeration, interviews and surveys, as well as participant observation to answer questions related to sustainability.

I have to admit, the most exciting part for me is just being here in the mountains, where every time you look around, the landscape is constantly changing in the light and the clouds perch gently over deep green forest, or roll in without any good warning for a surprise downpour.

— Liz Kreitinger
Cornell University
SFS Bhutan Summer '11

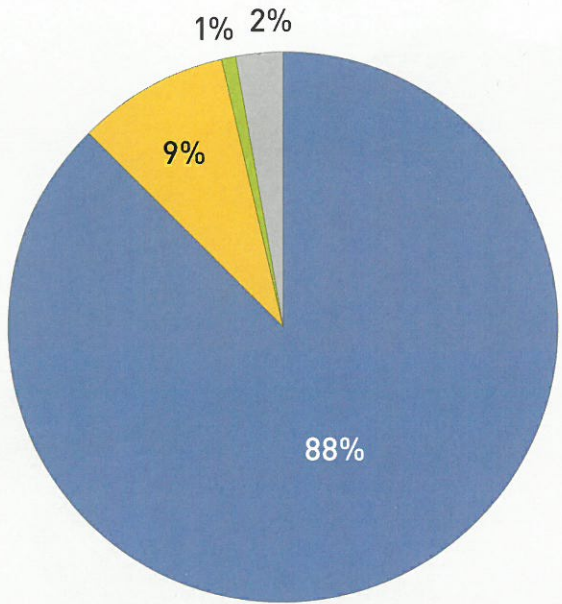
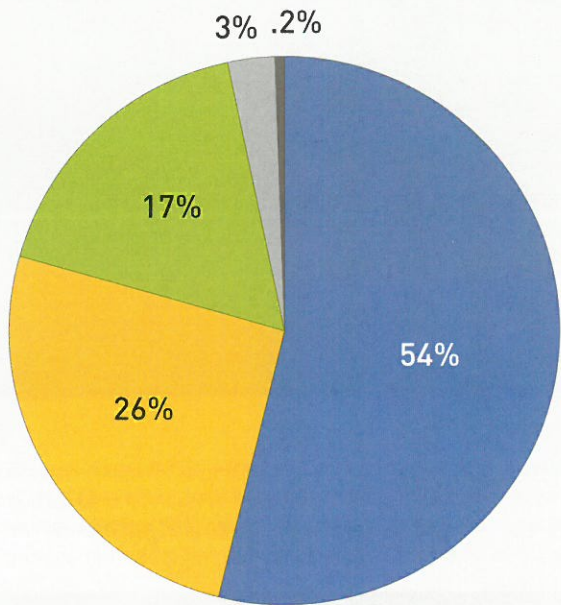


WHO WE ARE (1/1/12)

Robin Sears, Ph.D., SFS Alumna - Ecuador Summer '90, Dean & Bhutan Program Director
Chhimi Dorji, M.S., Resident Lecturer in Watershed Management
Laura Yoder, Ph.D., Resident Lecturer in Social Forestry
Kai Johnson, B.A., Student Affairs Manager

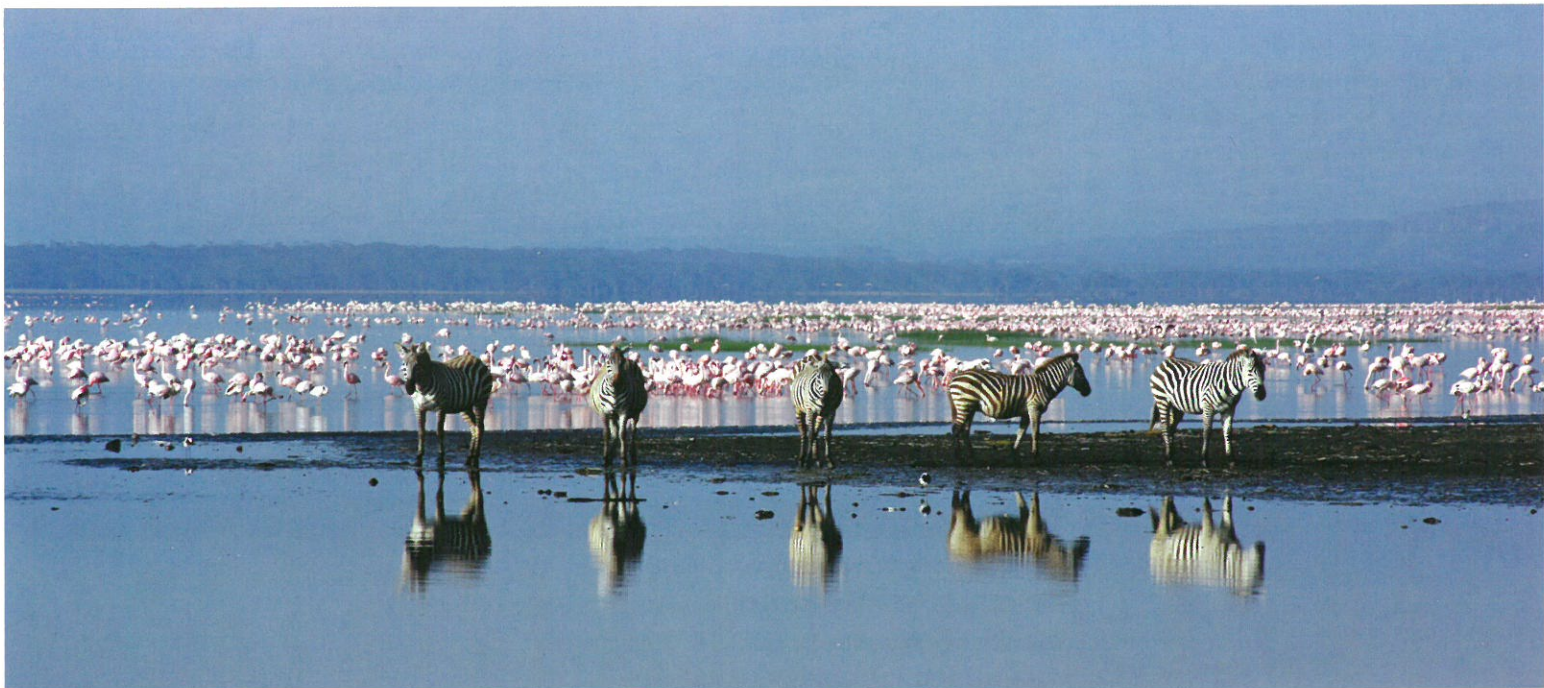
REVENUES

Tuition and Fees	\$6,736,644
Gifts and Grants	\$694,237
Related Business Revenue	\$69,606
Other Revenues	\$193,808



EXPENSES

Program Operations	\$4,107,048
Program Support	\$1,936,793
Administration	\$1,304,213
Development	\$230,342
Other Expenses	\$21,165



The School for Field Studies is proud to have so many alumni, parents, corporations, foundations, and employees, trustees, and friends who support our work.

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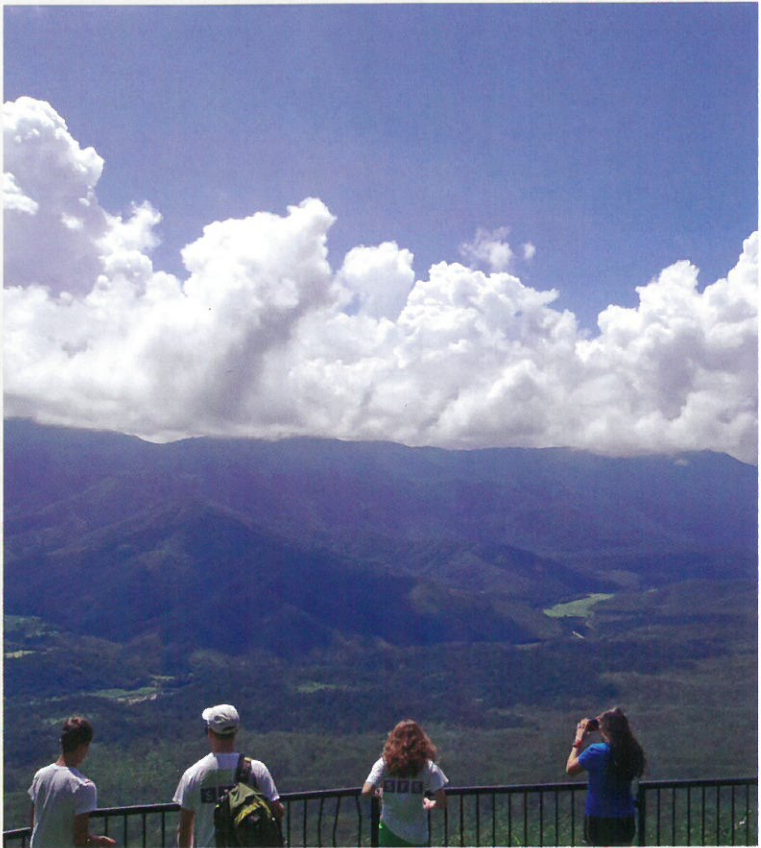
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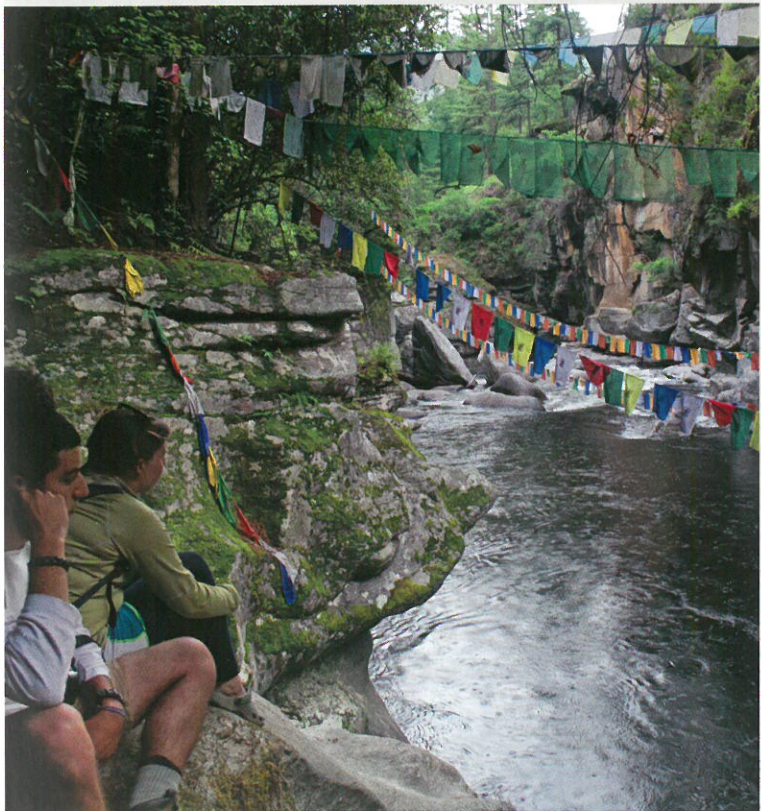
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William Lloyd *TCI Summer '98*
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Russell D. Meller *Greece Summer '83*
Livia Nguyen *Barbados Summer '93*
Lori Parks *Costa Rica Summer '04*
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Tiffany Chan *Canada Summer '03*
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Continued on next page



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 Beth Girolamo *Australia Fall '87*
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 Beth and Peter Scholze *TCI Spring '97*
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 Jeff Barnette *Costa Rica Summer '10*
 Joan Baron
 James Benoit *Colorado Summer '91*
 Dan Bordatto *TCI Summer '10*

Heidi Bradbury *TCI Fall '94*
 Marta Brill
 Rita Cabral *TCI Summer '07*
 Billy Carter *Australia Spring '02*
 Suzanne Caruso
 Jenny and Marc Chipault *Kenya Spring '03*
 Michael Chuang *Mexico Summer '99*
 Jonna (Derbenwick) and Jeremy Clark *Australia Fall '97*
 Jennifer Clinton *TCI Spring '08*
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 Colin Cushman *Canada Fall '97*
 Curtis Daehler *Costa Rica Summer '89*
 Carrie Dancy *Costa Rica Fall '03*
 Mark and Kathy Davies
 Jennifer Franklin Del Guercio *Mexico Fall '91*
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 Rianna DiBartolo-Cordovano
 Ken and Katherine Doctor
 Jaynie Doerr *Kenya Summer '00*
 Margret Donahue *Kenya Summer '06*
 Karen Douthwaite *Costa Rica Fall '98*

Elisabeth Duffy *TCI Fall '95*
 Sophia Eitel *Virgin Islands Summer '83*
 Stephen L. Epstein
 Kate Erskine *Costa Rica Spring '95*
 Paul Ferraro *Australia Spring '88*
 Kristina G. Fisher *Australia Fall '00*
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 Donald Hammond
 Jennie Mandeville Harrington *TCI Fall '99*
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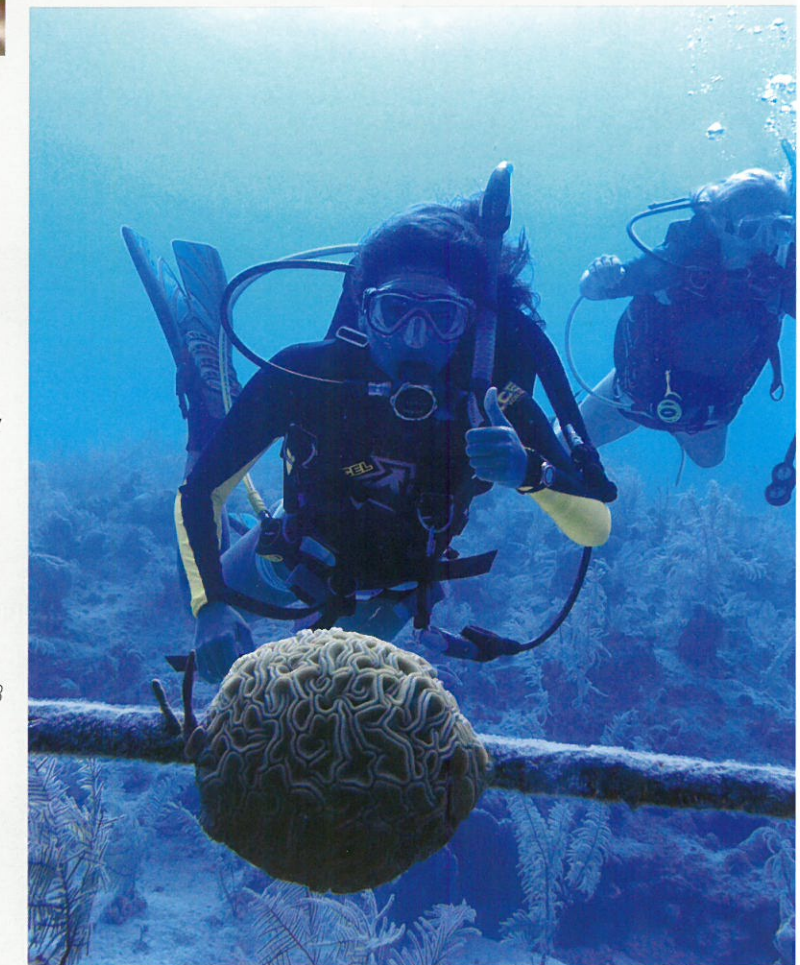


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 Moriah (McKenna) Heuer *Australia Fall '91*
 Marion Hoekenga and B. Christine Hoekenga *TCI Fall '01*
 Jennifer Hofmeister *Costa Rica Summer '99*
 Lysiane Huber *TCI Spring '01*
 Meredith DuBarry Huston *Costa Rica Spring '96*
 Lauren Ice *Kenya Fall '05*
 Jessica Jay *Australia Summer '87*
 Kemp Jaycox *Australia Spring '94*
 Sarah Jillson *Canada Summer '97*
 Jennifer Johnson *Canada Summer '99*
 Lori and Mike Kelly
 Erin Kenison *Australia Spring '08*
 John Kiluk *Costa Rica Summer '95*
 Jiyeon Kim *Kenya Spring '10*
 Marla Knight Dutille *Costa Rica Summer '89*
 Hillary Kruger-Levingston *Ecuador '81*
 Hadas Kushnir *Kenya Spring '00*
 Scott Lamer
 Eric MacMillan *TCI Fall '06*
 Randy and Kathy MacMillan

Sharyn Marks *Kenya Spring '86*
 Emily Marriott *Costa Rica Fall '96*
 William and Melissa Martens
 Cara Marusak *Costa Rica Fall '09*
 Todd and Charlotte (Finley) Maynard *TCI Summer '91*
 Elizabeth McCarthy *Australia Spring '06*
 Auden McClure *Nepal Summer '88*
 Rima McCoy *Costa Rica Summer '87*
 Maureen McGrath *Kenya Fall '99*
 Heidi McKee *US Virgin Islands Spring '87*
 Nina C. McKee *Alaska Summer '84*
 Melanie McLean *Kenya Spring '96*
 Scott McRae *Costa Rica Spring '95*
 Megan McSherry *Kenya Spring '05*
 Ann C. Miller *Hawaii Summer '88; TCI Summer '90*
 Leslie Miller
 Jessica Kitchin Murphy *Australia Fall '03*
 Mary Namiotka *Alaska Summer '87*
 Waqiah Napier *Kenya Summer '03*
 Russell Nord *Kenya Fall '97*
 Camille O'Donnell *Kenya Fall '00*
 Carolina Perez-Heydrich *Kenya Fall '01*
 and John Richardson *Costa Rica Fall '99*

Scott Pherson *Costa Rica Summer '98*
 Destiny Prater *Kenya Fall '02*
 Simi & Judy Rabinowitz *Australia Fall '99*
 Michael Reems *Mexico Spring '93*
 Ellen Reid
 Jessica Rettig *US Virgin Islands Summer '89*
 Douglas and Christine Riddering
 Daniel and Jennifer Ritchie
 Karen Ritland *Kenya Fall '10*
 Meghan Roach
 Carla Robertson *Kenya Fall '88*
 Deborah Morris Roe *Kenya Spring '89*
 Doug Rose *Costa Rica '92; Barbados '91*
 Allie Rosene-Mirvis *TCI Summer '07*
 Jack Sago *Kenya Summer '07*
 Steve and Ming Samalot
 Gayle Schmidt *Australia Fall '02*
 Craig and Jill Sease
 Wayne Sentman *Kenya Fall '87*
 Rainy Inman Shorey *Kenya Summer '96*
 Dorothy Silver
 Roz Slawson
 Maura Smith
 Jordanna Snyder *Australia Summer '08*

Alexander Sonneborn *Canada Summer '00*
 Nia Sponberg *Canada Spring '00*
 Danielle Sacchetti *TCI Spring '00*
 Greg Studen
 Jeffrey Sugarman *TCI Fall '93*
 Verne and Lee Sullivan
 Paul Swinehart
 Lauren Thie *Kenya Summer '06*
 Matthew J. Thomas *Costa Rica Spring '08*
 Robert and Nancy Thomas
 Jonathan Vlahos *Kenya Spring '96*
 Dorothy Wallace-Senft *Australia Spring '92*
 Margaret Ward and Thomas de Witt
 Nancy Watkins *TCI Summer '90*
 Amber West *Costa Rica Spring '03*
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 Jonathan M. White *Kenya Spring '98*
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 Leigh Wynn *TCI Summer '95*
 Charles Ylijoki, Jr. *Australia Fall '10*



Heather Jo Leibowitz studied at The School for Field Studies Center for Wildlife Management Studies in Kenya in the spring of 2004. Through her words and actions, she demonstrated a commitment to making a difference in the local Kenyan community.

In memory of Heather, an endowed scholarship fund has been established to benefit financially deserving students attending our programs in East Africa. Preference is given to students, like Heather, who have shown a desire to work for change.

The following donors made a contribution to help grow the Heather Jo Leibowitz Memorial Fund.

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Terry Andreas

Chairman of the Board. Founder of The School for Field Studies, Parent of two SFS Alumni. New York, NY

Darren Aronofsky

Film Director, SFS Kenya Summer '85 & Alaska Summer '86. New York, NY

George Bevis

SFS Greece Summer '84. Somerville, MA

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mTerra Ventures, LLC, SFS Australia Fall '88. Boston, MA

Shaun Martin

Managing Director, Conservation Leadership Programs, World Wildlife Fund. Washington, DC

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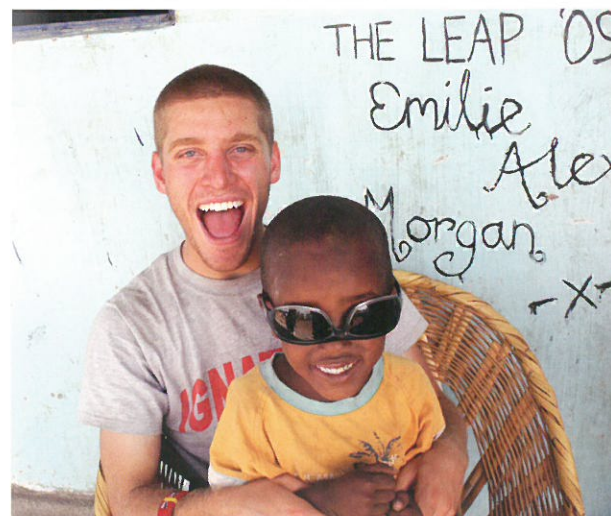
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Judy Winslow

Winslow Associates. Greenwich, CT

John (Jack) Waggett

ex officio, SFS Interim President, Trinity College (ret.). Hartford, CT



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SFS is a 501(C) (3) non-profit educational institution.



We've partnered with Thomson Safaris to plan an exciting itinerary that will give you a taste of the SFS student experience.

- Visit the Serengeti and Ngorongoro Crater
- See our field station at Moyo Hill
- Stay at Gibb's Farm, a renowned eco-lodge and organic coffee farm

All friends and family of the School are welcome to come along.

More details coming soon!